

Agenda

Cabinet

Date: Monday 9 July 2018
Time: 10.30 am
Venue: Mezzanine Rooms 1 & 2, County Hall,
Aylesbury

WEBCASTING NOTICE

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site - at the start of the meeting the Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during this webcast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy.

Therefore by entering the meeting room, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes. If members of the public do not wish to have their image captured they should ask the committee clerk, who will advise where to sit.

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact Democratic Services on 01296 382343.

Agenda Item	Page No
1 Apologies for Absence	
2 Declarations of Interest	
3 Minutes Of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 18 June 2018 to be agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.	
4 Hot Topics	

5	Question Time This provides an opportunity for Members to ask questions to Cabinet Members	
6	Forward Plan for Cabinet and Cabinet Members For Cabinet to consider the Forward Plan	5 - 16
7	Cabinet Member Decisions To note progress with Cabinet Member Decisions	17 - 20
8	Select Committee Work Programme & Inquiry Work Programme For Cabinet to consider the Select Committee Work Programme	21 - 34
9	Q1 2018/19 Finance Monitoring Report	35 - 52
	Recommendation Cabinet is asked to NOTE the Quarter 1 outturn forecast for revenue and capital budgets and discuss areas of concern.	
10	Cultural Strategy	53 - 66
	Recommendation Cabinet is asked to endorse the new Cultural Strategy and support the development of a new Cultural Partnership for Buckinghamshire to oversee the delivery of the strategy.	
11	Director of Public Health Annual Report	67 - 104
	Recommendation Cabinet is requested to note and endorse the Director of Public Health Annual Report	
12	Education and Skills Strategy	105 - 176
	Recommendation That the Education and Skills strategy be ratified by Cabinet.	
13	Parking Delivery Plan	177 - 204
	Recommendation That Cabinet approve and adopt the Parking Delivery Plan and the principles it contains as attached at Appendix One and summarised in Appendix Two.	

14 Date of the Next Meeting
10 September 2018

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.

For further information please contact: Rachel Bennett on 01296 382343

Members: Martin Tett (Leader)

Mike Appleyard	Cabinet Member for Education & Skills
Noel Brown	Cabinet Member for Community Engagement & Public Health
Bill Chapple OBE	Cabinet Member for Planning & Environment
John Chilver	Cabinet Member for Resources
Lin Hazell	Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing
Mark Shaw	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation
Warren Whyte	Cabinet Member for Children's Services

CABINET/CABINET MEMBER FORWARD PLAN

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
Cabinet 9 July 2018				
Cultural Strategy	To agree a partnership Cultural Strategy for Buckinghamshire		Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health / Gillian Quinton	First notified 23/6/17
Director of Public Health Annual Report	Annual report		Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health / Jane O'Grady	First notified 11/5/18
Education and Skills Strategy	To endorse and agree the Education and Skills Strategy following a consultation with parents/carers, schools and the wider educational community and other key stakeholders.		Cabinet Member for Education and Skills / Maria Edmonds	First notified 14/9/17
Parking Delivery Plan	This document sets out a revised delivery plan for managing and delivering the Buckinghamshire County Council's Vision for Parking.	All Electoral Divisions	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Dave Roberts	First notified 24/1/18
Q1 2018/19 Finance Monitoring Report	Quarterly report		Cabinet Member for Resources / Richard Ambrose	First notified 20/4/18
Cabinet 10 September 2018				
Acquisition of Investment Properties	Potential acquisition of Investment Property - if required		Cabinet Member for Resources / Oster Milambo	First notified 14/9/17 Likely to contain confidential appendices

5

Agenda Item 6

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
Child Obesity Inquiry report	For Cabinet to review the Child Obesity Inquiry report and recommendations from the Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee		Brian Roberts, Vice-Chairman / Liz Wheaton	First notified 9/5/18
Children's Select Committee - Permanent Exclusions Inquiry	For Cabinet to consider the report and recommendations of the Children's Social Care and Learning Select Committee inquiry into reducing permanent exclusions from school.		Dev Dhillon / Sarah Hawkswood	First notified 22/2/18
Highway Services Policy	The Highway Services Policy sets out the organisation's risk-based approach and describe how its Service Levels are mapped against the Council's Strategic Aims and Objectives. This is required to align the organisation to the principles of the latest Code of Practice - Well Managed Highways. The new code requires Service Levels to be based on local needs and priorities and requires authorities to manage their service and network risks.	All Electoral Divisions	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Keith Carpenter	First notified 28/3/18
Youth Justice Strategic Plan	Cabinet to agree the Youth Justice Strategic Plan		Cabinet Member for Children's Services / Aman Sekhon-Gill	First notified 19/2/18
Cabinet 22 October 2018				
Cabinet 12 November 2018				
Q2 2018/19 Finance Monitoring Report	Quarterly report		Cabinet Member for Resources / Richard Ambrose	First notified 20/4/18
Cabinet 10 December 2018				
Adult Services Update	An update on the national, regional and local developments in relation to Adult Social Care and support activity taking place to further improve Adult Social Care services in Buckinghamshire.		Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing / Gillian Quinton	First notified 28/12/17

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
Children's Services Update	6-monthly update		Cabinet Member for Children's Services / Tolis Vouyioukas	First notified 19/2/18
July 2018 Cabinet Member Decisions				
<u>Cabinet Member for Children's Services</u>				
Cross-Regional Project Re-commissioning	To agree the participation of Buckinghamshire County Council in the re-commissioned Cross-Regional project which offers residential and education provision.		Cabinet Member for Children's Services / Matilda Moss	First notified 22/6/18
Post 16 Supported Living	Cabinet Member approval is sought to re-commission supported living for young people over the age of 16.		Cabinet Member for Children's Services / Matilda Moss	First notified 22/6/18
<u>Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Cabinet Member for Resources</u>				
Children's Homes – Local Provision	The addition to the capital programme of potential children's homes		Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Cabinet Member for Resources / Lucy Fenton	First notified 22/5/18
<u>Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and Cabinet Member for Resources</u>				
Allocation of grant for Supported Internships	The Department for Education provided funding for specific purposes, but these were not ring-fenced grants. This report seeks to release £86,844 to Education to develop supported internships for young people with special educational needs and disabilities.		Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, Cabinet Member for Resources / Sarah Callaghan, John Hickson	First notified 27/3/18

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
<u>Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing</u>				
Choice and Top-Up Policy	Revision of the County Council's Choice & Top-Up Policy for Adult Social Care	All Electoral Divisions	Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing / Jane Bowie	First notified 12/4/18
Commissioning of engagement provider	Commissioning of engagement provider		Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing / Oliver Stykuc-Dean, Lisa Truett	First notified 25/5/18
Direct Payment Policy	Cabinet Member to agree the Direct Payment Policy		Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing / Marcia Smith	First notified 29/3/17
Domestic Abuse Strategy 2018-2021	Cabinet Member decision on the Domestic Abuse Countywide Strategy 2018-2021.		Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health / Faye Blunstone	First notified 5/6/18
Market Position Statement	The Market Position is a single commissioning document describing health and social care needs and gaps across Buckinghamshire. The purpose is to outline areas where the Council, Clinical Commissioning Groups and independent providers (including the voluntary, community and faith sector) can work together to best support our residents and achieve better health and wellbeing outcomes.		Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing / Jane Bowie	First notified 27/3/18
<u>Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment</u>				
Bucks and MK Environmental Records Centre - new fee rates for data searches	Bucks and MK Environmental Records Centre - new fee rates for data searches		Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment / David Sutherland	First notified 8/5/18

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
Memorandum of Understanding to support the management of Unauthorised Encampments in Buckinghamshire	Memorandum of Understanding to support the management of Unauthorised Encampments in Buckinghamshire between: Aylesbury Vale District Council Buckinghamshire County Council Chiltern District Council South Bucks District Council Wycombe District Council Thames Valley Police		Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment / David Sutherland	First notified 28/3/18
Rights of Way Enforcement Policy	To review and update the existing Rights of Way Enforcement Policy The document will outline the legislative powers available to the authority regarding enforcement, give details of what action our customers may expect the authority to take on illegalities found on the rights of way network.		Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment / David Sutherland	First notified 28/3/18
<u>Cabinet Member for Resources</u>				
Data Protection Policy	Overarching Data Protection Policy Updated Policy to take into account the new Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations 2018 Will replace the current Re-Use of Consent Policy 2015 and the Information Sharing Policy 2013	All Electoral Divisions	Cabinet Member for Resources / Michelle Hughes	First notified 25/5/18
Transfer of Land at Spade Oak, Marlow	The transfer of land held by Buckinghamshire County Council as Trustee of the Thameside Preservation Trust to new Trustees. The land was purchased with monies raised by public subscription and is to be preserved for the benefit and recreation of the public.	Marlow	Cabinet Member for Resources / Linda Forsythe	First notified 6/4/17

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
<u>Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation</u>				
2018/19 Developer Funded Infrastructure Programme	Approval of Section 106 / Community Infrastructure Fund programme for the 2018/19 financial year.		Cabinet Member for Resources, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Jack Mayhew	First notified 24/5/18
A412 Uxbridge Road / Black Park Road junction	Consultation to implement changes to the existing road layout to reduce collisions by a 'No Right Turn' ban from Black Park Road, a 'No U turns' ban for southbound traffic on the A412, a reduction in the existing speed limit for northbound vehicles on A412 from 60mph to 50mph with a reduction to one lane through the Black Park Road junction.	Iver; Stoke Poges & Wexham	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Trevor Bonsor	First notified 28/11/17
A413 Buckingham Road, Winslow - Zebra crossing	Proposal to install Zebra crossing, near Station Road, Winslow.	Winslow	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Paul Roberts	First notified 18/1/18
Appointments to Outside Bodies 2018/19	The Deputy Leader will be asked to approve the list of appointments to outside bodies for the year 2018/19		Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Sophie Payne	First notified 1/11/17
Asheridge Road, Chesham - Waiting Restrictions	Introduction of No waiting at any time, waiting restriction - along Asheridge Road and its junction with Ash Close, Chesham	Chiltern Ridges	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Shane Thomas	First notified 2/5/18
Beaconsfield cycleway	Proposed shared cycleway. Upgraded of existing footway, between Grenfell Road and Ledborough Lane. 3 week Consultation to commence 03 March 2017.	Beaconsfield	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Adrian Lane	First notified 28/2/17

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
Berryfields Proposed Waiting Restrictions	Berryfields Proposed Waiting Restrictions at Aylesbury Vale Academy School & The Berryfields Primary Academy School & The Green Ridge Primary Academy School.	Stone and Waddesdon	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Kirk Adams	First notified 22/3/18
Chalfont St Peter Waiting Restrictions	Proposed introduction of No waiting at any time (Double yellow line) waiting restriction at junction of North Park and Packhorse Road, Chalfont St Peter	Chalfont St Peter	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Mark Averill	First notified 9/3/18
Chepping Wye Valley Waiting Restrictions	Chepping Wye Valley LAF Area Waiting Restrictions Key Decision Report	Flackwell Heath, Little Marlow & Marlow South East; Hazlemere; The Wooburns, Bourne End & Hedsor; Tylers Green & Loudwater	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Shaun Pope	First notified 19/6/17
Fleet Trading Account Budget 2018-19	To agree the Fleet Trading Account budget for year 2018-19 in line with current Financial Regulations. These are temporary budgets for one year only, with expenditure and income being of the same value and the net budget bottom line being zero.		Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Gill Harding	First notified 13/6/18
Gerrards Cross Waiting Restrictions	Proposed various waiting restriction measures 'No waiting at any time' (double yellow line restrictions) Limited Waiting (Single yellow line restrictions) Resident Permit Parking and Disabled Parking Bay within Gerrards Cross	Denham; Gerrards Cross	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Mark Averill	First notified 9/3/18

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
Highways Development Management Guidance	<p>The Highways Development Management Guidance intends to help developers create great places and thriving communities as Buckinghamshire grows. It is a practical guide for developers.</p> <p>It sets out key principles and guidance points relating to: 'Creating Great Developments in Buckinghamshire', 'Designing for Transport in Developments', 'Managing Transport Impacts' and 'Delivering Works on the Highway'.</p> <p>The guidance is part of Buckinghamshire County Council's work to help ensure all types of transport infrastructure and services keep pace with growth.</p> <p>The Highways Development Management Guidance is a supporting document to the Local Transport Plan 4.</p>		Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Abigail Nichols	First notified 27/3/18
Reclassification Order, Bellingdon Road and Townsend Road, Chesham	A short section of Bellingdon Road and Townsend Road in Chesham are classified as B Roads. It seems that this is a historic issue which was not correctly dealt with at the time the A416 St Marys Way was constructed. This order resolves this historic issue	Chesham	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Keith Carpenter	First notified 2/8/17
Roberts Lane, Chalfont St Peter - Prohibition Of Motor Vehicles	Prohibition Of Motor Vehicles on Roberts Lane, Chalfont St Peter	Chalfont St Peter	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Scott White	First notified 24/4/18

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
<u>Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation and Cabinet Member for Education and Skills</u>				
Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (SMoTS) for Education	The Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (SMoTS) for Education is a supporting document to the Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4). The strategy is designed to promote sustainable modes of transport to schools, colleges and other education centres. It explains what school transport is in place at the moment and what we want it to be in the future. This includes the transport needs of 16+ and Special Educational Needs and Disabled pupils. It sets out how we will work (and support others) to meet the objectives set out in this document and encourage sustainable education transport. The document is particularly aimed at schools, to help them inform their school travel plans. However, this document should be useful to any groups or individuals with an interest in school travel.		Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Ryan Bunce	First notified 10/8/17
<u>Leader</u>				
Commissioning of construction – A355 Improvements Project	The A355 scheme is programmed to begin construction in June 2018; to meet this timeline, a contract for construction needs to be awarded by April/May 2018, in order to deliver the scheme by the end of June 2019.	Amersham & Chesham Bois; Beaconsfield; Gerrards Cross; Little Chalfont & Amersham Common; Penn Wood & Old Amersham	Leader of the Council / Ulrika Diallo	First notified 17/4/18 May contain confidential appendices

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
August 2018 Cabinet Member Decision				
<u>Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation</u>				
Relocation of existing speed cushion, The Greenway, High Wycombe	<p>Relocation of existing speed cushion on The Greenway, High Wycombe. From outside Mentmore to 37m west of the junction with Priory Avenue.</p> <p>Developers of Mentmore, The Greenway, High Wycombe (Planning Ref: 16/05904/FUL) are required to relocate an existing Speed Cushion in The Greenway, High Wycombe.</p> <p>This is required to accommodate highway works opposite in the form of a new site access, which is to be carried out under a Section 184 Agreement. The relocation of the existing Speed Cushion will be fully funded by the developer.</p>	Terriers & Amersham Hill	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation / Christine Urry	First notified 17/5/18
September 2018 Cabinet Member Decisions				
<u>Cabinet Member for Education and Skills</u>				
Consultation by John Hampden School, Wendover	The governing body of the school are consulting on a proposal that from January 2019 they lower their age of admission to 3 years of age.	Wendover, Halton & Stoke Mandeville	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills / Andrew Tusting	First notified 8/1/18
October 2018 Cabinet Member Decisions				
<u>Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing</u>				
Respite provision	Proposal for re-provision of residential respite for people with multiple and complex disabilities in Buckinghamshire		Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing / Jane Bowie	First notified 4/1/18

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
November 2018 Cabinet Member Decisions				
<u>Cabinet Member for Education and Skills</u>				
Dagnall Church of England School	A proposal that from 1 September 2018 Dagnall Church of England School increases its age range to admit children up to year 6 (11 years of age). If implemented the change would be phased in, starting with the admission of year 3 children from September 2018 and then to build up over a number of years.	Ivinghoe	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills / Andrew Tusting	First notified 28/2/17
Denham Village Infant School	The Local Authority and governing board are consulting the local community on a proposal that from September 2018 the school becomes a ½ form entry all-through primary school. If the proposal was implemented children would stay at the school until the end of Key Stage II until they transferred to a secondary school and there would no longer be the automatic option of children transferring at KSII to Denham Green E-Act Academy. The consultation will run from 20 October 2017 through to 8 December 2017. Parents, the local community, nearby schools and other interested parties are being made aware of the consultation. Depending on the outcome of the consultation and if the necessary funding and planning permission is gained the next step would be the publication of a statutory notice followed by a four week representation period for people to support, comment on or object to the proposal.	Denham	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills / Andrew Tusting	First notified 19/10/17

Item	Description	Local Members	Member(s) / Contact Officer	Comments
School Competition: Kingsbrook School, Aylesbury	<p>Under present Department of Education statutory guidance all new schools have to open as Academy's. An LA is required to hold a Competition to find a bidder to run the school.</p> <p>The LA has sent details of the Competition to the DfE, RSC, a number of Multi Academy Trusts and all Buckinghamshire schools and Academies.</p> <p>All bids received by the deadline of 6 June, will be evaluated and after a short-listing, bidders will be interviewed by a panel of members and officers. Interviews are scheduled to be held on 6 September 2018. The LA makes a decision on its preferred bidder after the interviews, and after the Cabinet Member decision has been taken, the LA sends details of all bids and their preferred bidder to the DfE and RSC who make the final decision.</p> <p>it is anticipated that the final decision will not be made known to the LA until December 2018.</p> <p>The LA will then work with the successful bidder to manage the build project and the opening of the school.</p>	Aston Clinton & Bierton	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills / Sarah Callaghan	First notified 30/5/18
March 2019 Cabinet Member Decisions				
<u>Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing</u>				
Care Market Pressures	Annual response to care market pressures from providers		Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing / Jane Bowie	First notified 29/3/18

Please note the following information since the report included in the previous Cabinet agenda:-

- 1 decision has been published but not yet taken
- 5 decisions have been taken
- 29 decisions on the forward plan are pending for July

DECISIONS TAKEN

Cabinet Member for Resources

13 Jun 2018

R04.18 - Mansfield Farm, Iver - Proposed 49.5MWh Battery Project (Decision Taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED

- To approve the proposed Battery Storage project based on the attached agreed Heads of Terms that will form a basis for the Option and Lease agreement.
- The recommended Developer.
- That the Council enters into agreements to facilitate completion of the Lease.

Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation

19 Jun 2018

T10.18 - Revocation of the improvement line HW-RW-11, High Wycombe (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member:

APPROVED the revocation of the improvement line HW-RW-11. As shown in Map 1.

25 Jun 2018

T11.18 - Freight Strategy (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member:

AGREED to adopt Buckinghamshire County Council's Freight Strategy as a supporting document to the Local Transport Plan 4.

AGREED that the approval of any minor amendments to the guidance is delegated to the Director of Growth, Strategy and Highways in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation.

AGREED that any decision to review the Freight Strategy before 2036 is delegated to the Cabinet Member for Transportation.

Leader of the Council

21 Jun 2018

L02.18 - High Wycombe Town Centre Masterplan - Phase 5 Consultation Decision (Decision taken)

The Leader of the Council:

AGREED: To support the final designs including amendments made during consultation of Phase 5 so that the project can begin construction in early Summer 2018. Post consultation designs are provided in Appendix 1 as a pdf.

AGREED: To delegate authority to the Head of Highways Infrastructure Projects for any further design changes in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation and local Member.

AGREED: To procure main works contractor in line with the agreed budgets as defined within T12.16 - High Wycombe Town Centre Master Plan Southern Quadrant HWTCMPSQ Business Case.

AGREED: To delegate authority to the Head of Highways Infrastructure Projects to approve the award of the construction contract in line with the High Wycombe Town Centre Business Case

21 Jun 2018

L01.18 - Phase 6 - Cressex Road / Cressex Link Road Junction Improvements and Proposed Cycleway (Decision taken)

The Leader of the Council:

AGREED: To support the final designs including amendments made during consultation of Phase 6 so that the project can begin construction in Autumn 2018. Post consultation designs are provided in Appendix 1 as a pdf.

AGREED: To support the decision not to implement any cycling facilities in line with public feedback following consultation.

AGREED: To delegate authority to the Head of Highways Infrastructure Projects for any further design changes in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation and Local Member.

AGREED: To agree to support the procurement of a main works contractor in line with the agreed budgets as defined within T12.16 - High Wycombe Town Centre Master Plan Southern Quadrant HWTCMPSQ Business Case.

AGREED: To delegate authority to the Head of Highways Infrastructure Projects to approve the award of the construction contract in line with the High Wycombe Town Centre Business Case in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation.

DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN

Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation

27 Jun 2018

T12.18 - Roberts Lane, Chalfont St Peter - Prohibition Of Motor Vehicles (Decisions to be Taken)

Recommendation:

That the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation;

- Overruled the objections, as detailed in this report**
- Approved the making of the Traffic Regulation Order as for Prohibition of Motor Vehicles on Roberts Lane, Chalfont St Peter.**
- Instructed TfB to inform the responders to the statutory consultation of the decision and implement the traffic regulation order and associated works.**

For further information please contact: Rachel Bennett on 01296 382343.

Select Committee Combined Work Programme

About our Select Committees

This work programme sets out all formal meetings of the Council's Select Committees.

The purpose of Select Committees is to carry out the Council's overview and scrutiny function. Their role is to support public accountability and improve outcomes for residents through scrutinising the work of decision-makers.

Select Committees can carry out this function either through an in-depth Inquiry or one-off item at Committee meetings.

A scrutiny Inquiry is an investigation on a topic that will lead to a report and evidence-based recommendations for change to decision-makers. The key difference between one-off committee items that are not part of an inquiry and scrutiny inquiries is that Select Committees normally only make recommendations to Cabinet as a result of an in-depth Inquiry.

Evidence for scrutiny Inquiries may be gathered in different ways depending on the topic, this includes taking evidence at formal Select Committee meetings and/or informal meetings, visits or external research. Prior to any work commencing the Select Committee will agree an Inquiry scoping document which will outline the terms of reference, the methodology and inquiry timeline.

For more details about Select Committee Inquiries and guidance please see <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/council-and-democracy/scrutiny/>

[Finance, Performance & Resources Select Committee](#)

[Children's Select Committee](#)

[Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee](#)

[Transport, Environment & Communities Select Committee](#)

Date	Topic	Description and purpose	Lead Service Officer	Attendees
Finance, Performance & Resources Select Committee				
11 Sep 2018	Budget Scrutiny 2018 - 6 month progress report	The Committee will examine a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations from Budget Scrutiny 2018 after 6 months. Members will have an opportunity to question the Cabinet Member for Resources and the Director of Finance and Assets, before discussing and allocating a RAG status for the progress of each recommendation.	Fazeelat Bashir, Committee & Governance Advisor	John Chilver, Cabinet Member for Resources Richard Ambrose, Director of Finance and Assets
11 Sep 2018	Home-to-School Transport Update	Members will receive an update on home-to-school transport.	Sarah Callaghan, Service Director Education	Mr Mike Appleyard, Cabinet Member for Education Miss Sarah Callaghan, Service Director for Education Ms Tracey Lawrence, Project Manager for SEN/CWD

Date	Topic	Description and purpose	Lead Service Officer	Attendees
11 Sep 2018	Mid-Year Review of Costs and Savings in Adult Social Care and Children's Services	<p>The Committee will receive an update on the progress with delivery of budget savings in both Adult Social Care and Children's Services.</p> <p>Members will hear from the responsible Cabinet Member, Finance Director and Executive Director for each Service Area.</p>	Richard Ambrose, Director of Finance & Procurement	<p>John Chilver, Cabinet Member for Resources</p> <p>Mr Richard Ambrose, Director of Finance and Procurement</p> <p>Ms Lin Hazell, Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing</p> <p>Mr Adrian Isaacs, Finance Director for Communities, Health & Adult Social Care</p> <p>Mr Warren Whyte, Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p> <p>Ms Elizabeth Williams, Finance Director for Children's Services</p> <p>Sarah Ashmead, Executive Director and Assistant CEO,</p> <p>Gill Quinton, Executive Director for Communities, Health and Adult Social Care (TBC)</p> <p>Tolis Vouyioukas, Executive Director for Children's Services (TBC)</p>
27 June 2018				

Date	Topic	Description and purpose	Lead Service Officer	Attendees
11 Sep 2018	Modernising Local Government - Update	Details to be confirmed.	Sarah Ashmead, Executive Director (Resources)	John Chilver, Cabinet Member for Resources Sarah Ashmead, Assistant Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer
13 Nov 2018	Budget Scrutiny 2019 - Scope	The Committee will consider and agree the draft inquiry scope for the Budget Scrutiny Inquiry 2019.	Fazeelat Bashir, Committee & Governance Advisor	Committee Members
13 Nov 2018	Business Rates Retention - Change Implications	Members will review the changes to business rates retention and how these will impact the Council and small businesses in Buckinghamshire.	Richard Ambrose, Director of Finance & Procurement	John Chilver, Cabinet Member for Resources Richard Ambrose, Director of Finance and Procurement Matthew Strevens, Corporate Finance Business Partner
13 Nov 2018	Work Programme Update	For Members to discuss the Committee's work programme.	Fazeelat Bashir, Committee & Governance Advisor	
11 Dec 2018	Work Programme Update	For Members to discuss the Committee's work programme.	Fazeelat Bashir, Committee & Governance Advisor	

Date	Topic	Description and purpose	Lead Service Officer	Attendees
Children's Select Committee				
10 Jul 2018	Children's Short Breaks Draft Strategy Consultation: Select Committee Review and Response	For Committee Members to review the draft strategy consultation for children's short breaks and to prepare a response to help shape and inform the next stage.	Matilda Moss, Interim Head of Strategic Commissioning	Warren Whyte, Cabinet Member, Children's Services Tolis Vouyioukas, Executive Director Children's Services Matilda Moss, Interim Head Children's Commissioning
10 Jul 2018	Early Help Service - Verbal Update	For the Committee to receive a verbal update on the Early Help Service.	Sara Turnbull, Transformation Programme Manager, Early Help, Tolis Vouyioukas, Executive Director Children's Services	Warren Whyte, Cabinet Member Children's Services Tolis Vouyioukas, Executive Director Children's Services Sara Turnbull, Transformation Manager, Early Help
10 Jul 2018	Inquiry Report for Select Committee agreement: Working Together to Reduce the Number of Permanent Exclusions from School	For Select Committee Members to discuss and agree the Draft Inquiry Report: Working Together to Reduce the Number of Permanent Exclusions from School to be submitted for Cabinet Approval	Sarah Hawkswood, Committee & Governance Advisor	Select Committee Members

Date	Topic	Description and purpose	Lead Service Officer	Attendees
10 Jul 2018	Review of Performance Report Q4 2017-18	For the Committee to review with Cabinet Members any areas of underperformance	Sarah Hawkswood, Committee & Governance Advisor	Warren Whyte, Cabinet Member Children's Services Mike Appleyard, Cabinet Member Education & Skills Tolis Vouyioukas, Executive Director Children's Services
4 Sep 2018	Voice of the Child and Young Person Inquiry - Progress on Implementation of Recommendations 18 months on	For the Committee to receive an update on progress regarding implementation of Recommendation 4 of its 2016 Inquiry Report; that a specific Voice of the Child and Young Person website hub is developed.	James Fowler, Acting Youth Service Manager, Tolis Vouyioukas, Executive Director Children's Services	Warren Whyte, Cabinet Member Children's Services Tolis Vouyioukas, Executive Director Children's Services James Fowler, Acting Youth Service Manager
27 Nov 2018	Review of Performance Report - Q1 2018-19	For the Committee to review any areas of underperformance	Sarah Hawkswood, Committee & Governance Advisor	Mr Warren Whyte, Cabinet Member Children's Services Mr Mike Appleyard, Cabinet Member Education & Skills Mr Tolis Vouyioukas, Executive Director Children's Services
27 Nov 2018	Work Programme Update	For Members to discuss the Committee's work programme.	Sarah Hawkswood, Committee & Governance Advisor	

Date	Topic	Description and purpose	Lead Service Officer	Attendees
Health & Adult Social Care Select Committee				
24 Jul 2018	Adult Short Breaks Strategy Consultation	For Committee Members to review the strategy consultation for adult short breaks and to prepare a response to help shape and inform the next stage.	Clare Capjon, BU Improvement Manager, Rebecca Carley, Adult Social Care PMO Manager	Lin Hazell, Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing Jane Bowie, Director of Joint Commissioning
24 Jul 2018	Adult Social Care Transformation Plans	The Committee heard about the transformation plans at its November meeting so this item will be for Members to hear about the progress in terms of delivery of the plans.	Clare Capjon, BU Improvement Manager, Rebecca Carley, Adult Social Care PMO Manager	Lin Hazell, Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing Karen Jackson, Service Director (ASC Operations) Jane Bowie, Director of Joint Commissioning
24 Jul 2018	Child Obesity Inquiry report	For Committee Members to review and approve the draft Child Obesity Inquiry report.	Liz Wheaton, Committee and Governance Adviser	
24 Jul 2018	Work Programme Update	For Members to discuss the Committee's work programme.	Liz Wheaton, Committee and Governance Adviser	
2 Oct 2018	Director of Public Health Annual Report	For Committee Members to receive the Director of Public Health Annual Report.	Jane O'Grady, Director of Public Health	Noel Brown, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health Jane O'Grady, Director of Public Health

Date	Topic	Description and purpose	Lead Service Officer	Attendees
2 Oct 2018	GP provision	For the Committee to hear in more detail about the plans for GP provision across the County.	Liz Wheaton, Committee and Governance Adviser	Lou Patten, Accountable Officer, Bucks Clinical Commissioning Group
2 Oct 2018	The impact of the Government's Green Paper	For the Committee to hear from Adult Social Care about the impact of the Government's Green Paper on funding options around social care.	Clare Capjon, BU Improvement Manager	Lin Hazell, Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing Gill Quinton, Executive Director
2 Oct 2018	Work Programme Update	For Members to discuss the Committee's work programme.	Liz Wheaton, Committee and Governance Adviser	
20 Nov 2018	Developing Care Closer to Home	For the Committee to review the progress being made on the Hospital Trust's "Developing Care Closer to Home" project.	Liz Wheaton, Committee and Governance Adviser	Neil Macdonald, Chief Executive, Bucks Healthcare Trust Lou Patten, Accountable Officer, Clinical Commissioning Group Carolyn Morrice, Chief Nurse, Bucks Healthcare Trust

Date	Topic	Description and purpose	Lead Service Officer	Attendees
20 Nov 2018	System Resilience and Integration update	For the Committee to review the system Winter resilience plans and to hear about the progress being made towards health and social care integration.	Liz Wheaton, Committee and Governance Adviser	Lin Hazell, Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing Gill Quinton, Executive Director, Bucks County Council Neil Macdonald, Chief Executive, Bucks Healthcare Trust Lou Patten, Accountable Officer, Bucks Clinical Commissioning Group
20 Nov 2018	Work Programme Update	For Members to consider the Committee's work programme.	Liz Wheaton, Committee and Governance Adviser	

Date	Topic	Description and purpose	Lead Service Officer	Attendees
Transport. Environment & Communities Select Committee				
17 Jul 2018	Energy and Growth - Future Demand, Challenges and Income Generating Opportunities	Members will review the key challenges, opportunities and emerging priorities in the draft Energy Strategy and will examine the national context and local approach to meeting the increasing energy demands of the county. Members will have an opportunity to provide their views on the emerging priorities and inform the action plan and implementation of the strategy.	Edward Barlow, Head of Energy & Resources, Kama Wager, Committee Adviser	Bill Chapple, Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment Ed Barlow, Head of Energy and Resources
17 Jul 2018	Is the Council Ready for Growth Inquiry: 6 Month Recommendation Monitoring	Members will review and assess the progress towards implementation of the inquiry recommendations.	Rachel Wileman, Infrastructure Strategy Manager	Martin Tett, Leader Rachel Wileman, Infrastructure Strategy Manager
17 Jul 2018	Sustainable School Travel Inquiry: 12 Month Recommendation Monitoring	The Committee will review and assess the progress towards the recommendations made within the inquiry report, as agreed by Cabinet in April 2017.	James Gleave, Transport Strategy Manager, Joan Hancox, Head of Transport Strategy	Mark Shaw, Cabinet Member for Transportation Joan Hancox, Head of Transport Strategy

Date	Topic	Description and purpose	Lead Service Officer	Attendees
17 Jul 2018	TfB Programme of Works and Performance Dashboard	Members will review the current and forward programme of works and the performance dashboard for TfB.	Mark Averill, Head Of Highways (client), Mark Kemp, Director of Transport	Mark Shaw, Cabinet Member for Transportation Mark Averill, Head of Highways (Client) Simon Dando, Contract Director TfB
18 Sep 2018	DEFRA 25 year Environmental plan – potential implications for BCC	To be developed	Martin Dickman, Environment Services Director, David Sutherland, Sustainability Service Business Manager	Bill Chapple, Cabinet Member for Planning & Environment David Sutherland, Service Business Manager
18 Sep 2018	Modern Slavery Inquiry: 6 Month Recommendation Progress Review	Members will monitor and review the progress towards the implementation of the inquiry recommendations as agreed by Cabinet.	Faye Blunstone, Community Safety Co-Ordinator, Nigel Sims, Strategic Commissioning Manager	Noel Brown, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement Nigel Sims, Strategic Commissioning Manager Faye Blunstone, Community Safety Coordinator

Date	Topic	Description and purpose	Lead Service Officer	Attendees
18 Sep 2018	Street Lighting	Members will examine the street lighting element of the Transport for Bucks contract. They will review the current performance, and effectiveness of the processes, policy and approach to street lighting.	Mark Averill, Head Of Highways (client)	Mark Shaw, Cabinet Member for Transportation Phil Lain, Street Lighting Manager David Stewart, Scheme Delivery Manager, Ringway Jacobs Mark Averill, Head of Highways (Client)
18 Sep 2018	Work Programme Update	For Members to discuss the Committee's work programme.	Kama Wager, Committee Adviser	
6 Nov 2018	Gully Cleaning and Drainage System Maintenance	To be developed	Mark Averill, Head Of Highways (client)	Mark Shaw, Cabinet Member for Transportation Mark Averill, Head of Highways (Client)
6 Nov 2018	Is the Council Ready for Growth Inquiry: 12 Month Recommendation Monitoring	Members will review and assess the progress towards completion and implementation of the inquiry recommendations.	Rachel Wileman, Infrastructure Strategy Manager	Martin Tett, Leader Rachel Wileman, Infrastructure Strategy Manager

SCRUTINY INQUIRY WORK PROGRAMME – OVERVIEW OF SELECT COMMITTEE LIVE INQUIRIES

Inquiry Title	Inquiry Chairman	Lead Officer	June 18	July 18	Aug 18	Sept 18	Oct 18	Nov 18
Budget Scrutiny 2019	David Watson	Fazeelat Bashir						
Planning for Effective Leadership	Charlie Clare	Fazeelat Bashir						
Reducing Permanent Exclusions	Dev Dhillon	Sarah Hawkswood						
Childhood Obesity	Brian Roberts	Liz Wheaton						

33



Scoping



Evidence gathering



Committee Approval Report



Cabinet / NHS

For further information on scrutiny work please contact Kelly Sutherland, Committee & Governance Manager on 01296 382343.
www.buckscc.gov.uk/democracy. Last updated on 11 May 2018

Follow us on twitter @BucksDemocracy

Report to Cabinet

Title:	Q1 2018/19 Finance Monitoring Report
Date:	9 July 2018
Author:	Cabinet Member for Resources
Contact officer:	Jane Parker, Senior Accountant x2843
Local members affected:	n/a
Portfolio areas affected:	[Portfolio areas]

For press enquiries concerning this report, please contact the media office on 01296 382444

[Guidance can be found on the intranet at the following link:

<https://intranet.buckscc.gov.uk/how-do-i/member-services/decision-making/>

Is the report confidential? Please contact Member Services.]

Summary




Purpose of the Report

This report provides information on the financial performance for the Council to the end of Quarter 1 of the financial year 2018/19.

Background

The financial information informs Cabinet of the forecast revenue and capital position for the financial year 2018/19. A full analysis of the outturn of Portfolios is contained in the appendix to this report.

As well as narrative information, financial performance against target is shown visually as follows:

	Green	Performance is on or above target. (Revenue under spends against budget and overspends up to +0.1% are shown as green)
	Amber	Performance is below target (+0.1% to +1%) for financial performance
	Red	Performance is well below target (worse than +1%) for financial performance

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to NOTE the Quarter 1 outturn forecast for revenue and capital budgets and discuss areas of concern.

A. Narrative setting out the reasons for the decision

1. Context – National

A recent National Audit Office report (March 2018) recognised the significant reductions in Central Government funding of local authorities from 2010/11 onwards and, in particular, the pressures being faced by authorities with social care responsibilities.

It is notable that 66% of local authorities with care responsibilities drew down on their reserves during 2016/17. This is directly as a result of increased demand and cost pressures. Local Government funding has been reducing whilst statutory obligations have not reduced.

The Local Government Association (LGA) has undertaken some research and this shows that nationally 75% of councils reported an overspend of more than £0.5m in 2015/16 within Children’s Social Care and that the national overspend on Adult Social Care in 2016/17 was £366m.

The Local Government Association (LGA) has forecast that Local Government will have a funding gap of over £5bn by 2020. The gap for adult social care is forecast to be £2.2bn whilst the funding gap for children’s services will be approximately £2bn. Additionally, over the past decade child protection enquiries have increased by more than 150%.

Context – Local

Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) has a good track record of managing within its overall budget. In seven of the last eight years there has been an overall underspend despite experiencing pressures within social care services. In 2017/18 there was an overall underspend of £2.9m which helped to increase our level of General Fund reserves. These currently stand at £26.2m, which represents 7.7% of our net budget requirement. Cabinet received a report on the 21st May 2018 around

the financial sustainability of the Council which recognised that the Council has sufficient levels of reserves (allocated and unallocated) and high Member involvement, including a strong Regulatory & Audit Committee, exists.

Nevertheless, the Council is experiencing significant pressures on services which are impacting on the current budget position. The revenue budget outturn is summarised in Table 1 below. The key Portfolio variances are explained in **Appendix 1**.

At the end of June the Council is forecasting that there will be a £1.2m forecast overspend for the year end March 2019. At a Portfolio level, there are significant overspends at the present time in Children's Services (£1.95m – 2.9%) and Education & Skills (£1.34m – 6.0%). There are further small overspends in Community Engagement (2.0%), Health and Wellbeing (0.2%) and Resources (1.0%). The overspends are partially offset by a forecast underspend in Corporate Costs of £2.76m (0.9%). The spending position is monitored on a monthly basis with a number of actions being taken to manage spend within the budget envelope; further information in relation to these actions is contained later in this report.

The Children's Services forecast overspend of £1.95m is after the allocation of the prudent contingency of £3.3m that the Council set aside in recognition of the volatile nature of spend in this service area. The key pressures are the placement costs and the costs of Legal support both as a result of growth in numbers and the complexity of cases. The number of Looked After Children has increased by approximately 30 since September 2017 (455 to 485). Placement budgets for Looked After Children are currently projected to overspend by £1.2m. Expenditure is driven by the statutory need to accommodate children when they need protecting. There are often few, if any, placement choices for children with the most complex needs who are very expensive to place. For example, a full year in residential care for one child can cost upwards of £300k. Placements are being reviewed with all decisions being made by a Placement Panel chaired by the Service Director.

Legal budgets in Children's Services are currently projected to overspend by £0.7m. The service anticipates that service improvement may result in a higher spend than last year with increased complexity of current court cases as well as an increasing demand for existing care proceedings. More detailed work is taking place to mitigate this risk. The realignment of the service with the creation of a central Court Team is central to making and sustaining changes in practice which, in turn, should have a positive impact on legal spend.

The Education & Skills forecast overspend of £1.34m is mainly due to an expected overspend in client transport of £1.3m in SEN transport and Post 16 / Further Education transport. This reflects increased demand as well as a shortfall in income against target. The forecast takes account of the full year effect of 100 additional post-16 students with SEND accessing transport in September 2017 (c80% increase in numbers) and a projected further increase from September 2018.

All Portfolios forecasting an overspend are drawing up action plans to mitigate these pressures. In addition Portfolios have been asked to carry out a detailed review of their budgets in order to identify actions to bring the overall Council spend to within the approved budget. Many of the proposed actions being taken are included within the Appendix to this report.

Appendix 1 also provides a summary of the outstanding debt position and the payment performance for both 10 days and 30 days payments.

Table 1 – Summary of Council revenue budget outturn as at June 2018

Portfolio Area	Outturn £000	Budget £000	Variance £000	Variance %
Leader	7,084	7,087	(3)	(0.0%)
Community Engagement	9,107	8,928	179	2.0%
Health & Wellbeing	132,155	131,934	221	0.2%
Children's Services	69,805	67,859	1,946	2.9%
Education & Skills	23,833	22,491	1,342	6.0%
Resources	25,487	25,230	258	1.0%
Planning & Environment	10,047	10,163	(116)	(1.1%)
Transportation	28,881	28,798	83	0.3%
Subtotal - Portfolios	306,400	302,490	3,909	1.3%
Corporate Costs (non Portfolio)	(305,247)	(302,490)	(2,756)	0.9%
Overall BCC	1,153	0	1,153	

2 Capital Budget Outturn

The capital budget outturn is summarised in Table 2 below. At this early stage in the year the forecast underspend is £4.64m.

Within the Leaders Portfolio, there is slippage of £0.7m on LEP schemes primarily due to A4 Taplow, A413 Winslow cycleway Stocklake Link Road, Eastern Link Road Southern and High Wycombe Town Centre Master Plan (HWTCMP).

There is a review of capital requirements for respite care within the Health & Wellbeing Portfolio and so an underspend of £2.8m is currently forecast pending the outcome of the review.

Education and Skills Portfolio is forecasting an underspend of £0.8m on Primary, Secondary and SEN provision.

The Transportation Portfolio is forecasting slippage of £0.3m due to delays in implementing the freight strategy.

Table 2 – Summary of Council capital budget outturn as at June 2018

Portfolio Area	Outturn £000	Budget £000	Variance £000	Variance %
Leader	17,596	18,297	(701)	(3.8%)
Community Engagement	1,509	1,509	-	0.0%
Health & Wellbeing	-	2,800	(2,800)	(100.0%)
Children's Services	1,260	1,257	3	0.2%
Education & Skills	45,547	46,358	(812)	(1.8%)
Resources	9,488	9,488	-	0.0%
Planning & Environment	2,361	2,361	-	0.0%
Transportation	36,996	37,327	(331)	(0.9%)
Subtotal - Portfolios	114,756	119,396	(4,641)	(3.9%)
Corporate	811	811	-	0.0%
Overall BCC	115,567	120,207	(4,641)	(3.9%)

B. Other options available, and their pros and cons

None arising directly from this report

C. Resource implications

Actions resulting from consideration of this report may influence future expenditure in areas of concern / interest.

D. Value for Money (VfM) Self Assessment

All decisions involving finances are scrutinised to ensure that the best value for money is achieved.

E. Legal implications

None arising directly from this report

F. Property implications

None arising directly from this report

G. Other implications/issues

None arising directly from this report

H. Feedback from consultation, Local Area Forums and Local Member views

None arising directly from this report

I. Communication issues

Quarterly budget monitoring reports are published on the Council's website.

J. Progress Monitoring

The budget monitoring report is updated on a monthly basis.

K. Review

Not applicable.

Your questions and views


If you have any questions about the matters contained in this paper please get in touch with the Contact Officer whose telephone number is given at the head of the paper.

If you have any views on this paper that you would like the Cabinet Member to consider, or if you wish to object to the proposed decision, please inform the Member Services Team by 5.00pm on Friday 6 July 2018. This can be done by telephone (to 01296 382343), or e-mail to democracy@buckscc.gov.uk

1 Portfolio Summary

Portfolio: **Leader**

Member: **Cllr Martin Tett, Leader of the Council**


REVENUE	
Budget £000	£7,087
Forecast Outturn £000	£7,084
Variance £000	-£3
Variance %	0%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is breakeven.

There is increased spend projected around s106 monitoring costs but this is likely to be covered by fees. The position will be reviewed throughout the year although it is likely that a breakeven position will be achieved.

Portfolio: **Community Engagement and Public Health**

Member: **Cllr Noel Brown**

REVENUE	
Budget £000	£8,928
Forecast Outturn £000	£9,107
Variance £000	£179
Variance %	2.0%
Financial Performance	


The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £0.18m.

The forecast overspend is largely due to a reduction in income trends in Libraries and delays in achieving some savings targets. There is an underspend within the Universal Youth Service of £37k due to a reduction in the forecast funding of projects. The Portfolio is currently reviewing all options for bringing the forecast spend back in line with the approved budget. This includes reviewing the impact of current community projects and applying a spending control around non-essential spend.

Public Health is expected to breakeven.

Portfolio: **Health & Wellbeing**

Member: **Cllr Lin Hazell**

REVENUE	
Budget £000	£131,934
Forecast Outturn £000	£132,155
Variance £000	£221
Variance %	0.2%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £0.2m.


This largely relates to pressures in the Client Transport budget as a result of increased unit costs.

There are a number of emerging risks within the service. These include experiencing an increase in long term placements, particularly for older people. The majority of these additional pressures relate to self-funders whose savings have now depleted below the financial threshold. There are also a number who have been assessed as being no longer eligible for continuing health care (CHC). Furthermore, there are also a number of risks in relation to work to deliver the savings targets set for the year. These risks are being addressed in the form of an action plan and include:-

- Work with providers around the checks and balances they take on admission for self-funders via the providers forum;
- Audit of first contact at the front door when self-funders contact BCC to ensure that BCC processes are being followed correctly;
- Reviewing the information and advice on the BCC web-site for self-funders;
- Ensuring that any placement has been reviewed against eligibility criteria for extra care housing;
- Service Director oversight of all placement decisions at all practice forums;
- Service Director joint chairing of CHC board;
- Developing a reviews team to conduct focused work on identified care packages;
- Further strength-based practice sessions using alternative service models (e.g. Shared Lives, Extra Care);
- Existing savings plans reviewed to see whether any potential for additional benefit e.g. on Direct Care and Support Services.

Portfolio: Children's Services

Member: Cllr Warren Whyte

REVENUE	
Budget £000	£67,859
Forecast Outturn £000	£69,805
Variance £000	£1,946
Variance %	2.9%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £1.9m.

The key pressures are the placement costs and the costs of Legal support both as a result of growth in numbers and the complexity of cases. These pressures continue to be monitored.


Placement budgets for Looked After Children are currently projected to overspend by £1.2m following the release of contingencies of £3.3m. Expenditure is driven by the statutory need to accommodate children when they need protecting. There are often few, if any, placement choices for the most complex children who are very expensive to place. For example, a full year in residential care for one child can cost upwards of £300k. However, every individual case is reviewed by the Panel before a decision is made on the appropriateness of the placement and the cost implications are considered.

Legal budgets are currently projected to overspend by £0.7m. The service anticipates that service improvement may result in a higher spend than last year with increased complexity of current court cases as well as an increasing demand for existing care proceedings. More detailed work is taking place to mitigate this risk. Realignment of the service with the creation of a central Court Team is central to making and sustaining changes in practice which in turn should have a positive impact on legal spend.

Despite the service reducing the number of agency staff there is still a small projected overspend in staffing budgets. In January 2018 the over establishment of agency Social Workers that were brought in to support the Ofsted inspection were 25. By April 2018 the Ofsted related over establishment agency staff had reduced to 0. As at the end of May the number of agency staff covering other agreed over establishment posts was 13, reducing to 9.5 in June. This will reduce further in the coming months.

Portfolio: **Education & Skills (including Client Transport)**

Member: **Cllr Mike Appleyard**

REVENUE	
Budget £000	£22,491
Forecast Outturn £000	£23,833
Variance £000	£1,342
Variance %	6.0%
Financial Performance	


The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £1.34m.

There is an expected overspend in client transport of £1.305m in SEN transport and Post 16 / Further Education transport mainly as a result of increased demand but also due to a shortfall in income against target. The forecast reflects the full year effect of 100 additional post-16 students with SEN accessing transport in September 2017 (c80% increase in numbers) and a projected further increase from September 2018.

£500k has already been mitigated by the current action plan and consultation on changes to the transport policy are being explored in terms of what might deliver further savings.

Portfolio: **Resources**

Member: **Cllr John Chilver**


REVENUE	
Budget £000	£25,230
Forecast Outturn £000	£25,487
Variance £000	£258
Variance %	1.0%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £0.25m.

HR / OD is anticipating an overspend, particularly around the Shared Service with Harrow. Property & Assets have pressures around both unbudgeted buildings and reactive maintenance, particularly fixing leaks. HR / OD are exploring additional income opportunities and further process efficiencies to reduce their anticipated overspend. Furthermore, a deep dive has been conducted across all service areas within Resources to identify additional savings opportunities to ensure a breakeven position can be delivered.

Portfolio: **Planning & Environment**

Member: **Cllr Bill Chapple OBE**


REVENUE	
Budget £000	£10,047
Forecast Outturn £000	£10,163
Variance £000	-£116
Variance %	-1.1%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is an underspend of £0.1m.

The underspend is due primarily to reduced costs in rates / unitary charges at the Energy from Waste site, Biowaste North gate fees for food, and recycling credits, partially offset by increased costs for Household Recycling Centres.

Portfolio: **Transportation**

Member: **Cllr Mark Shaw, Deputy Leader**

REVENUE	
Budget £000	£28,798
Forecast Outturn £000	£28,881
Variance £000	£83
Variance %	0.3%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £0.1m.

The small forecast overspend is due to the non-recovery of project costs from capitalisation within the Highways Infrastructure Projects team and Transport Strategy agency costs supporting increased activity (such as around the Housing Infrastructure Fund bid). TfB is currently forecasting to spend to budget and so far the work is being delivered broadly in line with expectations. The Portfolio is looking at a number of measures to help manage the current forecast pressure; initially from within the teams to which it relates or through specific funding. It is anticipated that this can be managed within budget by year end.

2 Corporate Costs & External Financing

Corporate Costs has a reported outturn of £2.8m underspend.

This includes a £1.6m underspend on contingency budgets as risks are not materialising, £0.5m underspend in relation to the National Living Wage, £0.6m Treasury Management and Capital Financing costs and £0.1m higher than expected Business Rate pooling income.

3 Outstanding Debt

Portfolio	Outstanding Debt				Total Due	Outstanding Debt as % of Annual Sales
	0-30 Days	31-90 Days	91-180 Days	More than 180 Days		
Children's Services	30	23	49	351	452	14%
Community Engagement	26	52	1	8	86	8%
Corporate Costs	11	36	35	21	103	6%
Education & Skills	10	743	203	76	1,032	4%
Health & Welbeing	517	1,874	733	3,340	6,463	25%
Leader	93	0	8	22	123	6%
Planning & Environment	156	103	63	44	367	9%
Resources	8	110	224	251	593	6%
Transportation	1,372	102	88	227	1,789	23%
Portfolio Not Determined	-123	-1	-21	-125	-270	
Total Debt	2,100	3,043	1,383	4,214	10,740	14%

In December 2016 a debt task and finish group was set up to focus on outstanding debt levels. This group focussed on improving invoicing practice and debt recovery processes and to reduce the value of debt outstanding to the Council. Through a focus on process improvement and the recruitment of additional resource to address the oldest debt, the level of debt has now been brought down to £10.7m from £17.8m. A significant proportion of our debt is secured against property as part of the Adults Social Care charging regime and reflects little risk to the council.

4 Late Payments

10 Day Late Payments				30 Day Late Payments			
Portfolio (Target 90%)	Invoices Paid	Paid Late	% Paid on Time	Portfolio (Target 90%)	Invoices Paid	Paid Late	% Paid on Time
Health & Wellbeing	217	18	92%	Health & Wellbeing	2,561	26	99%
Children's Services	108	8	93%	Children's Services	2,176	32	99%
Education & Skills	153	29	81%	Education & Skills	2,868	88	97%
Community Engagement	116	7	94%	Community Engagement	613	6	99%
Leader	35	3	91%	Leader	94	-	100%
Planning & Environment	43	4	91%	Planning & Environment	208	13	94%
Resources	198	14	93%	Resources	3,557	62	98%
Transportation	33	3	91%	Transportation	430	2	100%
Corporate	-	-	0%	Corporate	4	-	100%
Unallocated	8	-	100%	Unallocated	95	8	92%
Year to Date	911	86	91%	Year to Date	12,606	237	98%

Report to Cabinet

Title:	Cultural Strategy
Date:	Monday 9 July 2018
Date can be implemented:	Tuesday 17 July 2018
Author:	Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health
Contact officer:	Ruth Page 01296 383009
Local members affected:	All

For press enquiries concerning this report, please contact the media office on 01296 382444

Summary

The county of Buckinghamshire has a significant and substantial cultural heritage. The county has important links to events and people who have shaped Britain's history and has a considerable legacy of noteworthy buildings as well as social heritage in terms of sports and literature.

However, the provision of culture, leisure and tourism in Buckinghamshire is dispersed and not well connected, which means that Buckinghamshire is not currently maximising the economic potential that its cultural heritage offers. There are a number of challenges which need to be addressed including the need to build better links, develop the county's hotel and accommodation offer and improve accessibility, including sustainable transport.

By developing a more cohesive approach to the cultural heritage of Buckinghamshire, the potential economic and wellbeing benefits of the cultural sector could be maximised.

As part of its duty to promote the economic and social wellbeing of Buckinghamshire, and recognising the exciting opportunity to strengthen this area of the economy, the County Council has worked with organisations within the cultural sector to develop a Cultural Strategy for the county (Appendix A). The strategy has been created through detailed discussions and engagement, including a successful multi-agency event, and aims to contribute to the following outcomes for the county:

- A thriving economy and the development of high quality jobs
- Equality of access to cultural activities and opportunities



- Improved health and wellbeing of the population
- Re-vitalised heritage and transformed places

Through engagement work, a stronger cultural partnership has emerged which will champion the strategy on behalf of Buckinghamshire. The Council has been a facilitator in the process and the strategy will be owned and delivered by a partnership of cultural sector organisations.

Having a strong, sector-led partnership will benefit the county's economy by opening access to a wide range of funding opportunities and will increase visitors to the county by raising awareness of Buckinghamshire's cultural heritage.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to endorse the new Cultural Strategy and support the development of a new Cultural Partnership for Buckinghamshire to oversee the delivery of the strategy.

1. Narrative setting out the reasons for the decision

The county of Buckinghamshire has a significant heritage in terms of sports, literature and environment. However, Buckinghamshire does not currently have a Cultural Strategy which means that current provision of culture, leisure and tourism is fragmented across the county. The new Cultural Strategy will:

- articulate a shared ambition and priorities
- provide a vehicle that drives collaboration
- help cultural organisations and creative practitioners increase visibility, reach and engagement
- help build capacity and enhance the sustainability of our cultural sector
- increase inward investment, with culture increasing the attractiveness of the county
- ensure culture enhances the quality of all our places – from reinvigorated town centres to major new housing developments; from our rural landscapes to our villages.

There is an opportunity to develop a stronger partnership approach to culture which will result in greater impact and will potentially open up access to a wide range of funding opportunities. Arts organisations, heritage organisations, education, local authorities and national agencies such as the Arts Council could all work together more effectively to enrich quality of life.

In addition, culture, heritage and sport have the potential to make a significant contribution to the Council's wider Strategic Plan priorities and the development of a new Cultural Strategy brings a multitude of opportunities, for example a re-imagined library service providing local digital hubs and cultural spaces.

2. Other options available, and their pros and cons

The alternative option is not to develop a Cultural Strategy for Buckinghamshire. However this would risk the opportunities provided by the sector, particularly its potential contribution to Buckinghamshire's economy.

3. Resource implications

There are currently budgets for Museum, Libraries and Archives, but no budget for cultural development. Funding opportunities for the partnership locally, regionally and nationally are currently being explored and 'Task and Finish' groups would be set up to fund-raise for specific projects.

As much as increasing inward investment, the strategy would enable increased partnership working and collaboration across organisations in Buckinghamshire.

4. Value for Money (VfM) Self Assessment

The Cultural Strategy would be led and delivered by a partnership of cultural sector organisations and there are no financial implications for the County Council.

5. Legal implications

The County Council has facilitated the development of the Cultural Strategy under powers to promote the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of an area through the Local Government Act 2000 .

6. Property implications

There are no property implications

7. Other implications/issues

N/a

8. Feedback from consultation, Local Area Forums and Local Member views

In early 2018 a summary of the draft strategy and the opportunity for input and feedback was offered to all Local Area Forums, either through information in their agenda pack or distribution to Members. As a result of the offer presentations were made to two Forums, Amersham and High Wycombe. At the meetings, local priorities for culture and desired outcomes from the strategy were identified.

Initial consultation with cultural sector organisations has been through fourteen one-to-one in depth discussions with key stakeholders. The stakeholders were identified through consideration of the cultural strengths of our County and the desired outcomes for the strategy. The discussions resulted in qualitative evidence of sector strengths and opportunities.

In addition, a successful cultural strategy workshop was held at Pinewood Studios in May with over 60 delegates attending from education, tourism, economy, green environment, and health and wellbeing as well as the cultural and creative sector.

Outputs from the consultation activity included overall endorsement of the draft strategy and its aims and outcomes, as well as some further suggestions for enhancement.

9. Communication issues

In order to deliver on the agreed outcomes of the strategy, a long term partnership approach needs to be adopted. The strategy will be owned by the cultural sector, as a result of being developed in conjunction with the sector. Integral to the work developing the Cultural Strategy is the development of a new Cultural Partnership for Buckinghamshire and all stages of the ongoing work will continue to be communicated with our stakeholders.

10. Progress Monitoring

Delivery of the strategy will be monitored by the Partnership as it will be sector led.

11. Review

N/a

Your questions and views

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this paper please get in touch with the Contact Officer whose telephone number is given at the head of the paper.

If you have any views on this paper that you would like the Cabinet Member to consider, or if you wish to object to the proposed decision, please inform the Member Services Team by 5.00pm on Friday 6 July. This can be done by telephone (to 01296 382343), or e-mail to democracy@buckscc.gov.uk

Our communities; our heritage; our shared future

Buckinghamshire Cultural Strategy

I. Introduction: Buckinghamshire Culture

Culture plays a vital role for Buckinghamshire: contributing to distinctive communities and places, enhancing our quality of life and wellbeing, enhancing our tourism offer and contributing in many significant ways to our economy.

Buckinghamshire has an enormous breadth of cultural offering: our heritage and history; our natural and built environments; and our contemporary cultural lives, activities and the amenities that support them. Culture is also a vital component of our creative industries: providing talent, ideas and innovation. Unique elements which contribute to the cultural mix of Buckinghamshire include the Chiltern Hills, National Trust properties such as Waddesdon Manor, country parks such as Langley Park, as well as the County Museum and internationally renowned facilities such as the film studios at Pinewood and the motor racing circuit at Silverstone. We also have a unique selling point as the birthplace of the Paralympic movement. Plus, we have many artists, crafts makers and creative businesses. **The rich mix that Buckinghamshire has to offer to residents, visitors and investors is worth celebrating.**

This Cultural Strategy is the culmination of a period of critical discussion which has provided a set of fresh perspectives on the role culture can play in shaping Buckinghamshire. It is commissioned by Buckinghamshire County Council through a new Cultural Partnership which brings together some of the leading organisations and voices for culture in Buckinghamshire. It recognises the valuable contribution culture already makes to the county but also the potential for far wider engagement that would deliver a better future for all and thus ensure culture sits at the heart of approaches to economic development, new housing and communities, education and skills.

Buckinghamshire – a County of Culture: We want to make Buckinghamshire an even more dynamic, distinctive and enjoyable place to be, using culture to address the county's social and economic challenges and to build from its real strengths. For the purposes of this strategy we are defining culture in its widest sense, embracing: our lives, identities and communities; heritage; museums, galleries, cinemas, music, theatres, libraries, festivals and events; practice; industry; and our shared futures.

The Challenges We Face: Buckinghamshire has so many qualities for which culture plays a starring role. Our built and natural heritage, rural arts and crafts, growing creative industries, and strong voluntary sector - to name just a few. However, we need to work much harder and more collaboratively if culture is to make the difference it can. In Buckinghamshire, we need to build lasting partnerships which put culture at the heart of the economic development and growth agenda - to ensure we future-proof the economy and develop high quality places through new housing-led growth. We need to do much more to reach and engage everyone across the county with the same degree of impact; being fully inclusive, reflecting the county's diversity of perspectives, ideas, skills and aspirations; and securing sufficient levels of financial investment to attend to the inequality of opportunity that our residents face.

The Opportunities We Can Embrace: Parts of Buckinghamshire are fast-changing - demographically, economically and culturally. Local plans across the county indicate that approximately 50,000 new homes will be built over the next 15-20 years. These developments - including Aylesbury Garden Town, the Oxford/Cambridge Arc and new transport infrastructure - need to be conceptualised as cultural opportunities. This is to ensure we develop great places which enable active participation in culture and help nurture strong communities in high quality environments. It is crucial that cultural opportunities are developed alongside the new communities to maintain a high quality of life for Buckinghamshire residents both now and in the future. We also have an opportunity in Buckinghamshire to revitalise our historic town centres by enhancing their role as hubs for cultural activity as part of a wider and richer mix of uses. In addition, our creative industries can be a catalyst for economic growth which in turn enhances the innovation capacity of our cultural sector. With the Government's new Sector deal for the Creative Industries, Buckinghamshire can play a much more pronounced role, complementing London's position as a global creative city.

So, what is the purpose of this Cultural Strategy?

Partners in Buckinghamshire need to take every opportunity to ensure the county champions culture as a key way to improve quality of life, enhance wellbeing, and deliver sustainable and inclusive economic growth. A joined-up cultural offer that has participation from across both the public and private sectors, with strong leadership and a clear 'ask', is essential.

To ensure culture is a headline agenda for Buckinghamshire, a new Cultural Partnership Group has been established. This Group will use this outline Strategy and build on its aims and priorities. It will work closely with partners across the county to build on the County's strengths and attend to its challenges. It will be tasked with shaping a smarter, more coherent and innovative approach to culture, maximising potential investment and the returns this brings.

Senior-level participation from key strategic partners will be key - bringing together the county and district councils, universities, Buckinghamshire and Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), The Rothschild Foundation, and a sample of key cultural organisations.

Overall, this Cultural Partnership will activate the Strategy and make connections and seek new types of commitment to ensure Buckinghamshire builds from rather than holds back from its considerable cultural strengths:

- To articulate a shared ambition and priorities
- To provide a vehicle that drives collaboration
- To help cultural organisations and creative practitioners increase visibility, reach and engagement
- To help build capacity and enhance the sustainability of our cultural sector
- To increase inward investment, with culture increasing the attractiveness of the county
- To ensure culture enhances the quality of all our places – from reinvigorated town centres to major new housing developments; from our rural landscapes to our villages.

2. Vision and Aims

Our vision is to celebrate our identity and increase opportunity.

To use culture to make Buckinghamshire a creative and exciting place to live, study, visit and do business.

We aim to protect and promote our cultural and artistic heritage and help communities to grow.

Why Culture Matters

Culture is who people are, what people do and what people want to be. It is for every day and for the special occasion. It is at home, on the streets and across every neighbourhood. It has been a catalyst for economic diversification and growth; for talent attraction and retention; for inward investment and tourism; and for innovation and competitiveness.

Culture improves the quality of life for Buckinghamshire people, offering participation in activities that go far beyond what traditionally might be recognised as ‘the arts’. It provides access to ideas, to community, to fun and to employment. It helps to bring confidence, cohesion, health and wellbeing.

So, what do we mean by culture?

Culture is our lives, identities and communities. It is the way we see ourselves and our place in the world. It is where we live, who we are and how we learn. It is how we live our lives. It is how we dress, communicate, eat and drink. It is how we build and decorate our homes. It is how we express ourselves – from music to sport. It is how we design and habit our streets and open spaces. It is what we do and why we do it.

Culture is heritage. It is our memories and stories, lived through our friends and relatives here and elsewhere. It is what we imagine ourselves to be. It is our possessions and artefacts. It is the built and natural landscape. It is our story and how we re-tell it. It is who we were and who we are becoming.

Culture is museums, galleries, cinemas, music venues, theatres, libraries, festivals and events. It is how we record, collect, curate and present our identities and how we understand others’ identities. It is how we preserve and bring to life our stories. It is how we express our world to others. It is about the conscious experience of culture.

Culture is practice. It is the applied imagination of artists, writers and performers. It is the act of making – ideas, text, code, objects, paintings, sound and vision. It is performance. It is active participation. It is innovation and renewal.

Culture is industry. It is the economic value generated by culture. It is the jobs and revenue. It is the added value – to innovation, productivity and brand. It is the creative and digital businesses. It is the design, production and trade of intellectual property. It is tourism and retail. It is the competitiveness of the wider economy.

Culture is our shared future(s). It is how we connect and exchange. It is what we have in common and how we differ. It is our neighbourhood, ethnicity, gender, age, sexuality, religion, values and politics. It is our country.

The Case for Culture

“Culture is integral to the identity of local areas up and down the country and has the potential to transform a place” The Culture White Paper, DCMS, March 2016.

“There is a need to fashion proactively investment strategies and interventions that are more responsive to local need and demand, to talent from across the country, and to natural organic growth in the creative vibrancy of our town and cities.” Enriching Britain: Culture, Creativity and Growth The 2015 Report by the Warwick Commission on the Future of Cultural Value.

The Value Proposition for Culture

Social, Health and Wellbeing

Participation in the arts can contribute to community cohesion, reduce social exclusion and isolation, and make communities feel safer and stronger (Arts Council England 2014)

“A quality cultural and creative education allows people to develop rich expressive lives, and it is essential to the flourishing of the UK’s cultural and creative identity and the Cultural and Creative Industries that this opportunity is not limited to the socially advantaged and the privately educated. This is a fairness, equity and economic imperative” (Warwick Commission 2015).

Seventy-six per cent of older people say art and culture is important in making them feel happy; 57 per cent say art and culture is important in helping them meet other people; and 60 per cent say it is important in encouraging them to get out and about (Arts Council England 2014)

Arts and cultural intervention can have a positive impact on specific health conditions such as dementia, Parkinson’s and depression (Arts Council England, 2014)

Engagement in structured art and culture improves the cognitive abilities of children and young people (Arts Council England, 2014)

People who had attended a cultural place or event in the previous 12 months were almost 60 per cent more likely to report good health compared to those who had not (Arts Council England 2014)

Economic Growth and Prosperity

Nationally, the creative industries are the fastest growing sector of the economy. The sector has created jobs five times faster than the overall economy since 2010. (Arts Council England, 2015)

In 2016, there were around 284,000 Cultural and Creative Industries businesses in the UK - over one in ten of the total number of businesses in the country, generating £91.8 billion for the UK

economy in GVA and supporting over 3 million jobs. The geographic distribution of such businesses is dominated by London, and the South East, with strong concentrations in the M4 and M40 corridors.

The Government estimates that by 2023 the sector will create 600,000 new jobs and that GVA will increase from £91.8 billion to £150 billion.

3. Building from our Cultural Strengths

In Bucks we have several key areas of strength that we can build from. These include:

Literary Heritage

Buckinghamshire has a rich history as a place of writing, reflection and imaginative story-telling. For example, John Milton finished *Paradise Lost* in his cottage (now a museum) in Chalfont St. Giles and world-famous children's author Roald Dahl lived in Great Missenden for many years and wrote many of his best-selling books from a 'writing hut' in his garden. Children's author Enid Blyton and fantasy writer Terry Pratchett are also both former Bucks residents. For many years, every summer in Aylesbury, a Roald Dahl Festival has been held, celebrating the work of this local author, including a giant puppet parade featuring local school children and artists, attracting thousands of visitors. Recently the festival has grown as Whizz Fizz to become a wider celebration of children's literature, keeping the parade and fun activities but also including other contemporary authors delivering workshops.

In Buckinghamshire, we can do more to celebrate our literary heritage and provide accessible itineraries for visitors. We can also inspire our young people to become brilliant story-tellers, enhancing literacy and confidence. Plus, we can support a new generation of writers, film-makers, games developers and other types of story-tellers to establish Buckinghamshire as a county of contemporary literature.

Sports Heritage

Buckinghamshire is a county with a strong tradition of innovation and excellence in sports. It is the home of Silverstone, the purpose built rowing lake at Dorney, and Wycombe Wanderers - a football club with a strong community tradition. Buckinghamshire is also widely recognised as the birthplace of the Paralympic movement. Sir Ludwig Guttman organised the first 'Stoke Mandeville Games'; the forerunner of today's Paralympic Games to coincide with the start of the London Olympics in 1948. The revolutionary treatments at Stoke Mandeville Hospital introduced sport as rehabilitation and an exciting movement was born. To coincide with London 2012, a Cultural Olympiad project was delivered by Bucks County Council celebrating our unique heritage. Buckinghamshire County Council is one of the founding partners of the National Paralympic Heritage Trust, a charitable trust which has been set up to protect and celebrate British Paralympic Heritage. Through an agreement with the International Paralympic Committee, this heritage is recognised at the start of each Summer and Winter Paralympics as the Paralympic Heritage Flame starts its relay at Stoke Mandeville Stadium with a celebratory festival televised by Channel 4 News.

In Buckinghamshire, we can build from this tradition of innovation and excellence. For example, inspired by the Paralympic Movement, we can become the UK's most accessible county for cultural participation. We can embrace digital technology and our cultural assets to increase the legibility of our cultural offer and grow a more immersive and interactive programmed of cultural experiences.

Our Wide-ranging Cultural Offer

Buckinghamshire has a huge variety of attractions and places of historical and cultural interest, and our proximity to London provides a major opportunity to build the audience for our culture. We have some of the finest country houses and formal gardens in this region: the sumptuous Rothschild chateau at Waddesdon, Prime Minister Disraeli's country retreat at Hughenden Manor, the most magnificent landscape garden in Britain at Stowe. We have a great County Museum in Aylesbury (now a National Portfolio Organisation for Arts Council England); the second longest-running visual arts open studios event in the country (Bucks Art Weeks); one of the UK's largest arts centres (Queens Park Arts Centre) and outdoor activities available include climbing the high ropes or mountain biking in Wendover Woods and seeing the cherry blossom and bluebells, mountain biking at Aston Hill, kayaking on the Thames or competing on the Olympic rowing course at Dorney Lake. Nowhere is very far from a country pub with fresh, contemporary food, ales from a family brewery and wine from the county's award-winning vineyards. Bucks is Britain's most filmed county, and home to Pinewood Studios. Its villages have witnessed countless gruesome Midsomer Murders. Many of the larger towns throughout the county offer theatres, galleries and museums, with a range of arts, crafts and studios open to the public. There's a great range of summer festivals including Penn Fest music festival and Feast Food Festival at Waddesdon.

In Buckinghamshire, we have a wide-ranging and high quality cultural offer, but we can do more to connect it. We can develop a more coherent programme of activities and map of attractions; we can work harder to share knowledge and jointly promote activities; and we need to make our cultural landscape more accessible and participatory.

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Buckinghamshire has some fine and varied countryside. The Chilterns are known for their rolling hills, wooded green valleys and chalk downland meadows. 324 square miles of superb scenery offer opportunities for walking, cycling, water sports and canals, wildlife-watching and camping. The Chilterns are quick to reach by train or by car, and easy to explore with boots, buggies, bikes or boats. The Chiltern Way is a circular walking route of around 125 miles km, and the Chilterns Cycleway is a 170-mile circular cycle route - both taking in some of the finest scenery in the country. A new walking festival has launched featuring a host of locations, landscapes and lifestyles with hikes, guided tours and special events taking place across the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty throughout Spring.

In Buckinghamshire, we can more effectively attract visitors to our beautiful countryside and we can do so by engaging them in innovative and sustainable cultural activities. This includes festivals, food and drink programming, and artistic commissions which raise awareness of ecology and sustainability issues. We can also make connections between the urban and rural areas, such as through active audience development activities which open up appetite for diverse communities to come to the countryside; or partnerships with universities to encourage activities which connect art, science and technology.

Our Cultural and Creative Economy

Buckinghamshire has a high growth cultural and creative economy. This includes the globally significant Pinewood Studios, an anchor cluster for the UK film industry; and the National Film and Television School in Beaconsfield, which plays a vital role in nurturing talent and ensuring the country continues to produce some of the best creative talent in the world. The south of the county is home to multiple high growth creative firms, with particular strengths in digital (e.g. TV, film, gaming and software); and music publishing. Across the county we have many micro creative firms, with specialism in visual arts, craft and design. They are often playing an active role in their communities and connecting to the wider cultural tourism offer (e.g. via the new Buckinghamshire Craft Guild). In High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire New University has a strong track record in nurturing creative talent, building on the town's furniture heritage to develop a pipeline of graduates in design and arts. To the north of the county, the University of Buckingham is investing significantly in its cultural infrastructure, paving the way to become a cultural and creative hub.

In Buckinghamshire, we have a strong tradition of creating and making - from furniture to film. However, we do not have a detailed overview of the current profile and dynamics of the cultural and creative industries. It is over a decade since the last sector mapping exercise was undertaken. It is also clear that we need to do more to support creative talent to develop and grow in the county - rather than leave to London and beyond. Our main towns, in particular High Wycombe and Aylesbury, can become important regional hubs for the cultural and creative industries - with a focus on high quality workspace and stronger sector networks; plus on establishing strategic links to major clusters in London (e.g. in design and crafts). We must also work much harder to provide opportunities for creative and cultural work for our full talent base - ensuring we develop a rich cultural education offer and develop with industry effective skills programmes. The LEP's Creative Skills sub-group can play a key convening role here.

4. Priority Outcomes

In Buckinghamshire, we want to use culture to make Buckinghamshire a creative and exciting place to live, study, visit and do business. To achieve this, we will prioritise 4 main strategic outcomes. These will provide the terms of reference for the new Buckinghamshire Cultural Partnership.

Outcome One: A thriving economy and more high quality jobs

Ambition

- To establish Buckinghamshire a major hub for high value cultural creative and industries activity. This will require an active and imaginative approach to our town centres and to main areas of housing-led growth: encouraging the development of local hubs and clusters. It will also require a dynamic approach to sector networking: connecting Pinewood and the National Film and Television School to networks of micro firms across the county and building stronger business to business exchange. There is also an opportunity to increase the visibility of the local cultural and creative industries sector to other parts of the economy - to increase opportunities to 'buy local'.

– To establish Buckinghamshire as a recognised destination for leisure, heritage and arts through a cohesive tourism plan based on stronger sector networks which encourage knowledge exchange and shared approaches to programming and marketing. Specific strengths can be leveraged here - e.g. to promote Buckinghamshire's offer as a preferred centre for major sporting and cultural events and accessible tourism.

Proposed priority actions:

- Work with the LEP to prioritise culture and the creative industries as major drivers of growth and competitiveness and as key to the success of town centres and areas with significant new housing and transport infrastructure development.
- Work with Bucks Business First on the Regional Tourism Strategic Group to develop the offer and increase the economic impact of tourism in Buckinghamshire.
- Refresh the Creative Industries Audit from 2007 (turnover worth £3bn in 2007) to identify the potential for creative industries in Buckinghamshire.
- Work with the LEP to identify and promote opportunities for the public, private and not for profit sectors to collaborate to achieve inward investment and benefits for the creative industries. Investigate the development of creative clusters with the infrastructure to grow skills and talent.
- Ensure training opportunities in our schools, colleges, university to fit people for creative economy, tourism and hospitality skills agenda.

Outcome Two: Equality of access to cultural activities and opportunities

Ambition

- To support all residents to engage in culture at a local level through innovative programming, new models of delivery, securing external funding and working in partnership.
- To establish Buckinghamshire as a centre of excellence in cultural participation and education: with partners working to establish cultural education as a right for every young person, by reaching out and expanding vital parts of the offer- e.g. the Music Service.

Proposed priority actions

- Increase exposure to and participation in cultural activities in school age children of all backgrounds - the development of a Bucks Cultural Education Partnership can be an important first step.
- Support and champion our arts centres, libraries and other cultural buildings as hubs for cultural participation. Coordinate programming to reach and engage audiences for whom there is historically low levels of participation.
- Support lifelong learning in the community through arts, heritage and culture - prioritising activities which interact with the natural and built environment.
- Work with Arts Council England (e.g. via the Audience Agency) to undertake baseline research on audience profile, participation rates and barriers to participation. Identify funding opportunities to undertake targeted audience development activities with the goal to uplift cultural participation across the county, with a particular focus on areas with a low baseline of participation.
- Pioneer coordinated approaches which reach and engage audiences and which increase the depth and interactivity of the experience - e.g. by digitalising cultural content, live-streaming performances, and supporting young people to operate as cultural producers for the county.

Outcome Three: Improved health and wellbeing of the population

Ambition

- To maximise the role of culture in promoting both individual health and wellbeing and a personal sense of achievement, as well as the benefits of participation and engagement in a wider community setting.
- To establish Buckinghamshire as the most accessible county for cultural participation.

Proposed priority actions:

- Fund-raise and develop partnerships with the aim to a pilot cultural commissioning project which positions cultural organisations and artists as providers of cultural services to deliver health and wellbeing outcomes to target beneficiaries. This can operate as a 'testbed' for a larger-scale programme of cultural commissioning for 2020.
- Develop a shared platform and network for cultural providers and health/prevention professionals, to foster cultural commissioning, harnessing the benefits of participation in cultural activities, and enhance the role of culture as part of a preventative solution. For example: as part of the early help offer for families, reducing loneliness and social isolation, providing activities for children and young people to bring benefits in terms of reduction in antisocial behaviour. This platform can work as a Buckinghamshire version of the Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance – a national membership organisation representing everyone who believes that cultural engagement and participation can transform our health and wellbeing¹.
- Increase the range, quality and sustainability of festivals and celebrations that bring the community together, with strong community leadership and participation.

Outcome Four: Re-vitalised heritage and transformed places

Ambition

- To improve the sustainability of our culture offer and exploit new opportunities.
- To position our heritage offer as a resource for contemporary cultural practice - e.g. festivals, events, filming, creative workspace and reinvigorated town centres and rural hubs.
- To put culture at the heart of town centres: establishing a dynamic and distinctive mix of retail, cultural production (e.g. crafts, design, visual arts and other types of 'maker spaces'), events and leisure activities.

Proposed priority actions

- Put culture at the heart of Growth Plans and align this Cultural Strategy to the Strategic Economic Plan of the Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership. This includes an imaginative approach to cultural use in town centres - to include clusters of cultural and creative production and a diverse night time economy.

¹ <https://www.culturehealthandwellbeing.org.uk/>

- Develop a cultural plan and strategy for Aylesbury Garden Town: as a beacon for cultural planning which builds from international best practice. This is to establish Aylesbury as a pioneer for innovative culture-led place-making which ensures quality, distinctiveness, pride, cohesion and fertile ground for the cultural and creative industries.
- Develop a set of heritage meets contemporary pioneer projects: festivals, digital platforms, cultural commissions and 'hack events' which position heritage assets as dynamic enablers of contemporary creative and cultural practice.
- Strategically cultural infrastructure to operate as hubs and brokers for cultural and creative activity
- venues/spaces, the excellent art centres (High Wycombe, Queens Park etc.); the main theatres (The Swan and Waterside); the Buckinghamshire County Museum; and the many libraries, museums and heritage assets. Co-develop a programme of activities which prioritise reaching new audiences and building the capacity of cultural organisations to undertake meaningful and engaging work with a diversity of local communities.

5. The Buckinghamshire Cultural Partnership

The new Buckinghamshire Cultural Partnership will take ownership of this Strategy and seek ways to deliver on its vision, aims and objectives, themes and priority actions. It will bring together senior leaders from key cultural organisations, Buckinghamshire County Council, the district councils, the Local Enterprise Partnership, Pinewood Studios, The National Film and Television School and Buckinghamshire New University.

It will play a strategic leadership and development role for culture, with an aim to position culture to the heart of strategic agendas across the county. It will meet quarterly. It will be chaired by an independent cultural champion. Terms of reference will be established to guide the focus and function of the Partnership.

Key areas of responsibility will include:

- Sharing knowledge and connections to enhance the quality of partnerships across the county
- Playing an advocacy and fund-raising role - to attract investment for culture and the creative industries in Buckinghamshire. Vital will be aligning the priorities of the LEP with those of the Cultural Partnership.
- Presenting a shared voice and access point to partners seeking to develop a strategic approach to culture - e.g. in planning, economic development, tourism, health and wellbeing.
- Setting up task and finish groups on priority areas - to fund-raise and deliver on activities - e.g. baseline mapping of the creative industries; a Cultural Strategy for Aylesbury Garden Town etc.
- Working closely with strategic and funding partners for culture - e.g. Arts Council England.

Report to Cabinet

Title:	Director of Public Health Annual Report
Date:	9 July 2018
Author:	Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health
Contact officer:	Dr Jane O'Grady 01296 387623
Local members affected:	all
Portfolio areas affected:	all

For press enquiries concerning this report, please contact the media office on 01296 382444

Summary

It is a statutory duty for the Director of Public Health to produce an annual report on the health of their population. While it is the duty of Buckinghamshire County Council to publish the report, the report is for all partners in Buckinghamshire. The theme of this year's annual report is the vital importance of the places and communities in which people live to their health and wellbeing. This is particularly relevant at a time when the population of Buckinghamshire is growing, changing and ageing and there are plans for significant housing growth and infrastructure developments in Buckinghamshire over the next 20 years.

Where we live can influence how happy we are, whether we know our neighbours, how strong community ties are and our opportunities to live healthy lives. It can also influence how well children develop and how they do at school, crime levels, fear of crime and economic productivity. All these factors interact and can influence our health and risk of developing a wide range of long term conditions such as high blood pressure, obesity, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, cancer and mental health problems.

The report sets out a brief overview of the health and wellbeing of Buckinghamshire residents, and focuses on six areas of the physical and social environment that play an important role in health and wellbeing: community life; housing; healthy travel; pollution; healthy food; and the natural environment. It also includes an update on the recommendations from last year's annual report. There is an executive summary to accompany the main report.

The report highlights that although on average Buckinghamshire residents are some of the healthiest in the country too many people are still living with potentially avoidable disability and long term conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and stroke. It is possible to prevent or

delay the onset of a wide range of long term conditions by altering the way we live our lives and the places we live.

The report also identifies that children, older people and people with existing poor health are more vulnerable to the impacts of adverse living conditions such as damp or cold housing, air and noise pollution and certain groups are also more likely to be exposed to adverse environmental conditions such as people on low incomes.

Improving the health of our residents makes sound economic sense and reduces demand on health and social care and other public sector services. As our population grows and ages it is more crucial than ever that all our residents start well, live well and age well to help everyone achieve their potential and get the most out of life as well as delay or prevent the onset of ill health, disability and frailty.

This report aims to stimulate conversations across partners and communities in Buckinghamshire about how we might promote health and wellbeing through influencing the environments in which we live. It is not planning guidance but highlights the key health and wellbeing benefits we can address through good planning. The evidence in the report can be used to inform planning for new developments or changes to existing neighbourhoods on a large or small scale and highlights the importance of involving residents of all ages and abilities in designing and shaping the places they live. It identifies several useful resources particularly the place standard toolkit which can be used by communities to help identify and prioritise improvements they might want to make to their local neighbourhoods.

The recommendations in the report are high level and aspirational and a group of officers can be tasked to develop practical actions in line with the councils priorities.

Recommendation

Cabinet is requested to note and endorse the Director of Public Health Annual Report.

The recommendations in the Director of Public Health Annual report are:

1. The promotion and protection of the health and wellbeing of everyone who lives and works in Buckinghamshire should be a major consideration when planning new developments or improving existing developments. This should be supported by health impact assessments where appropriate, to understand the impact on health and wellbeing of these changes, particularly for those most vulnerable and with the greatest risk of poor health.
2. Where possible, local authorities and developers should engage communities in co-designing new developments and making improvements to existing developments. They should ensure input from a wide range of current and future residents of all ages and abilities to ensure developments work for all.
3. Local authorities, communities, town and parish councils and local area forums should use this report to consider how they might work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their residents, drawing on the assets in their communities and their local knowledge of what might need to change.
4. The public and private sector, voluntary, community and faith sector including local authorities, the NHS, schools, universities and businesses should use this report to consider how they can help improve health and wellbeing through their actions that impact on the environment or strengthen communities in Buckinghamshire. This can include the services they provide, their policies on community engagement and co-design of services with communities, travel, land use and corporate social responsibility.

5. We should ,where possible, encourage planning for new and existing developments to:
- Be socially inclusive, welcoming and accessible to all sections of our community. Designed on a human scale for people and taking into account the needs of children and older people and those with disabilities.
 - Provide safe, welcoming indoor and outdoor public places where people can meet.
 - Encourage physical activity, active travel and access to good public transport.
 - Incorporate natural landscaping and urban greening and good access to high quality green and blue public spaces e.g. parks and community gardens that people of all ages and backgrounds can enjoy.
 - Improve access to healthy affordable food.
 - Be designed to help reduce crime.
 - Provide good quality homes using lifetime home principles and affordable housing.
 - Provide good access to employment, retail and community facilities and health services which can ideally be accessed by walking or cycling through mixed land use policies.
 - Minimise the impact of climate change and minimise air, water and noise pollution.
 - Foster strong social connections and a sense of belonging and link new and existing communities effectively.

This report should be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board to encourage all partners to support and adopt the recommendation in this report

A. Narrative setting out the reasons for the decision

It is a statutory duty for the Director of Public Health to produce an annual report on the health of their population and for the local authority to publish it. This year's annual report focuses on the importance of the places and communities in which people live to their health and wellbeing. This is particularly relevant at a time when the population of Buckinghamshire is growing, changing and ageing and there are plans for significant housing growth and infrastructure developments in Buckinghamshire over the next 20 years. A healthy population is vital for the economic and social success of Buckinghamshire and will help reduce the growth in demand on council services and other public sector services. Building healthy places will contribute significantly to maintaining a healthy population.

A key planning consideration is the need for good quality, affordable homes and homes that are suitable for people of all ages and abilities. As our population ages it is important that a range of housing is available that supports people's changing needs throughout life, maximising their health and independence. Designing neighbourhoods to promote health and social inclusion is also vital for all ages.

Adopting the recommendations of this report will contribute to building healthy and successful communities and help minimise any potential adverse effects of growth and other future challenges such as climate change.

B. Other options available, and their pros and cons

The recommendations aim to help maintain or improve the health of the population and if they are not supported there is potential that some opportunities to do this are missed.

C. Resource implications

This is a report setting out the high level evidence base on the impact of the physical and social environment on the health and wellbeing of our residents. There are no direct financial implications of adopting this report.

D. Value for Money (VfM) Self Assessment

This is a high level report covering a diverse range of areas and therefore cannot be covered by a single value for money assessment. Individual policy decisions may flow from the report which will have individual value for money assessments

E. Legal implications

No direct implications

F. Property implications

No direct implications.

G. Other implications/issues

This report is for partners as well as Buckinghamshire County Council and will be disseminated and presented after approval by Cabinet in a variety of forums.

H. Feedback from consultation, Local Area Forums and Local Member views

The Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health has reviewed and approved the report. The report has also been shared with the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing at the CHASC Business Unit Board.

Local Members will be sent copies of the report after Cabinet Decision and the report is also being presented at Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee and Health and Wellbeing Board.

I. Communication issues

Normal communication channels will be used to disseminate the report.

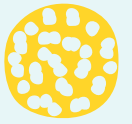
Background Papers

Your questions and views

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this paper please get in touch with the Contact Officer whose telephone number is given at the head of the paper.

If you have any views on this paper that you would like the Cabinet Member to consider, or if you wish to object to the proposed decision, please inform the Democratic Services Team by 5.00pm on Friday 6 July 2018. This can be done by telephone (to 01296 382343), or e-mail to democracy@buckscc.gov.uk

Healthy places, healthy futures growing great communities



Director of Public Health Annual Report 2018





Contents

Foreword	4	Air and Noise Pollution	26
The State of Health in Buckinghamshire	6	The evidence	27
How healthy are we and what are the challenges to our health?	7	Air Pollution	27
The health of children and young people	7	Noise pollution	28
What does the future hold?	8	Green spaces and the natural environment	30
The living environment	9	Introduction	30
Community life	10	The evidence	31
Introduction	10	Green spaces and health	31
The importance of social ties	11	Green spaces throughout life	31
Social isolation and loneliness	11	Benefits to communities	32
Planning for vibrant socially connected communities	12	Protecting us from extreme weather events, air and noise pollution	32
Good design features	13	Using urban greening to improve health and wellbeing	33
Inclusive public places	13	Healthy Food	34
Cultural and social life	13	Introduction	34
Healthy homes	14	The evidence	36
Introduction	14	Eating foods from out of the home food outlets	36
The evidence	15	Home and locally grown foods	37
Cold homes	15	Summary and Recommendations	38
Indoor Air Quality	15	Appendix	40
Injuries in the home	15	Community Appraisal Tool	40
Home Improvements	16	Public Health Outcomes Grid	42
Affordable Housing	16	Update on recommendations from 2016 Director of Public Health Annual Report	46
Homes for all ages and abilities	17	Bibliography	48
Lifetime neighbourhoods and age friendly environments	19		
Healthy travel	20		
Introduction	20		
The evidence	21		
Active Travel	21		
Motorised transport and health	22		
Commuting	22		
Transport networks and health	24		
Public transport	25		



Foreword

It is a statutory requirement for the Director of Public Health to produce an annual report on the health of their local population. This year, my report focuses on the importance of the places we live, work and play and the communities we belong to for our health and wellbeing. It highlights how well designed places and socially connected communities offer solutions to our current and future health challenges.

This is particularly relevant as Buckinghamshire is changing, along with the world around us. Our population is growing and ageing and we will see significant new housing and infrastructure developments in the short and medium term. This can bring opportunities for Buckinghamshire residents but must be managed effectively to mitigate any potential adverse effects. These changes are a great opportunity to involve residents in designing healthy places for people to live, learning the lessons from the past and ensuring design supports health and wellbeing, and makes healthy choices the easy choices. We need to ensure that new developments reflect the needs of all sections of society and our growing older population. When we look around the places we live through the eyes of a three year old, or an older

person, or someone with disabilities, what would we see? Would the places we live work for us then? We also need to future proof our developments as far as possible, anticipating and mitigating the impact of climate change for example.

Whilst we plan the physical environment we must recognise that the social environment and the social connections in our communities are equally important. Having supportive social networks, being able to participate in community life and having a voice in local decisions makes a vital contribution to our health and wellbeing. Policies that involve people in decisions that affects them whether in planning, local authority services or health care or other sectors strengthens independence and enables people to feel more in control. This is not only good for their health but also often results in better decisions. Planning neighbourhoods with welcoming places to meet and interact is a vital component but the heart and spirit of the community depends on the people who live there and participate in community life and make it a great place to live.

Certain groups in society are more vulnerable to the effects of adverse living conditions such as

poor quality housing or exposure to air and noise pollution, including the very young, older people and people with long term health conditions. Key groups are also more likely to experience poorer living conditions such as those living on low incomes or in more deprived areas. It is important to take the particular needs of these groups into account to ensure that the health of the most vulnerable is protected.

There is much good work already underway in Buckinghamshire by the District Councils and County Council to keep Buckinghamshire thriving and attractive and many active communities making their neighbourhoods a great place to live. This report aims to highlight some of the most important environmental determinants of health in Buckinghamshire and the importance of strong communities. My report is for the public and private sector in Buckinghamshire – local authorities, developers, the NHS, schools, universities and businesses who can influence our physical and social environment in a wide variety of ways as well as the residents and communities. This report can be used to inform plans for new large-scale developments but also to prompt ideas from communities, community groups, town and parish

councils, the voluntary and faith sector about the small social or environmental changes they might make to improve the places they live and the health of their community. Finally, I recognise that planning the places we live often involves managing conflicting demands and aspirations e.g. for transport, green space and affordable housing but I strongly believe that building health and wellbeing into the fabric of our communities will benefit everyone in Buckinghamshire.

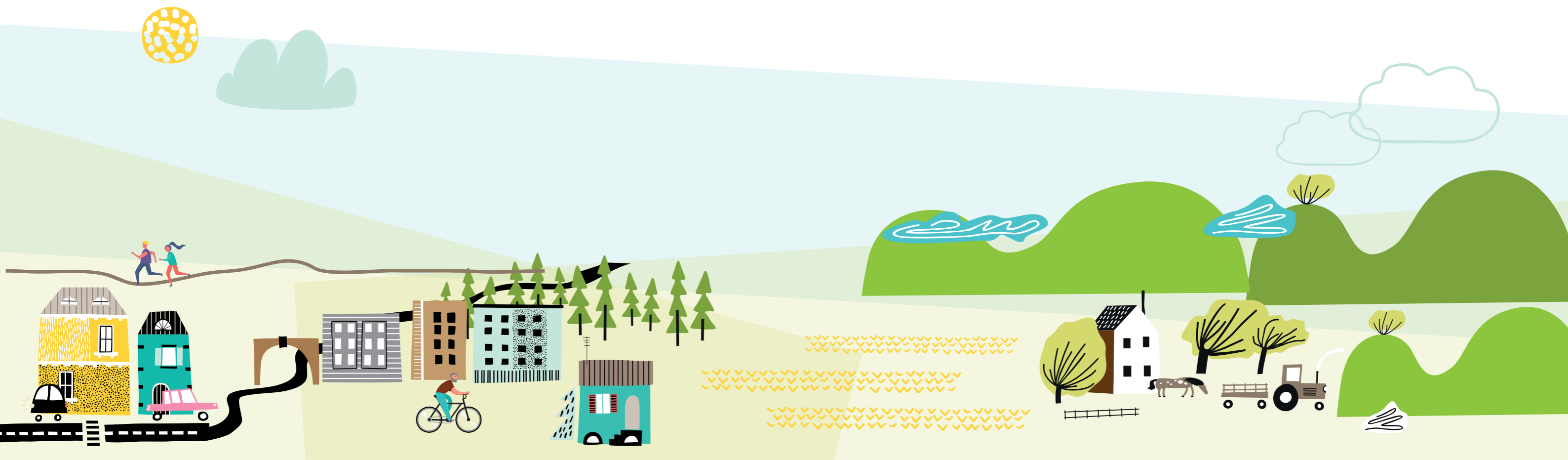
Dr Jane O'Grady

Director of Public Health

June 2018

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Sam Williamson, Emily Youngman, Ravikumar Balakrishnan, Shakiba Habibula, Tracey Ironmonger, Angie Blackmore, April Brett, Tom Burton, Sarah Preston, Lucie Smith, Wayne Thompson, Karen Bulmer, Nicola Higgins, Sonia Storey, Joan Hancox, Sally Sharp, Ruth Page, Angie Sarchet and the Buckinghamshire Communications team.



The State of Health in Buckinghamshire



How healthy are we and what are the challenges to our health?

Buckinghamshire residents are some of the healthiest in the country. Life expectancy has increased by 3.9 years and 3.0 years for men and women respectively between 2001-03 and 2014-16. Life expectancy now stands at 81.9 years for men and 84.9 years for women. However, not all these extra years are lived in good health. Too many of our residents are living with potentially avoidable ill health and disability and not all residents enjoy the same levels of good health. On average men in Buckinghamshire can expect to live in good health until 69.4 years of age and women until they are 70.3 years - a gap between life expectancy and healthy life expectancy of approximately 12.5 years for men and 14.6 years for women.

Certain groups in Buckinghamshire also have poorer health. The fifth of the population living in the most deprived areas of Buckinghamshire have worse health across a wide range of measures than the rest of Buckinghamshire. Men in the most deprived fifth die 5.2 years earlier and women die 4.7 years earlier than those in the least deprived fifth. The contrast is even greater when average life expectancy within each ward is compared. Life expectancy for men living in Gatehouse ward (74.5 years) is nearly 12 years shorter than men living in Cholesbury, The Lee and Bellingdon ward (86.4 years). Life expectancy for women living in Riverside ward (79.4 years) is 16 years shorter than women living in Greater Marlow ward (95.4yrs).

Early deaths from conditions that are considered preventable* are significantly lower in Buckinghamshire than the national average at 132.5 deaths per 100,000 in 2014-16. However, this still accounts for approximately 670 deaths per year and premature mortality from conditions considered preventable is almost 60% higher for men than for women.

Many of the commonest causes of death, illness and disability in Buckinghamshire are from long term conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, strokes and dementia. These account for 70% of spending on NHS and social care and affect large numbers of people. However, a significant proportion of these are preventable and are linked to how we live our lives. For example, a poor diet increases the risk of a wide range of conditions

including obesity, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, some cancers and dementia. It is estimated in the South East of England poor diet accounts for nearly 70% of disability and early death from heart disease, contributes to nearly half of disability and early death due to diabetes and more than a third of early death and disability caused by stroke. Low levels of physical activity also contribute to rising levels of obesity and increase the risk of many long term conditions and musculoskeletal problems. Adopting healthy lifestyles reduces the risk of many of these conditions and it has been found that living a healthy life in middle age reduces the likelihood of developing dementia, disability and frailty. The environment and communities in which we live profoundly influence how easy it is to live healthily and the choices we make.

Good mental health is a vital resource for life as well as an important driver of physical health. It is estimated that one in eight men (12.5%) and nearly one in every five women (19.7%) in Buckinghamshire have a common mental health disorder such as anxiety or depression. Across the South East, nearly one in seven adults surveyed experienced symptoms of a common mental health disorder in the preceding week. People with poor mental health also have poorer physical health. Loneliness and social isolation are increasingly recognised as raising the risk of developing depression, anxiety and dementia, heart disease, stroke and early death. National estimates suggest that 1 in 20 people feel lonely often or all the time but the highest reported rate is found in 16-24 year olds. We do not have local data on loneliness and social isolation for the general population but nearly half of adult social care users in Bucks state that they have as much social contact as they would like (45.1%). This is slightly lower than the proportion across the South East (46.6%) and England (45.4%). The proportion of adult carers in Bucks who have as much social contact as they would like is lower at approximately one in three (30.8%). This is significantly lower than the proportion nationally (35.5%).

The health of children and young people

Children and young people (under 20 years of age) make up a quarter (25.0%) of the Buckinghamshire population, and 23.7% in England. Although children and young people in Bucks tend to be healthier

*These include but are not limited to infectious diseases (such as tuberculosis, measles, whooping cough, viral hepatitis and HIV), many cancers, type II diabetes mellitus, heart disease, stroke and diseases related to alcohol and substance misuse.

than the national average there is no room for complacency as UK children's health outcomes are worse than those in most other wealthy European countries [1]. Low levels of physical activity and unhealthy eating in our children and young people is resulting in overweight and obesity that can lead to poorer physical and mental health. Only 16% of girls and 23% of boys aged 5-15 years, in the South East of England are reported to achieve the recommended levels of physical activity. Levels of overweight and obesity among children in reception year and year six are 18% and 27% respectively. This is equivalent to nearly 1100 children in reception year and nearly 1400 children in year 6 who are overweight or obese. Approximately 1% (0.98%) of reception year and 1.4% children in year 6 are underweight.

There are also rising concerns around children's and young people's mental health and wellbeing. Recent national estimates suggest that one in ten children has a clinically diagnosable mental health disorder [2]. In Buckinghamshire, the estimate is slightly lower at 7.9% (or slightly more than one in 13 children aged 5-16 years). In 2016/17, there were 329 hospital admissions for self-harm per 100,000 children and young people aged 10-24 years. This is significantly lower than the rate nationally (405 per 100,000).

Children and young people are particularly vulnerable to threats to health from before they are born and as they grow up. Adverse environments can result in low birth weight and poorer development and poorer physical and mental health. Children are particularly vulnerable to poor housing conditions, air and noise pollution, extreme temperatures and lack of safe spaces to play and be active. The communities and surroundings in which they live influence whether they will adopt healthy or harmful behaviours and these behaviours will then tend to stay with them throughout life.

Investing in child health reaps impressive economic rewards with each pound spent returning more than £10 to society over a lifetime. Poor health in childhood leads to reduced workforce participation and productivity and lower national wealth.

What does the future hold?

1.1 Population changes

In 2016, the population of Bucks had a similar age profile to that in England except there was a smaller proportion aged 20-34 years in Bucks (16.2%) than in England (20.1%), and a larger proportion aged 40-59 years in Bucks (28.6%) than in England (26.5%).

For older people, Bucks and England have similar age profiles, with 18.3% (Bucks) and 17.9% (England) of the population aged at least 65 years, and 2.5% (Bucks) and 2.4% (England) for those aged at least 85 years.

Buckinghamshire is expecting to see significant growth over the coming years. Based on projections for births, deaths and migration as well as an estimated 45,000 new homes being built between 2015 and 2039, the population of Buckinghamshire is estimated to increase by 100,000 people between 2015 and 2039. This will mean that the population of Buckinghamshire will reach approximately 635,000 by 2039.

The age profile in Buckinghamshire is also set to change over the next 20-25 years. The number of children aged 0-4 years and 5-9 years is estimated to increase by 1368 (4%) and 1165 (3%) respectively between 2016 and 2039. Over the same time period, the number of people aged 65 years and over is estimated to increase by nearly 60,000 people (60%). The largest percentage increase will be seen among the over 85 year old age group, increasing from 13,578 to 33,700 (a 148% increase between 2016 and 2039). The working age population (aged 16-65 years) is estimated to remain relatively stable, increasing by less than 16,000 (6%) between 2016 and 2039.

1.2 Health related behavioural changes

Although some health related behaviours have improved (e.g. levels of smoking over the last decade), others behaviours have not. The UK has the highest prevalence of obesity in Western Europe and obesity levels have increased from 15% in 1993 to 27% in 2015, the fastest rise in any developed nation. More than 7 in 10 millennials (those born between early 80s and mid 90s) are set to be overweight or obese by the age of 35-44 on current trends and are on track to be the most obese generation since records began with consequent adverse impacts on their health and their risk of developing a range of long term

conditions. This compares to 5 in 10 baby boomers (born 1945-55).

The rise in the older population will increase the numbers of people living with long term conditions and disability unless we age more healthily. The number of cases of dementia is expected to increase significantly across the county, doubling by 2050 [2]. However the good news is that living a healthy life in middle age (not smoking, a healthy diet, being physically active, maintaining a healthy weight and not drinking alcohol above recommended limits) can lead to healthier ageing reducing the risk of disability, dementia and frailty. We need to ensure that the environments in which we live make healthy choices the easy choices.

1.3 Other changes

Other factors that can adversely impact on our health could include weakening of social ties in our communities, increased pollution levels and increases in extreme weather.

The living environment

We know that the places and communities in which people grow up, learn, live, work, play and age can influence child development, educational attainment, mental and physical health and how well people age. It also influences the friendliness of neighbourhoods and how included people feel, crime and fear of crime and economic productivity.

This in turn influences demand on health and social care services and other public sector services. This report focuses on the health and wellbeing benefits of living in a good place.

It has long been recognised that the places people live affect their health and wellbeing via the factors shown in the diagram below.

The World Health Organisation defines a 'Healthy City' as one that supports health, recreation and wellbeing, safety, social interaction, easy mobility, a sense of pride and cultural identity and is accessible to the needs of all citizens. The same aspiration could be applied to towns and villages throughout Buckinghamshire.

This report highlights key areas impacting on health and wellbeing:

- Community life
- Housing, land use and inclusive design
- Healthy travel
- Air and noise pollution
- Natural environment and green spaces
- Access to healthy food.

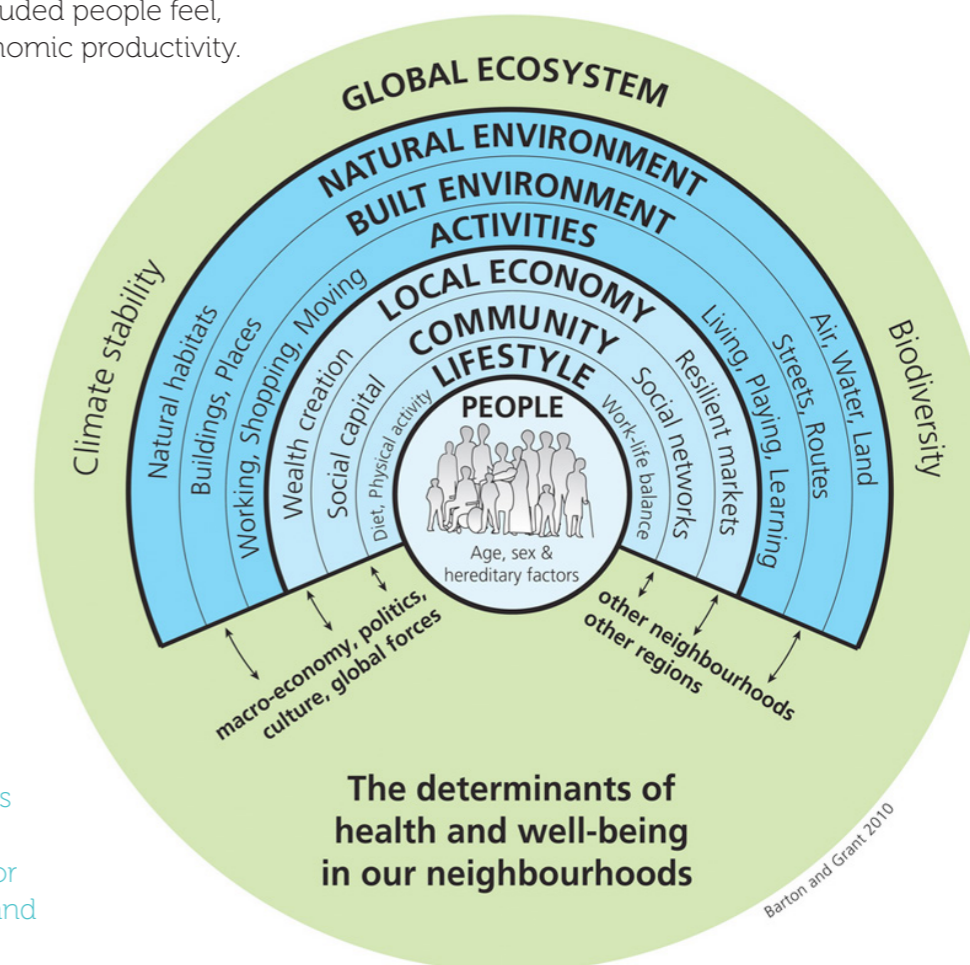


Figure 1 - The wider determinants of health and wellbeing in our neighbourhoods. A health map for the local human habitat. Barton and Grant, 2006. [3]

Community life

Introduction

The communities we grow up, play, work and live in profoundly affect our happiness, physical and mental health and our chances of success in life. People thrive in communities where there are strong social ties, a feeling of community and a sense of belonging and where everyone has the opportunity to participate fully in community life. Having a voice in local decisions also makes a vital contribution to health and wellbeing.

All communities have strengths and assets as well as needs that can contribute to the health and wellbeing of community members. This includes members of the community themselves, local groups and strong social networks, physical assets like buildings and parks and resources and assets brought by the public, private and voluntary sector. Involving and empowering communities is central to health and wellbeing particularly for disadvantaged groups.

76



Nationally, around two in every three people feel a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood with around a quarter of people (27%) feeling that they could personally influence decisions affecting their local area.

Key facts:

- Nationally, more than half of people (51%) said they would like to be more involved in decisions made by their local council.
- Around two thirds of people in the South East participated in voluntary work in the last year (67%), though this has fallen since 2013/14 and more than three quarters had given to charity in the last four weeks (77%). [4]
- In Buckinghamshire there are over 2,500 registered charities and 175,000 volunteers. It is estimated that volunteers in Bucks contribute an estimated £225m a year to the UK economy.

The importance of social ties

People who have strong social networks tend to live longer and have better mental and physical health than those who don't. Strong well connected communities can benefit everyone throughout life. Children and young people growing up in communities with positive social norms are less likely to participate in health harming behaviours such as smoking and drug taking and more likely to engage in health promoting behaviours such as being more physically active.

The health benefits of social interaction include reduced risks of depression, high blood pressure and cardiovascular problems and faster recovery from episodes of ill health. Older people with strong social connections have better physical health, less fear of crime and lower rates of early death. Social participation has also been associated with a reduction in dementia and cognitive decline. At a community level cohesive communities also have lower levels of depression, loneliness and crime.

**Social isolation is when an individual is lacking in the quantity or quality of their social network and this can be in terms of family, friends or their local community. Loneliness is a personal, subjective feeling. Both are significant factors that influence health, but are distinct. An individual can be socially isolated whilst not being lonely and vice-versa. An individual's level of social isolation and loneliness can fluctuate over time.*

Social isolation and loneliness*

Social isolation and loneliness can affect people at any age through a range of circumstances related to the individual and the local community [4]. Some of the common factors causing social isolation and loneliness include living alone, bereavement, ill-health, reduced mobility, caring responsibilities, job loss, access to local services and amenities, fear of crime and transport issues. These factors affect different groups to different extents. For instance, poor transport can contribute significantly to isolation in rural areas.

Communities play a crucial role in supporting people. Having the right support network can have a large impact on the ability of an individual to cope with adverse events in life including promoting recovery from illness. Conversely, being lonely for long periods of time has also been shown to affect health related behaviours, resulting in higher chances of having unhealthy lifestyles such as smoking cigarettes and drinking in excess [5].

Key facts:

- Among adult carers in Bucks, less than a third consider themselves to have as much social contact as they would like (30.8%). This is statistically significantly lower than the proportion nationally (35.5%) and lower than the proportion across the South East (33.2%).
- In 2016/17, among Buckinghamshire residents using adult social care services, less than half consider themselves to have as much social contact as they would like (45.1%). This is similar to the proportion nationally (45.4%) and the proportion across the South East (46.6%).

As social isolation and loneliness fluctuate over time and because they are difficult to measure, understanding how many people are isolated or lonely is difficult. However, nationally about one in every six older adults are in contact with family and friends less than once per week and one in nine are in contact with family and friends less than once per month. Estimates of loneliness nationally, show that approximately one in 20 people feels lonely all of the time or often.

It is increasingly being recognised that loneliness and isolation can be experienced earlier in life and may even be more common among younger age groups [6]. The most recent survey of community life found that a higher proportion of 16 to 24 year olds expressed feeling lonely often or always (10%) compared to any other age group and that as age increased the proportion who felt lonely decreased, with the lowest levels among the over 75 year olds [4].

Key facts:

In Bucks the proportion of people living alone increases to 28.4% among people aged 65 years and over. This is statistically significantly lower than the proportion nationally (31.5%)

A higher proportion of homes in Buckinghamshire (5.44%) are lived in by a single adult over the age of 65 years compared to England (5.24%) and the South East (5.33%).

Across all ages, approximately one in 10 residents in Bucks lives alone (10.5%). This is statistically significantly lower than the average across the South East (12.1%) and nationally (12.8%).



Children and young people who are at increased risk of being isolated and lonely include those with a disability, learning difficulty or special educational need, children who are homeless, children who are in care and children who have suffered from abuse or neglect [7].

The health impacts of social isolation and loneliness affect both physical and mental health. Individuals who are socially isolated are more than three times as likely to suffer from depression and anxiety and nearly twice as likely to develop dementia. Social isolation and loneliness have also been shown to make an individual two to three times more likely to be physically inactive [8] and have been linked to higher blood pressure and an increased risk of heart disease and stroke [9].

People experiencing social isolation are more likely to visit their GP and Accident and Emergency Departments, more likely to be admitted to hospital as an emergency and three and a half times more likely to enter local authority funded residential care

[8]. Loneliness increases the likelihood of death by a quarter and the likelihood of premature death among people without strong social ties is between 2 and 5 times higher compared to people with strong social ties [10].

Key facts:

Across the South East, nearly three quarters of people (72%) say that they chat to their neighbours regularly, with a higher proportion (84%) saying that people from different backgrounds in their neighbourhood get on well.

Nationally, two in every five people feel that they can trust the majority of their neighbours, with three quarters feeling that they could at least trust some of their neighbours.

Communities that promote connections and a community spirit can reduce levels of social isolation and loneliness and consequently improve the health and wellbeing of residents. Neighbourhoods lacking positive social connections have higher rates of social disorder, anxiety, depression and crime.

Planning for vibrant socially connected communities

Planning, policies and design alone cannot create strong, well-connected communities but they can make it easier for people to come together, make friends and get involved in their communities. Good design can help by creating safe, attractive multi-use indoor and outdoor public spaces that are accessible and welcoming for all and make it easy for people to interact with each other on a daily basis.

Well-designed public spaces should be incorporated into all new developments and there is much that can be done in existing towns and neighbourhoods too. In existing neighbourhoods this can range from significant redesign and regeneration to trialling temporary features to improve public spaces which if successful and popular could lead to more permanent changes of use. Interventions that improve public spaces have included pocket parks, reclaiming derelict land for community gardens and temporary street closures for play or events.

Involving a wide range of residents in the design of public spaces can improve wellbeing, helps foster a sense of community and place and is more likely to result in spaces that people will use and care for. Joint decision making and co-production, involving communities and stakeholders in the design, governance or delivery of local infrastructure in lower income communities, is associated with improvements in depression, sense of community, social capital, partnership working, adult skill development, learning and training, sense of empowerment and self-esteem. However in a minority of cases there were adverse impacts related to consultation fatigue, distress and frustration and stress from accessing and participating in the decision making processes.

Good design features

People who live in environments that encourage people to walk or cycle rather than use the car have a stronger sense of community, are more positive about the places they live and engage more in community life. People are more likely to walk or cycle where housing, shops, amenities and workplaces are all close together and there are safe and attractive routes between them. Conversely areas where there is high car use and busy roads reduce interaction between neighbours and people have fewer friends locally. A pedestrian environment enables the development of art and culture in the public realm, encouraging more visits and contributing to the vibrancy of the area.

Crime and the fear of crime impacts on people's mental health and can make people reluctant to leave their homes to socialise and access vital facilities. Good design can help reduce the level of crime in an area and make people feel safer. Crime can be reduced by making places more attractive, and by promoting a mix of land uses, dwelling sizes and types of dwelling. This makes it more likely that there are people around throughout the day and evening leading to reduced crime and increasing feelings of safety. Good design has been shown to reduce likelihood of graffiti, litter, vandalism and broken windows by up to 60%. 'Secured by Design' is a national police initiative to incorporate prevention of crime into the design and build of new homes.

Inclusive public places

The quality of the built environment is key to maintaining mobility and independence for older people and people with disabilities and also works for families with children and parents with pushchairs. Wide, clearly defined and obstacle free

pedestrian routes, crossings with dropped kerbs, tactile paving and adequate signals and wayfinding aids may improve comfort and safety for a wide range of residents. Adequate road crossings, toilets, regular public seating, shade and shelter and the attractiveness of the environment are important factors in encouraging people to get out of their homes and to use a public space. People are also more likely to socialise in areas with interesting features and with natural landscaping and this is covered more in the section on green spaces. Children need safe child friendly environments that are easy to get around, free from pollution with green spaces and places to play.

Throughout this report we have highlighted that children and young people, older adults and people with long term conditions or poorer health are more susceptible to and often more likely to experience the adverse effects of poorer environments. There are helpful guides and initiatives such as the UNICEF child friendly cities and communities and the WHO guide to creating Age Friendly environments that can support communities, towns and local areas to help make communities that work for everyone.

Cultural and social life

A strong programme of cultural and social activities co-designed with residents also helps develop cohesive communities and foster a sense of place and pride in an area. Regular engagement with social, art and cultural activities can benefit health and wellbeing at all ages. Engagement in structured art and cultural opportunities improves the cognitive abilities of children and young people.

Older people attending art, music or other types of educational classes have better mood and life satisfaction than those who don't. Older people say art and culture is important in making them feel happy, helping them meet other people and encouraging them to get out and about. Specially-designed art activities have also been found to have a positive impact on health conditions like dementia, depression and Parkinson's disease.

Many people contribute to community life through volunteering which also benefits their health. Volunteering is associated with better health and life satisfaction and less depression. However sometimes volunteers may experience burnout and stress from responsibilities so a balanced approach helps to ensure that both volunteers and their community can benefit.

Healthy homes

Introduction

The ability to stay healthy, access and maintain education, training and employment and contribute to community life is reliant on having a safe and stable place to live.

Living in an affordable good quality home is fundamental to people's physical and mental health, helps them maintain independence for as long as possible, recover from illness and reduces demand on the NHS and social care. A sufficient supply of good quality affordable housing is also vital to the economic and social success of an area.



The evidence

High quality, warm and energy efficient housing improves physical and mental health and reduces deaths. Conversely poor housing conditions are linked to poor health, accidents and excess winter deaths. A home is considered decent if it: meets the current statutory minimum standard for housing; is in a reasonable state of repair; has reasonably modern facilities and services; and provides a reasonable degree of thermal comfort [11]. Across England in 2016, one in five owner occupied homes (19.7%) is considered to be 'non-decent'. A higher proportion of privately rented homes (26.8%) are considered non-decent whilst a lower proportion of socially rented homes are considered non-decent (12.6%).

Poor quality homes cost the NHS in England at least £1.4bn per year and wider society over £18.6bn. Children and older people or those with long term conditions are particularly vulnerable to poor housing conditions.

Cold homes

Excess cold experienced in the winter months can exacerbate a range of health problems, including respiratory and circulatory conditions, mental health problems and accidental injury for all age groups. A major factor contributing to living in a cold home is fuel poverty, where the required fuel cost is above average and if a household were to spend that amount to heat the home, the amount of money they would be left with would put them below the poverty line [12]. Factors making households susceptible to living in fuel poverty are low household income, the energy efficiency of a home and the cost of heating.

Children and young people living in cold homes are more than twice as likely to have a respiratory condition and five times more likely to suffer from mental health problems [13]. Hospital admissions are also higher among children living in colder homes. The long term impact of living in cold homes includes poorer educational attainment and lower emotional resilience [14]. Adults living in cold homes have increased risk of respiratory disease, rheumatism and arthritis, mental health problems and increased risk of winter deaths from cardiovascular and respiratory disease [15].

It is estimated that 10% of excess winter deaths are due to fuel poverty. In addition, households living in fuel poverty are not only more likely to live in a cold

home, but also more likely to have less disposable income, meaning household members may be less able to eat healthily, afford other essentials and take part in social activities.

Key facts:

In Buckinghamshire, it is estimated that there were 17,551 households living in fuel poverty (8.4%) in 2016. This is slightly lower than the proportion nationally (11.0%) and across the South East (9.4%).

Buckinghamshire experiences 18% more deaths during winter months compared to the non-winter period. This is comparable to England (17.9%) and the South East (17.4%). This equates to approximately 230 additional deaths during winter months

Indoor Air Quality

Poor indoor air quality from materials used in the home has been linked to a range of problems including cardiovascular and respiratory disease and some cancers. Damp and mould are more likely in colder homes and can trigger exacerbations of asthma and make people more prone to respiratory infections. Children living in damp homes with mould are between 1.5 and 3 times more likely to have coughing and wheezing symptoms compared to children living in damp-free housing [14]. Across England, it is estimated that more than one in 25 homes has a damp problem. Damp is more common in privately rented accommodation (8.2%) and lowest in owner occupied accommodation (2.7%) [16].

Injuries in the home

There are more injuries sustained in the home than anywhere else, resulting in approximately 6000 deaths per year nationally. Children under five and older people aged over 65 years are most likely to sustain an injury in their home. Injuries sustained in and around the home are the leading cause of avoidable death in children aged under 5 years [17]. Each year, the cost of injuries sustained in the home is estimated to cost society over £45bn [18].

Falls are the most common accident in the home in all ages [18]. The majority of these are due to trip hazards resulting from factors such as poor design or disrepair. Older people are most at risk of suffering a fall and within this age group, a fall is

more likely to result in a fracture and subsequent loss of independence. In England, it is estimated that there are 1.3m households with people aged 55 and over who live in a home with a serious hazard [19].

Key facts:

There were 2036 emergency admissions due to falls in people aged 65 years and over in Bucks in 2016/17. However, it is not possible to determine the proportion of these falls that arose in the home.

There were 580 hip fractures in older residents in Buckinghamshire during 2016/17. After adjusting for age, there are 573 hip fractures per 100,000 people aged 65 years and over, which is similar to the rate nationally (575 per 100,000).

Home Improvements

Home improvements have been shown to improve health outcomes particularly for older people and those living with long term conditions on lower incomes. Housing refurbishment including damp-proofing, reroofing and new window installation is associated with improvements in general health outcomes. Home improvements have also been shown to reduce risk of falls and improve social outcomes.

Affordable Housing

The affordability of housing is increasingly becoming a problem as house price increases are consistently higher than wage increases. Housing affordability has worsened in the last two decades, with working people now expecting to pay around 7.6 times their annual earnings on average to purchase a home in England and Wales in 2016. This is up from 3.6 times earnings in 1997.

A lack of affordable housing can lead to financial hardship and stress, overcrowding and in the most severe cases homelessness. Families living in overcrowded conditions experienced a range of health related problems such as poor and irregular sleep patterns, depression and anxiety, strained family relationships and break-ups [20]. Children and young people living in overcrowded conditions experience particular difficulties including health problems such as respiratory and infectious diseases, difficulties studying, emotional problems

and developmental delays. More than 80% of families living in overcrowded homes identified lack of space as a major contribution to anxiety, stress and depression.

One impact caused by difficulty finding affordable housing is that people may turn to Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) in order to find somewhere to live. Poorly managed HMOs can pose a risk to physical and mental health with increased risks associated with sharing facilities with others (e.g. personal hygiene, food preparation, fire safety). Lack of affordable homes is also linked to increase levels of homelessness. Someone is homeless if they have no access to accommodation either through a legal agreement (such as a tenancy) or an implied agreement (such as living with family or friends). This can potentially include people who are facing eviction, living in temporary accommodation, squatters, rough sleepers, people at risk of violence, those housed in poor quality accommodation that is a risk to their health and those who cannot afford their current accommodation. However while all these groups will be entitled to advice and assistance, currently local authorities do not have a duty to house everyone. All persons who approach the local authority for assistance are assessed on a case by case basis.

Homelessness can cause ill health, but in addition ill health can also result in loss of income or challenging behaviour and put some households at greater risk of becoming homeless. Approximately three quarters of homeless people report a physical health problem, with 41% reporting a long term condition (compared to 25% in the general population) [21]. The longer a person experiences homelessness the more likely their health and wellbeing will be at risk. The average age of death of a single homeless person who is rough sleeping is 30 years lower than the general population [22].

Only households assessed as being a priority need for housing, under the Housing Act, will potentially be given accommodation on an emergency and longer term basis. Groups deemed to be priority for housing generally include households with dependent children and/or households with a vulnerable member (e.g. due to medical reasons). Eligible individuals or families may be housed in temporary accommodation while their application for housing is considered or until suitable and secure accommodation is available. Temporary accommodation can include bed and breakfast,

hostel, private sector or local authority/housing association stock and can be outside of the local authority where the housing application has been made.

Providing affordable housing for vulnerable people such as adults with learning disability and adult with substance misuse problems can lead to better social, behavioural and health related outcomes. Provision of affordable housing for homeless people increases ability to engage with health care services, improves quality of life, mental health and employment.

Key facts:

Average house prices are highest in South Bucks (£616,000) and Chiltern (£552,000), followed by Wycombe (£401,000) and Aylesbury Vale (£334,000).

The ratio of average house prices to earnings in Buckinghamshire (10.7) is higher compared to the national average (7.6) as well as the South East (9.4).

In 2016, median house prices in South Bucks were more than 14 time average earnings of residents living in the district and in Chiltern the ratio was 13.9. Wycombe and Aylesbury Vale have slightly lower ratios at 10.9 and 9.4 respectively. However, these are all higher than the ratio for England.

Buckinghamshire also has higher rents than the England average with rents across the four Districts ranging from 9% to 24% higher than the national average.



House prices in Buckinghamshire in July 2017 were among the highest in the country with average house prices in all four districts significantly higher than the national average of £243,000.



Less than one in every 1000 households in Buckinghamshire (0.9 per 1000) is classified as being statutory homeless (living in temporary accommodation provided under the homelessness legislation). This is significantly lower than the rate nationally (3.3 per 1000 households) and across the South East (2.2 per 1000 households).

Homes for all ages and abilities

The right home environment for people with additional needs protects and improves health and wellbeing, and enables people to live safely and independently in their own home. It also helps delay and reduce the need for health and social care, prevents hospital admissions, enables timely discharge from hospital and enables rapid recovery from periods of ill health. Good design and building quality should ensure homes can be adapted to people's changing needs throughout life and enable people to stay in their own homes.

Older people spend a greater proportion of time in their homes and local neighbourhoods compared to other age groups. However, it is estimated that 2 million people aged 55 and over in England are not living in homes that meet their needs, and a high proportion of homes with older residents are not specifically designed for people as they get older (96%). This increases the risk of accidents and injuries as well as poorer physical and mental health. Developing age-friendly homes, neighbourhoods and towns is one of the most effective policy responses to our ageing population.

There is a shortage of well-designed, high-quality, appropriate and attractive housing in the right place for older people. More than three in every four adults aged 65 years and over in Bucks live in their own homes. However, nationally more than one in five older adults lives in a home that does not meet the decent standard [19]. Nearly half the cost of poor housing to the NHS arises from poor housing among older people and is estimated at £624 million per year nationally.

Eight out of 10 older people say they would like to downsize, but only three out of 10 do so. Many people who do downsize move only at a time of crisis, when they are not necessarily making good decisions. Housing for older people needs to be close to shops, services and cultural facilities, and connect well to the public realm with good public transport links. The quality of the surrounding environment is also important, including access to shared, open, green spaces with well-placed benches and public toilets.

The majority of people living with a disability live in housing that is not designed to meet their needs. Home modifications for people with disabilities can help sustain independence, prevent hospital admissions and support earlier discharge from

hospital as well as reduce care costs [19]. Ensuring homes meet the needs of people with disabilities is also important for supporting people to remain safe and independent. It is estimated that 93% of homes lack access features for people with limited mobility.

Different people will have different needs necessitating a range of housing options from mainstream and accessible homes to supported and extra care housing. Extra care housing is accommodation that has been designed to meet the needs of older people who need additional support, often with varying levels of support available. Evidence shows that extra care housing can delay admission to a care home and provide a cost-effective alternative to residential care and can improve quality of life and social contact. There is also some evidence that extra care housing can reduce health costs.

Key facts:

In Bucks, around one in thirty older people live in care homes (residential or nursing homes). The proportion of older people in care homes rises from less than 1% of those aged 65 to 74, to more than 15% of those aged 85 and over.

Lifetime neighbourhoods and age friendly environments

The environments in which people live need to be designed to support their health throughout life. The World Health Organisation (WHO) describes a lifetime neighbourhood as:

"...a place where a person's age doesn't affect their chances of having a good quality of life. The people living there are happy to bring up children and to grow older – because the services, infrastructure, housing, and public spaces are designed to meet everyone's needs, regardless of how old they are." [23]

Lifetime neighbourhoods are those which offer everyone the best possible chance of health, wellbeing, and social, economic and civic engagement regardless of age. They provide the built environment, infrastructure, housing, services and shared social space for all people whether they are old or young, disabled or frail. Most features of lifetime neighbourhoods will benefit all generations.

The WHO has promoted the concepts of age-friendly cities and lifetime neighbourhoods. WHO describes an age-friendly city as one that:

"...is an inclusive and accessible urban environment that promotes active ageing ... adapts its structures and services to be accessible to and inclusive of older people with varying needs and capacities."

Urban and rural areas will present different challenges. For example, urban areas may more frequently suffer poor access to space or low social cohesion. Rural areas may have difficulty in providing access to services over more dispersed residential areas, for example, public transport and shops.

It is clear that designing neighbourhoods that work for all and particularly our growing child and older adult population is vital for the continued success of Buckinghamshire.



Healthy travel

Introduction

We travel for work and play, to get to school, shops and other services, but how we travel, and how far and for how long, has significant implications for our health, the health of others and society as a whole.

The mode of travel we choose matters. Active travel such as walking and cycling improves our health through promoting physical activity but also by reducing air and noise pollution, increasing social connections and making communities safer. It improves our mood, reduces stress and the risk of developing long term conditions or dying early. It is also the lowest carbon, cheapest and most reliable and sustainable form of transport. It reduces congestion, absenteeism and boosts economic productivity.



81

The evidence

Active Travel

Adults who do regular physical activity are at lower risk of many chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, stroke, some cancers, depression and dementia. Children and young people who are physically active have better cardio-respiratory health, better bone health and muscle strength, improved attention and better educational attainment, lower anxiety and stress and higher self-esteem [24]. However, levels of physical activity are gradually declining and it is conservatively estimated that physical inactivity costs the NHS £1bn per year, with wider societal costs of more than £8bn per year [25].

Active travel can contribute significantly to helping people achieve the recommended levels of physical activity per week and areas that encourage people to walk or cycle to work, school or shops have healthier residents than those that don't.

Walking improves our mood and reduces the risk of anxiety and depression as well as improving our physical health. Walkable neighbourhoods and towns are better for everyone. Areas where more people walk are more sociable, are safer and feel safer. Places that are designed to be more walkable increase the accessibility of public space for people of all ages, different mobility levels and backgrounds and reduces social isolation.

There are an increasing number of studies demonstrating the benefits of cycling. A recent British study found that people who commuted by bike had almost half the risk of developing and dying from heart disease and cancer. In addition, on average, cyclists take 15% fewer sick days compared to non-cyclists. Commuters who shift from private vehicle to public transport or active forms of travel have been shown to have a significant reduction in weight [26].

Key facts:

Compared to commuters travelling by car, cyclists have a 46% lower risk of developing heart disease and 52% lower risk of dying from heart disease and a 45% lower risk of developing cancer and a 40% lower risk of death from cancer [27].

One of the main barriers for people switching to cycling is perceived safety with more people choosing to cycle if routes are physically separated from other traffic. 64% of people say they would cycle more if they had access to separated cycle routes [28]. Areas where separated cycle routes have been introduced have seen an increase of up to 171% in bike lane usage. Increases are particularly seen among less experienced cyclists and those with lower levels of confidence including children, women and less active people. Separated cycle routes are also linked to real benefits to cyclist safety with reduced levels of collisions with motor vehicles. The health benefits of cycling outweigh the risk from injuries by about 20 to 1 and it has been estimated that for an average commute, the health benefits to society and the individual of each person shifting from car to bicycle is more than £1100 per year [29].

There are many opportunities for children to be active as part of their travel, often to and from school. Children who walk or cycle to school on average get about 20 extra minutes of physical activity per day compared to children that are driven and, switching from driving to school to walking has been estimated to save families £642 per year [30]. It is estimated that approximately one in five cars on the road during peak hours in the morning are involved in school travel. For schools in residential areas, this can concentrate traffic in these areas, increasing pollution and the risk of road traffic injuries.

Active travel increases physical activity levels and reduces the number of cars on the road which reduces air pollution from road traffic all of which benefit health. Active travel is also good for the economy and people who walk or cycle to work tend to be more productive and take fewer sick days. The health and economic benefits of active travel have been found to outweigh the cost by up to 11 times with an average of £5.62 in benefits for every £1 spent on active travel in the UK [25].

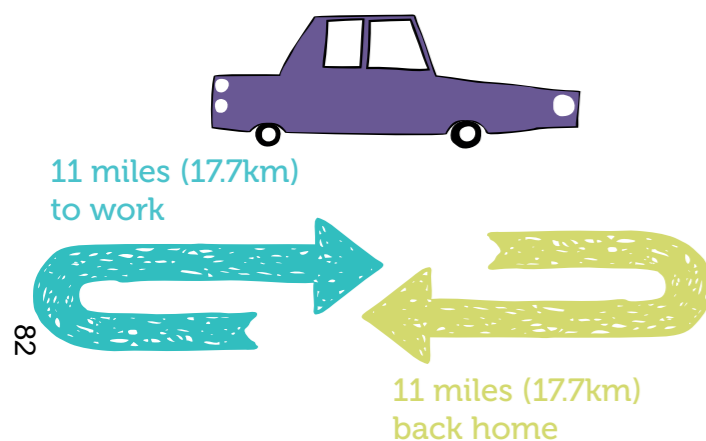
People who live in environments that encourage people to walk or cycle rather than use the car have a stronger sense of community, better social connections and are more positive about the places they live than those who live in areas of heavy car use. They are more likely to know their neighbours, trust others and engage in community life.

Motorised transport and health

Motorised transport has seen the distances people can travel for work, school and leisure increase and can bring many benefits. These include improved access to employment, reduced social isolation and better access to health care. These need to be balanced against the adverse consequences of this mode of travel for health and communities.

Neighbourhoods where housing and amenities are far apart, characterised by "urban sprawl", have higher car use and higher levels of obesity and other health problems which taken together are equivalent to the population ageing 4 years.

Commuting



In Bucks, the average commuter travels nearly 11 miles (17.7km) each way to work, longer than the average for England (9.3 miles, 15.0km) and the South East (10.3 miles, 16.6km).

Key facts:

Between 2001 and 2011 the average commuting distance increased by more than 11% in Buckinghamshire, similar to the increase nationally. This equates to an increase of around 340,000 additional miles (550,000 kilometres) travelled each day by commuters in Bucks.

The average journey time to work in Buckinghamshire is around 34 minutes each way (68 minutes per day in total).

A higher proportion of commuters travel to and from work by car (43%) compared to the England average (35%).

Long commutes are increasingly being recognised as having a detrimental effect on our health and wellbeing. They have been linked with higher levels of stress and anxiety and higher blood pressure. In addition, long commute times reduce the amount of free time people have for recreational activities, cooking and sleeping and participating in community life with consequent adverse impact on their health.

As the distance commuted increases, people's health suffers, with lower levels of physical activity and fitness, higher body weight and cholesterol, waist circumference and risk of diabetes and cardiovascular disease [31]. Studies have shown that driving more than 10 miles one way to and from work five days a week was associated with an increased risk of developing high blood sugar and cholesterol and commuting more than 30 miles a day was associated with high blood pressure, stress and heart disease. Statistics show the longer we drive the less happy we are and that happiness decreases with every mile of commute. Workers with longer commutes are 33% more likely to suffer from depression and 12% more likely to report stress at work. They are also 46% less likely to get the recommended minimum of seven hours of sleep each night [32]. Studies have shown that, to have the same level of satisfaction as someone who walks, a commuter travelling for more than one hour per day has to earn 40% more money. Changing from a long commute to a short walk to work has the same impact on happiness as a single person finding a new partner [33] [34].

A recent report looking at congestion in towns and cities shows that commuters in Aylesbury spend on average 32 hours stuck in congestion each year. Out of 111 towns and cities in the UK that were assessed, commuters in Aylesbury spent the 6th highest amount of time in congestion [35].

Key facts:

The average commuter in Aylesbury spends 32 hours each year stuck in congestion

Commuters in Aylesbury have one of the highest average time spent in congestion in the UK (6/111).

Road traffic accidents can also contribute to harm. Speed is the main cause of premature deaths and injuries in road accidents, 9 in every 10 pedestrians survive if hit by vehicle travelling at 20mph, 5 out of

Key facts:

Between 2014 and 2016, there were 241 people killed or seriously injured* (KSI) on average each year on the roads in Buckinghamshire.

On average, slightly more than half (53.2%) of deaths or serious injuries on the road in Bucks occurred on rural roads (128), and approximately one in ten (26) occurred on motorways (10.8%). Urban roads in Bucks accounted for an average of 87 deaths and serious injuries per year (36.0%).

Between 2014 and 2016, there were 21 deaths per year on the roads in Bucks. Two thirds of deaths (an average of 14 deaths) occurred on rural A roads and minor rural roads (67%). Around one in six deaths (17.5%) occurred on urban roads. Similarly, around one in six deaths (15.9%) occurred on motorways, equivalent to an average of 3 deaths per year. The proportion of fatalities on rural roads is statistically

significantly higher to the proportion of deaths on urban roads and motorways.

In the three years 2014-16 there were 14 pedestrian or cyclist deaths, 14 motorcyclist deaths, 33 deaths of car occupants and 2 deaths of other road users. Over the same time period, there were 209 pedestrians and cyclists who were killed or seriously injured (28.9%), 160 motor cyclists (22.2%), 322 car occupants (44.6%) and 23 other road users (3.2%) who were killed or seriously injured.

There is wide variation in the rate of KSI between the districts, with the highest rate in South Bucks (79.6 per 100,000), followed by Aylesbury Vale (41.7), Wycombe (39.8) and Chiltern (39.1). However, the difference is only statistically significant for South Bucks, which is also significantly higher to the national average.



*A serious injury is defined as an injury for which a person is detained in hospital as an "in-patient", or any of the following injuries whether or not they are detained in hospital: fractures, concussion, internal injuries, crushings, burns (excluding friction burns), severe cuts, severe general shock requiring medical treatment and injuries causing death 30 or more days after the accident.

10 die if hit by vehicle travelling at 30 mph and 9 in 10 die if hit by vehicle at 40 mph. Nationally, whilst the majority of road traffic injuries (all casualties) arise on 30mph built up roads (58%), less than one in three deaths on the roads occur on 30mph built-up roads. In comparison, 60mph roads account for less than one in every six casualties, but more than one in every three deaths nationally (36%).

Traffic calming measures have been found to reduce the number of accidents by 40% whilst also reducing the severity of the accidents [36]. Speed bumps and chicanes in the road are the most effective ways of reducing vehicle speed [37]. However, speed bumps need to be effectively designed to minimise the potential impact on air quality due to extra braking and fuel consumption [38].

Motorised vehicles are a major contributor to air and noise pollution, accounting for approximately

a third of air pollution from particulate matter [39]. However, the impact of air pollution from road traffic is greater in built up areas where concentrations of vehicles are higher [40]. As a result, road traffic is responsible for a large proportion of air quality management areas due to Nitrogen Dioxide (96%) and particulate matter (76%) in the UK [41]. The cost of ill health due to air pollution from road traffic is estimated to be between £4.5-10bn to the UK economy each year [40].

Transport networks and health

The design of our transport network and roads influence how we choose to travel from place to place but also about how we interact with each other. Roads, especially large or busy roads can act as a significant barrier and can have a negative impact on health. 'Community severance', where busy roads reduce access to goods, services or people can isolate communities

and neighbourhoods increasing the difficulty in accessing important facilities such as schools, doctors' surgeries and shopping centres. This is especially important for children and older people. Community severance creates a self-perpetuating cycle, whereby the presence of a busy road causes individuals to rely more on cars to move around, thus causing higher congestion on the roads and greater severance. Living on a road with heavy traffic can reduce the opportunity for social interaction with neighbours. Residents living on streets with light car traffic volumes have three times more friends and twice as many acquaintances than those living on streets with high car traffic.

Public transport

Travelling by public transport compared with driving a car has a number of benefits for both mental and physical health and wellbeing. Using public

transport increases amount of time being physically active by between 8-33 minutes on average. On average, residents living in areas served by a good public transport network or where there is "mixed land use" (where houses, jobs and amenities are close to each other) own significantly fewer cars, drive significantly less and use active and public modes of transport for a higher proportion of their travel [42].

In addition to boosting levels of physical activity, using good quality public transport is associated with lower levels of stress compared to driving and can reduce exposure to air pollution as car users have higher exposure to air pollutants that people on buses and trains [43] [44].



Air and Noise Pollution



84

The evidence

Air Pollution

Air pollution is a mixture of particles and gases that damage health, the environment and the economy. The most important pollutants with respect to health are particulate matter (PM) and nitrogen dioxide. Particulate matter is classified by size and includes *PM10* and *PM2.5* which comprise all particles smaller than 10 microns and 2.5 microns respectively. *PM2.5* is most strongly linked to health outcomes as at this size the particles can be inhaled deep into the lungs. The very small particles *PM0.1* once inhaled can pass directly into the bloodstream. The particles can be composed of combustion products, abrasion of engine components, brakes and tyres on road surfaces or generated during construction and agricultural processes. In urban pollution hotspots, particularly those close to roads, the source is mainly from traffic and the particles include soot, part burnt petrol and diesel and compounds that form benzene based carcinogens and waste matter from road surfaces. There are considerable differences in emissions between vehicles but on average diesel exhaust contains up to 30 times more PM than petrol. In the countryside agriculture and upwind industries make a larger contribution to air pollution. Nationally, 38% of *PM2.5* is produced by households burning wood, coal and other solids fuels in open fires and stoves.

Nitrogen dioxide and related oxides of nitrogen are gases produced by combustion. In areas where the UK is exceeding recommended limits 80% of the emissions are due to transport, the largest source of which is diesel cars and vans.

Air pollution is the largest environmental risk to the public's health contributing to cardiovascular disease, lung cancer and respiratory disease. More than one in every 20 deaths in the UK is attributed to long term exposure to *PM2.5* air pollutants. That is the equivalent of approximately 25,000 deaths per year [45].

Long term exposure to PM contributes to the development of cardiovascular disease, lung cancer and respiratory disease and increases the risk of death. Exposure to elevated levels of *PM2.5* increases the risk of death and shortens life expectancy by several months to a few years. Short term exposure to elevated *PM2.5* levels can trigger wheezing and exacerbations of asthma and bronchitis, heart attacks and heart rhythm

disturbances and strokes [46] and has been linked to an increase in hospital admissions as well as deaths [47]. There is also emerging evidence linking long term exposure to *PM2.5* to the progression of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, diabetes, low birthweight and developmental outcomes.

Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at high concentrations is a respiratory irritant that can cause inflammation of the airways and shortness of breath. Studies have shown links between high concentrations of NO₂ and impaired lung development and respiratory infections in children and adverse effects on adult lung function.

Older people, children and those with cardiovascular or respiratory disease are particularly vulnerable to the effects of air pollution. Exposure to air pollution is also unevenly distributed across the population with deprived communities more likely to be living near busy polluting roads. Air pollution varies substantially over small distances being typically highest near the source and can decline rapidly further away. Air pollution levels are typically as high within vehicles as outside so higher levels of air pollution are experienced not only by those who live or work on busy roads but also those who drive for a living.

Key facts:

- Buckinghamshire has eight Air Quality Management Areas, where levels of pollutants do not meet the national air quality objectives. All eight AQMAs relate to excess levels of Nitrogen Dioxide and are associated with areas surrounding roads
- Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe Districts each have three AQMAs, whilst South Bucks and Chiltern each have one AQMA. [48]
- In Bucks, one in every 18 deaths (5.5%) is attributed to poor air quality.
- In Buckinghamshire mean fine particulate matter levels (PM_{2.5}) arising from human activity is 9.9micrograms/m³. This is comparable to England (9.9) and the South East (9.7).

The costs to society of air pollution are similar to those caused by obesity and smoking, with health related costs estimated between £22bn and £67bn and costs due to lost economic productivity estimated at almost £0.8bn.

Noise pollution

Noise is an often underestimated threat that can cause a number of short- and long-term health problems. Excessive noise seriously harms human health and interferes with people's daily activities at school, at work, at home and during leisure time. It impacts on both physical and mental health through sleep disturbance and increased stress. It is estimated that the direct health impact of noise pollution costs the UK economy over one billion pounds per year.

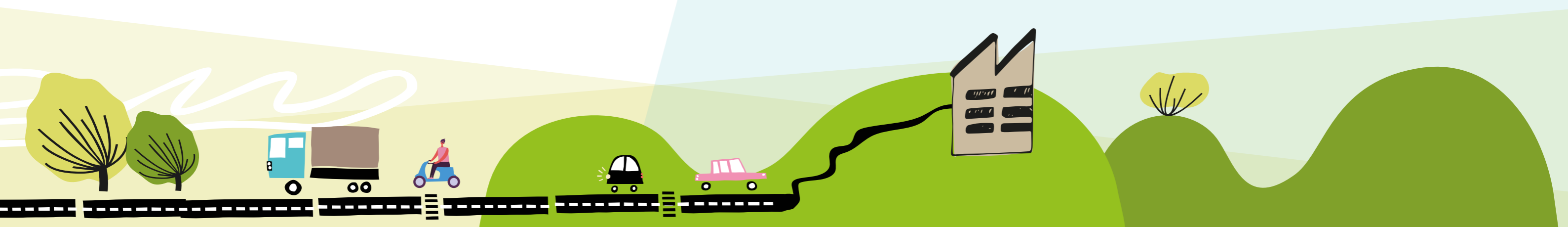
Noise pollution is associated with poor sleep and stress, increased blood pressure and increased risk of conditions such as heart attack, stroke and dementia. In children, exposure to noise pollution can have a negative effect on development and education with evidence showing poorer educational attainment and worse health in children exposed to higher levels of noise pollution. Children exposed to noise have poorer concentration and for every 5 decibel increase in average noise that children are exposed to, reading age decreases by two months.

In the UK, about half of the UK population live in areas where daytime sound levels exceed the recommended limit, causing adverse impacts on health. About two-thirds of the population live in areas where the night-time guidelines recommended by the WHO are exceeded [49].

Outside night noise levels of 55 decibels (dB) plus exposure is considered increasingly dangerous for public health. About 40% of the population in EU countries are exposed to road traffic noise at levels exceeding 55 (dB) and 20% are exposed to levels exceeding 65 (dB) during the daytime; and more than 30% is exposed to levels exceeding 55 (dB) at night [46].

Noise pollution disproportionately affects the most vulnerable in society, with homes in more deprived communities exposed to higher levels of noise pollution from busy roads. In addition, the impacts of noise pollution are greater among children and older people.

People value quiet areas, with 91% identifying the importance of protecting quiet areas from an increase in noise. In Buckinghamshire, there were over 1500 noise complaints in 2014/15. The rate of noise complaints per 1000 residents is highest in Wycombe District (4.0) followed by Chiltern (3.5), Aylesbury Vale (2.0) and South Bucks (1.6).



Green spaces and the natural environment

Introduction

There is a strong body of evidence that shows that being in contact with the natural environment is vital for our mental wellbeing and physical health at all ages. People with access to good quality green space have better mental and physical health and every 10% increase in green space is associated with a reduction in disease equivalent to a gain of 5 years of life.

The natural environment also helps mitigate some of the threats to our health from air pollution, noise pollution and extreme weather events including heat waves and flooding and provides a host of social and economic benefits. Green space and views of green space encourage social connections in communities, helps children concentrate at school and helps people recover more quickly in hospital. Many studies have shown the importance of incorporating green spaces into the design of towns, cities and housing developments.



The evidence

Green spaces and health

People with access to good quality green space have better self-rated health and are less likely to be overweight and obese. Natural landscaping and surroundings have been shown to positively influence people's attitudes and motivations to be physically active and as a result people living near green spaces are more likely to be physically active with all the benefits that being active provides. Living within 500m of green spaces increases the likelihood of doing at least 30 minutes of physical activity per day. The creation or improvement of a park or open space leads to an increase in local peoples' activity levels by up to 48%.

People also make more walking trips to local amenities such as shops and cafes when they perceive there are many natural features along the route including roadside trees. In less green neighbourhoods people judge distances to be further than they are which may discourage walking.

Undertaking physical activity in green spaces appears to offer additional health benefits compared to physical activity in indoor settings, with a greater positive effect on mental health. Experiments have shown walking in natural environments results in an increase in positive emotions and a fall in blood pressure. For people with depression, exercising in the natural environment has been associated with greater feelings of positivity, increased energy and decreases in tension, confusion, anger and depression compared to exercising indoors.

The strong positive impact that exposure to green spaces has on people's mental wellbeing and mental health extends beyond just doing exercise outdoors. Clinical studies have shown that within 5 minutes of viewing a nature setting, positive changes occur in blood pressure, heart rate, muscle tension and brain activity.

Caring for natural landscapes has been shown to improve self-reported health and depressive symptoms. Exposure to green spaces reduces stress levels and depression, especially in more deprived communities.

Studies have also shown that areas with higher amounts of green space have lower levels of hospital admissions for mental health conditions,

even after adjusting for other factors such as how urbanised an area is and the level of deprivation. Furthermore, when people do become unwell, being close to or having a view of greenery can help with recovery. Patients in hospital recovering from surgery have a shorter recovery time, reduced need for pain medication and lower anxiety if they can look out over green and open spaces.

Key facts:

Nearly one in every five (18%) Buckinghamshire households lives within 300m of a natural green space of at least 2 hectares, and only 58% of households live within 2km of a natural green space of at least 20 hectares.

Less than one in every five residents in Bucks (17.4%) spend time in outdoor green and open space (excluding shops and own garden) in a usual week.

Between 2013/14 and 2015/16 the proportion of adults using outdoor space for exercise or health reasons has fallen from 28.8% to 17.4%.

Buckinghamshire has over 43 hectares of open access land and a Right of Way network that spans over 3300km.

There are 1270km of promoted recreational routes across Bucks.



Green spaces throughout life

Green spaces for children and young people

The ability to participate in safe outdoor play is one of the most important benefits of green spaces for young people. It helps their physical and social development and keeps them healthy. Open spaces enable children to play freely and develop their imagination and creativity and interact with the natural environment. Play enables children to socialise and meet others from different backgrounds, contributing to a strong sense of community and helping to foster community cohesion.

Green spaces encourage children to be more physically active with benefits for their health. Parks with shaded areas have been shown to increase teenage girls' activity levels and girls' activity levels more than doubled in areas conducive to walking. Studies show that children living in deprived areas with more green spaces were less likely to be overweight and obese than children living in comparable areas with less green space.

Exposure to green spaces within and around schools is also good for children's learning, improving their levels of attention and educational attainment [51]. Travelling to school via green routes has also been linked to better memory and attention.

Green spaces also might be important at the very start of life. Pregnant women who live closer to green spaces have lower risk of low birthweight babies. For every 10% increase in green space within 100m of the home, there is an increase of up to 436g in average baby weight [52]. The effect is greater among women with lower levels of education. The effect also extends to green space that is further from the home. Having more green space within 500m of the home still has an important positive impact on birth weight.

Key facts:

In Buckinghamshire, levels of overweight and obesity among children in reception year and year six are 18% and 27% respectively.

Approximately one in every six girls (16%) and one in every four boys (23%) aged 5-15 years, in the South East of England are reported to achieve the recommended levels of physical activity.

During the week, three in every five (60.8%) children aged 15 years in Bucks spends at least 7 hours a day doing sedentary activities outside of school (e.g. playing computer games, on the internet, watching TV, etc.).

Green spaces for older people

Living close to green and open spaces is particularly important for older people, reflecting the fact that they spend a larger proportion of their time in their local neighbourhood compared to other age groups.

Research has shown that older people who lived near parks, tree-lined streets and spaces for taking walks showed greater longevity over a 5 year period and that walking in natural surroundings can boost immunity, lower stress indicators and reduced depression.

Studies have also shown the benefits of gardening for healthy ageing. Physical health was better and perceived stress levels decreased significantly among those aged 50-88 years who maintained a community garden plot compared to those who exercised indoors.

The benefits of green space are also seen for people with dementia where access to gardens improves socialisation and sleep, reduced agitation and aggression and the risk of experiencing injuries. Quality of life measures for people with dementia, their families and staff appear to improve at long term care facilities with therapeutic gardens.

Benefits to communities

Well-designed environments can encourage social interaction and facilitate the building of well-connected communities. Good natural landscaping encourages greater use of outdoor areas by residents and well managed green common spaces are very important in promoting the development of social ties in housing developments. Studies have shown that more social activities occurred in green common spaces than treeless spaces of the same size. Older adults who have more exposure to green common spaces report a stronger sense of unity among residents and a stronger sense of belonging to the neighbourhood. There is less graffiti, vandalism and littering in outdoor spaces with natural landscapes than in comparable plant-less spaces and residents in these areas also report fewer acts of domestic aggression, property crime and violence.

Protecting us from extreme weather events, air and noise pollution

Natural landscaping can help mitigate the threats to our health from air and noise pollution, flooding and heat waves. Urban greening is the process of landscaping developed areas to incorporate green infrastructure such as trees, green walls, green roofs and drainage measures.

Climate change is bringing more extreme weather events such as the heat wave that resulted in an extra 35,000 deaths across Europe in 2003 [53]. The risk to health of heat waves is particularly

marked in urban areas which are prone to the 'urban heat island' effect - a phenomenon where built up areas absorb and trap heat meaning temperatures can be as much as 5° Celsius higher than rural surroundings.

The urban heat island effect can be mitigated by urban greening, using green roofs, green walls, living architecture and tree lined streets. Trees can help reduce the urban heat island effect and reduce air temperatures by 1-2° Celsius. The lower temperatures can reduce the risk of heat exhaustion, which is especially a risk in vulnerable populations such as the very young and older people. The shading effect of trees around buildings has also been estimated to reduce heating and cooling costs by 20% and use of air conditioning by up to 30% thus helping save costs, energy and reducing greenhouse gases. Green roofs also improve the energy efficiency of homes by offering additional insulation. Installing a green roof can reduce the need for cooling in the summer as temperatures under a green roof are up to 15°C cooler in summer. In winter temperatures under a green roof are 4.5°C warmer, reducing the need for heating. For older people, this can help with winter warmth and avoid fuel poverty.

Urban environments are also more at risk of flooding, due to surface run-off from paved over areas. Street trees are able to absorb up to 60% of rain water, with mature trees soaking up between 50 and 100 gallons of rainwater during a storm [54]. This reduces surface run-off and acts as a flood prevention measure. Green roofs offer similar flood protection as they can absorb up to 90% of rainwater. Rainwater absorbed by trees and green roofs is then released gradually, reducing the risk of flooding.

Urban greening is an effective strategy to improve health by improving air quality and reducing levels of noise pollution. Whilst all trees and greenery absorb air pollutants, the effect is greatest in built up areas where pollution is highest. The traffic on our streets and roads contributes to approximately 50% of air pollutants, with the highest levels in built up areas. Urban trees and greenery are able to improve air quality by absorbing airborne particulates and can cut pollution from fine particulate matter by as much as 25% [55].

It is not only air pollution that urban greening can improve. The insulation properties of green roofs extend to noise insulation, with some green roofs able to reduce noise in the home from external

sounds by up to half. Living on a street with trees can also help to reduce the level noise pollution by creating a natural sound barrier.

It is estimated that the direct health impact of noise pollution costs the UK economy over £1 billion per year. Noise pollution is associated with poor sleep and stress, increased blood pressure and increased risk of conditions such as heart attack, stroke and dementia. Children exposed to noise have poorer concentration and for every 5 decibel increase in average noise that children are exposed to, reading age decreases by two months.

Using urban greening to improve health and wellbeing

In addition to the benefits described above in relation to reducing impacts of heat events, flooding and noise, residents living in areas with trees have a stronger sense of community and experience less crime and have a greater life expectancy. Living on a street with 10 extra trees improves happiness to the same extent as being seven years younger.

Residents living in housing with nearby trees and greenery have been shown to be more able to cope with major life events compared to those living in homes with more barren surroundings e.g. surrounded by concrete. Green walls also offer the opportunity to provide greenery in very small spaces, using vertical surfaces to grow plants. Green walls can also be effective ways of bringing the natural environment into indoor spaces, offering the benefits to people whilst they are inside. Having greenery indoors in hospitals and schools can improve recovery times for patients and reduce symptoms from conditions such as attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder among children.

The visual impact of green walls in public places can lower blood pressure, reduce stress and promote physical activity through creating an alluring and inviting environment. Green walls and greenery in workplaces has been linked to increased productivity, reduce common symptoms such as cough and tiredness and has been linked to improving health and food literacy.

Urban greening can also offer benefits to employees, employers and the economy. Studies have shown that having views of nearby nature can improve worker productivity and reduce stress and potentially reduce sickness absence.

Healthy Food

Introduction

Both the quality and the quantity of food and drink that we consume are important factors in determining our health. Poor diet contributes to 30% of all early death and disability in the UK [56]. A poor diet increases the risk of becoming overweight and obese, developing diabetes, suffering from heart disease or stroke and increases the risk of a range of cancers, fractures in later life and complications during pregnancy that may result in poorer outcomes for the baby.

In the South East of England, poor diet contributes to nearly 70% of disability and early death associated with heart disease, nearly half of disability and early death for diabetes, and more than a third of early death and disability due to stroke [57].



88



Poor diet accounts for nearly 70% of heart diseases in the South East of England

Key facts:

For diabetes, poor diet contributes to nearly half of disability and early death

More than a third of early death and disability caused by stroke is due to poor diet in the South East. [57]

Obesity is one of the main results of eating an unhealthy diet. Since the early 1990s, across England, there has been an increase in the proportion of adults considered overweight or obese, rising from 47% in 1991 to 61.3% in 2015/16. Obesity results from an energy imbalance between the amount we take in and the amount we expend. Our bodies are excellent at efficiently capturing energy from the food we eat and conserving it. As a result, weight management programmes focus primarily on the amount of food we eat compared to the amount of exercise we take. However, evidence suggests that people underestimate the amount of calories that they eat by as much as 1000 calories per day [59].

Key facts:

In Bucks nearly one in every four (23.4%) children aged 5 years has at least one decayed, missing or filled tooth (dmft).

Buckinghamshire Children aged five with any signs of dental disease have on average three teeth that are decayed, missing or filled.

Obesity is becoming an issue at earlier ages. Being overweight or obese in childhood greatly increases the risk of being an unhealthy weight in adulthood. Furthermore, by affecting people at an earlier age there is an increase in the length of time that the individual is overweight or obese and therefore at greater risk of developing complications.

Key facts:

More than one in every 15 children in reception year in Bucks is obese (6.5%), equivalent to 391 children.

Excess weight (overweight or obese) affects more than 1000 children in reception year in Bucks, equivalent to nearly one in every six children (18%).

At year 6 (10-11 years) in Bucks nearly one out of every seven children is obese (14.6%) and more than a quarter are either overweight or obese (27.2%). This is equivalent to 744 obese children and 1384 overweight or obese children.

Consuming too much sugar can cause weight gain and increases the risk of conditions like diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and dementia and is also one of the main causes of dental decay. Soft drinks (excluding fruit juices) are the largest single source of sugar for both adults and children providing 29% of the total sugar intake in children aged 11-18 years. For every additional sugar sweetened drink consumed per day, the risk of developing high blood pressure increases by 8%, whilst the risk of developing heart disease increases by 17% [58]. Drinking sugary drinks is also one of the main causes of dental decay in children. One in four children aged five and 12 years have dental decay and this is associated with a range of negative impacts. If everyone in England achieved the recommendation of only 5% of energy intake from sugars, the estimated savings to the NHS would be between £396-576m per year [61].

Eating a diet high in saturated fats is a major contributor to higher levels of cholesterol. Reducing saturated fat intake can help reduce cholesterol and it is estimated that if cholesterol levels were 10% lower across the whole of the UK, there would be approximately 25,000 fewer deaths every year [57].

Eating a diet high in fruit and vegetables reduces the risk of heart disease and stroke by as much as 30% [61]. Switching to a diet high in fruit and vegetables, replacing fatty foods, has also been shown to reduce blood pressure by as much as medication.

The environment and communities in which people live affects their access to healthy affordable food and influences their eating patterns.

The evidence

Eating foods from out of the home food outlets

Food bought from out of home food outlets is generally considered to be less healthy than food prepared in the home, with higher levels of sugar, fat and salt. In addition to this, portion sizes bought from out of the home food outlets tend to be larger [62].

Currently, over a quarter of adults (27%) have at least one meal per week that is bought from an out of home food outlet, either from a takeaway or restaurant. Research suggests that increased access to healthier food retail outlets is associated with increased weight in the general population and increased obesity and unhealthy eating behaviours in children living in low income areas. There is an association between the density of takeaway food outlets and areas of deprivation with higher densities of takeaway food outlets in more deprived areas. This issue is exacerbated by the trend towards purchasing fresh food from out of town or edge of town super markets rather than local providers. This has resulted in the phenomenon known as food deserts, which are more common in deprived communities [63].

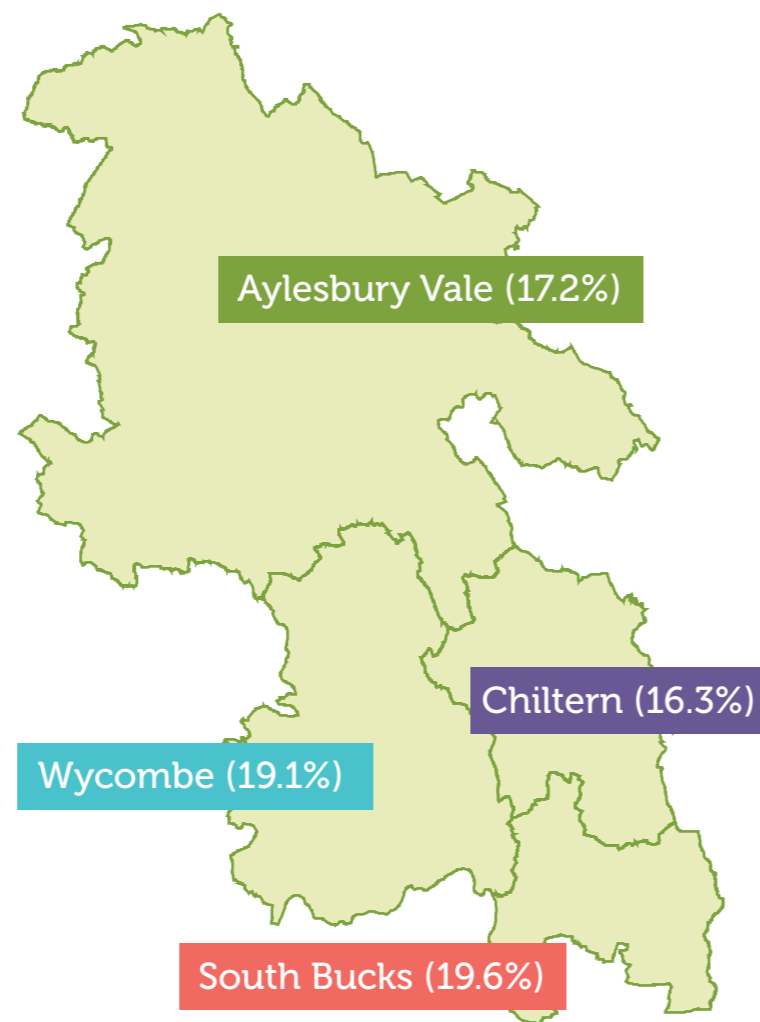
Evidence suggests that increased access to outlets selling healthier food is associated with improvements in diet and adult weight [64]. There is also evidence that providing healthy affordable food in schools is associated with improved healthier food sales, dietary behaviours and better nutrition.

There are nearly 200 fast food outlets in Buckinghamshire. However, this is likely to be a conservative estimate with some shops and restaurants also selling fast food. The highest density of fast food outlets (number of outlets per 100,000 people) is in Wycombe (64) followed by Chiltern (50) and Aylesbury Vale (49.8). South Bucks has the lowest density of fast food outlets (39.4). This compares to an average density across England of 88 fast food outlets per 100,000 people [65].

Key facts:

Among children in year 6 (10-11 years) the highest levels of excess weight are in Aylesbury Vale (28.8%), followed by South Bucks (28.5%), Wycombe (26.8%), Chiltern (23.7%)

Among adults the highest levels of overweight and obesity are in Aylesbury Vale (64.0%) followed by Wycombe (60.7%), South Bucks (54.7%) and Chiltern (52.1%)



Levels of excess weight vary by area. Among children in reception year (4-5 years) the highest levels of excess weight are in South Bucks (19.6%), followed by Wycombe (19.1%), Aylesbury Vale (17.2%), Chiltern (16.3%)

Home and locally grown foods

Community gardens and allotments offer a range of health benefits. Locally grown foods on personal and community allotments and gardens are predominantly fruits and vegetables. Growing food locally has been shown to support people to have a more balanced diet and achieve the recommended five portions of fruit and vegetables per day.

Gardening also offers opportunities to take exercise and is a great way to get outdoors and be active. Depending on the level of exertion, gardening and working on an allotment count as moderate or vigorous intensity physical activity as well as strengthening exercises. This means that gardening and working on an allotment can help adults achieve the recommendation of 150 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity and lower the risks from conditions such as heart disease and stroke.

A common reason for people not to have a healthy diet is that they are unsure what food to eat as well as lacking confidence in preparing healthier meals. Growing your own food has also been shown to increase food and health literacy, overcoming these barriers and enabling people to improve their diets. This is particularly important in childhood and schemes teaching children to grow food in

a community garden or allotments have shown improvements in food literacy [66] and reductions in overweight and obesity [67].

The mental health benefits of allotment gardening include lower levels of stress and depression through being immersed in nature, engaging with the natural environment and viewing green space. Community allotments can be used as 'horticultural therapy', and have been shown to support people with chronic pain, dementia and long term mental health conditions.

There are a number of wider benefits from allotments and community gardens including the opportunities to socialise. Allotments have long been an important aspect of British culture as a community asset, providing a different type of meeting point than other amenities such as leisure centres, shops, food outlets and town centres. Use of community allotments has been linked to lower levels of social isolation and more community networking. Community allotments have been shown to increase social networks within communities, especially in groups at high risk such as socially excluded groups, substance misusers and people with long-term physical and mental health conditions.



Summary and Recommendations

The health and wellbeing of our population is vital for the social and economic success of Buckinghamshire. Good health helps people live a satisfying life and achieve their goals. It supports children's educational attainment, adult's ability to work and everyone's ability to participate in and contribute to community life.

This report has shown the myriad ways in which the places where we grow up, live, work, play and age impact on our mental and physical health and wellbeing. It has also highlighted that key groups are more vulnerable to the impact of poor environments particularly children, older people and people with existing health problems. In addition some groups are more often exposed to poorer environmental conditions such as people on low incomes, people living in more deprived areas, older people and those with long term conditions. Communities and neighbourhoods need to be designed with this in mind to ensure they meet the needs of all residents and ensure that everyone has a chance to live as healthy a life as possible.

The impacts of our living environments on our health are wide ranging and are felt throughout life. Where we live can influence how happy we are, whether we know our neighbours and how strong the community ties are. They can also influence how well children develop and how they do at school, crime levels, fear of crime and economic productivity.

When it comes to health the impacts are far reaching. The places and communities in which we live affect our ability to live healthy lives which has a profound impact on our risk of developing a wide range of long term conditions such as high blood pressure, obesity, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, cancer and dementia. As our population ages it is more crucial than ever that our residents age well and delay or prevent the onset of long term conditions, disability and frailty. The opportunities to be active and have access to healthy affordable food also affect the health of our children and young people. Moreover, young people growing up in strong communities are more likely to adopt positive health behaviours and resist harmful patterns of behaviour.

The places and communities in which we live influence our mental wellbeing which affects all

other aspects of our health and lives. The presence of strong social connections and community spirit can help protect mental wellbeing and reduce loneliness and social isolation. Well-designed neighbourhoods with welcoming places to meet that are accessible to all help improve social connections. Green spaces and places to be physically active also produce a wide range of mental wellbeing and physical benefits.

The places we live and work determine the quality of the air we breathe and the levels of noise we experience. There is good evidence that poor air quality increases the risk of a wide range of long term conditions and has a harmful impact on child health and development. Noise pollution also has a significant impact on physical and mental health. Significant sources of air pollution include road and rail traffic and construction so it is important that with housing growth and the significant infrastructure developments in Buckinghamshire that action is taken to mitigate the impact of air and noise pollution. Good spatial design can also help mitigate the health effects of extreme weather due to climate change e.g. heat waves and flooding. Good design and policies can also help reduce energy use and contribute to a more sustainable future.

Finally the provision of a wide range of quality affordable and adaptable housing is vital to our residents, helping them stay physically and mentally healthy throughout life and live in suitable accommodation as their needs change.

Improving the health of our residents makes good economic sense and reduces demand on health and social care and other public sector services. Improving health through improvements to the environment and community life has additional benefits as it helps Buckinghamshire remain a thriving and attractive place where people want to live and work, can contribute to reducing congestion, air and noise pollution, mitigating the impact of climate change and attract inward investment.

A wide range of stakeholders have a role in determining whether our environment is healthy. Communities have a key role to play in making places successful and attractive to live in. Other key partners include local authorities, developers,

businesses and the public and private sector working with communities, voluntary and faith groups. Much good work is already underway across Buckinghamshire to protect and improve the places we live and to strengthen communities. There are very significant opportunities for us all to work together. This includes the recent awarding of Garden Town status to Aylesbury which offers a unique chance to ensure that as the town grows we can create well planned sustainable environments and desirable communities in which to live. There are other place shaping initiatives taking place across Buckinghamshire and opportunities to share good practice across the county and beyond.

To continue and support this good work the following recommendations are for all stakeholders including communities themselves.

Recommendations

1. The promotion and protection of the health and wellbeing of everyone who lives and works in Buckinghamshire should be a major consideration when planning new developments or improving existing developments. This should be supported by health impact assessments where appropriate, to understand the impact of these changes on health and wellbeing particularly for those most vulnerable and with the greatest risk of poor health.
2. Where possible, local authorities and developers should engage communities in co-designing new developments and making improvements to existing developments. They should ensure input from a wide range of current and future residents of all ages and abilities to ensure developments work for all. The WHO 'Age Friendly' Cities guidance and UNICEF Child Friendly Cities and Communities initiative offer useful principles to inform discussions.
3. Local authorities, communities, town and parish councils and local area forums should use this report to consider how they might work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their residents, drawing on the assets in their communities and their local knowledge of what might need to change. This could include strengthening the social ties in an area, increasing community engagement and reducing social isolation or making improvements to the built and natural

environment. A useful set of questions to inform discussions is the Place Standard toolkit, using 14 questions designed to cover the physical and social aspects of a place and help determine priorities for action.

4. The public and private sector, voluntary, community and faith sector including local authorities, the NHS, schools, universities and businesses should use this report to consider how they can help improve health and wellbeing through their actions that impact on the environment and strengthen communities in Buckinghamshire. This can include the services they provide, their policies on community engagement and co-design of services with communities, travel, land use, and corporate social responsibility.
5. We should, where possible, encourage planning for new and existing developments to:
 - Be socially inclusive, welcoming and accessible to all sections of our community. Designed on a human scale for people and taking into account the needs of children and older people and those with disabilities.
 - Provide safe, welcoming indoor and outdoor public places where people can meet.
 - Encourage physical activity, active travel and access to good public transport.
 - Incorporate natural landscaping and urban greening and good access to high quality green and blue public spaces e.g. parks and community gardens that people of all ages and backgrounds can enjoy.
 - Improve access to healthy affordable food.
 - Be designed to help reduce crime.
 - Provide healthy good quality homes using lifetime home principles and affordable housing.
 - Provide good access to employment, retail and community facilities and health services which can ideally be accessed by walking or cycling through mixed land use policies.
 - Minimise the impact of climate change and minimise air, water and noise pollution.
 - Foster strong social connections and a sense of belonging and link new and existing communities effectively.

Appendix

Community Appraisal Tool

The Place Standard – How Good is Our Place?

The Place Standard is a way of assessing places. Whether the place is well-established, undergoing change, or is still being planned. The Place Standard tool provides a simple framework and allows you to think about the physical elements of a place as well as the social aspects.

The Place Standard is a tool that is used to assess the quality of a place. The tool pinpoints the assets of a place, as well as areas where a place could improve, helping to identify priorities for a particular place.

The tool is simple and free to use. It consists of 14 questions which cover both the physical and social elements of a place:

1. Can I easily walk and cycle around using good-quality routes?
2. Does public transport meet my needs?
3. Do traffic and parking arrangements allow people to move around safely and meet the community's needs?

The local Place Standard Tool is available at www.placestandard.scot/start/buckinghamshire

All responses are anonymous and will be combined with other responses to develop a spider diagram (see Figure 2) to help inform local services.

4. Do buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around?
5. Can I regularly experience good-quality natural space?
6. Can I access a range of spaces with opportunities for play and recreation?
7. Do facilities and amenities meet my needs?
8. Is there an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work?
9. Do the homes in my area support the needs of the community?
10. Is there a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people?
11. Does this place have a positive identity and do I feel I belong?
12. Do I feel safe here?
13. Are buildings and spaces well cared for?
14. Do I feel able to take part in decisions and help change things for the better?

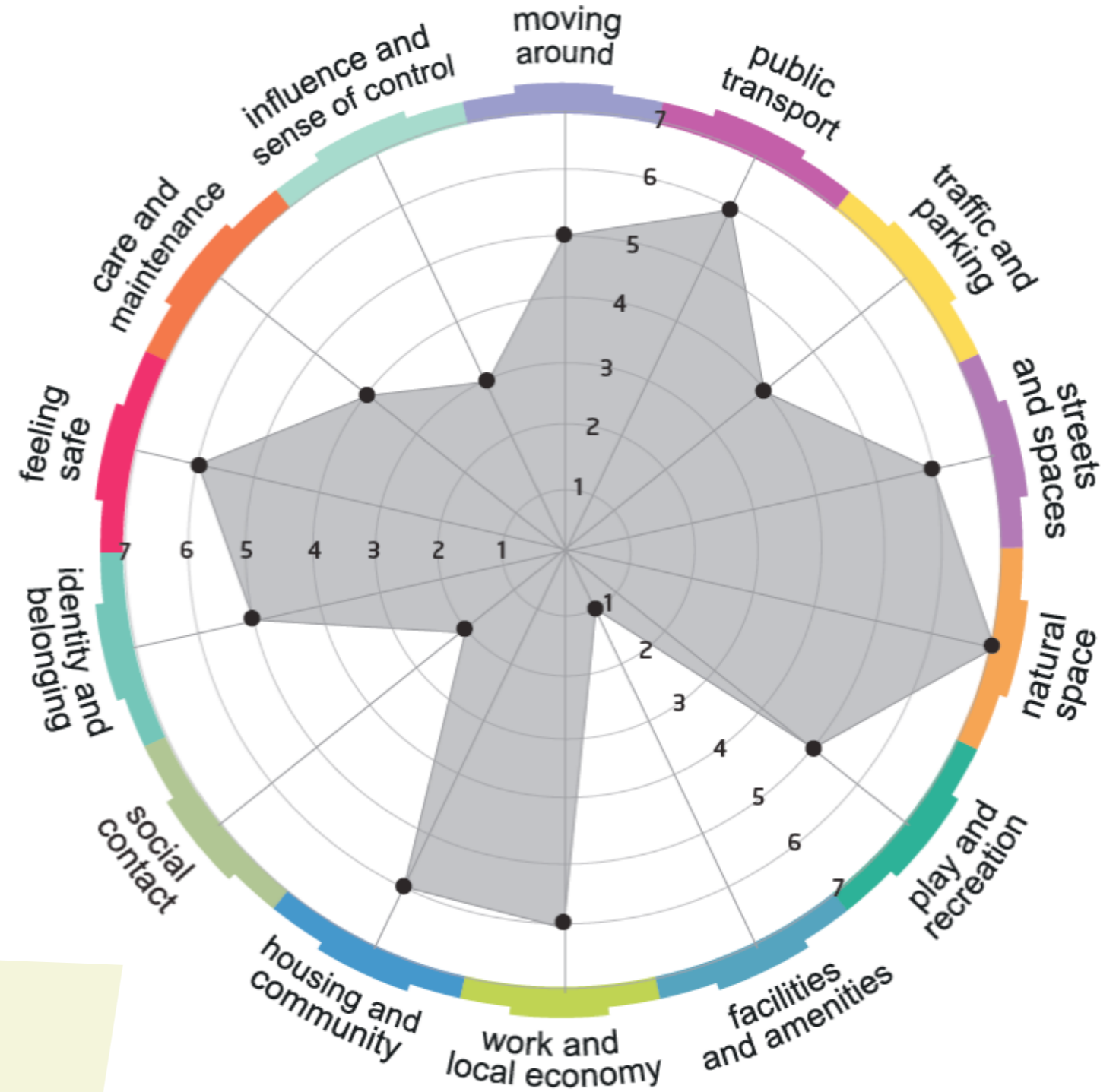
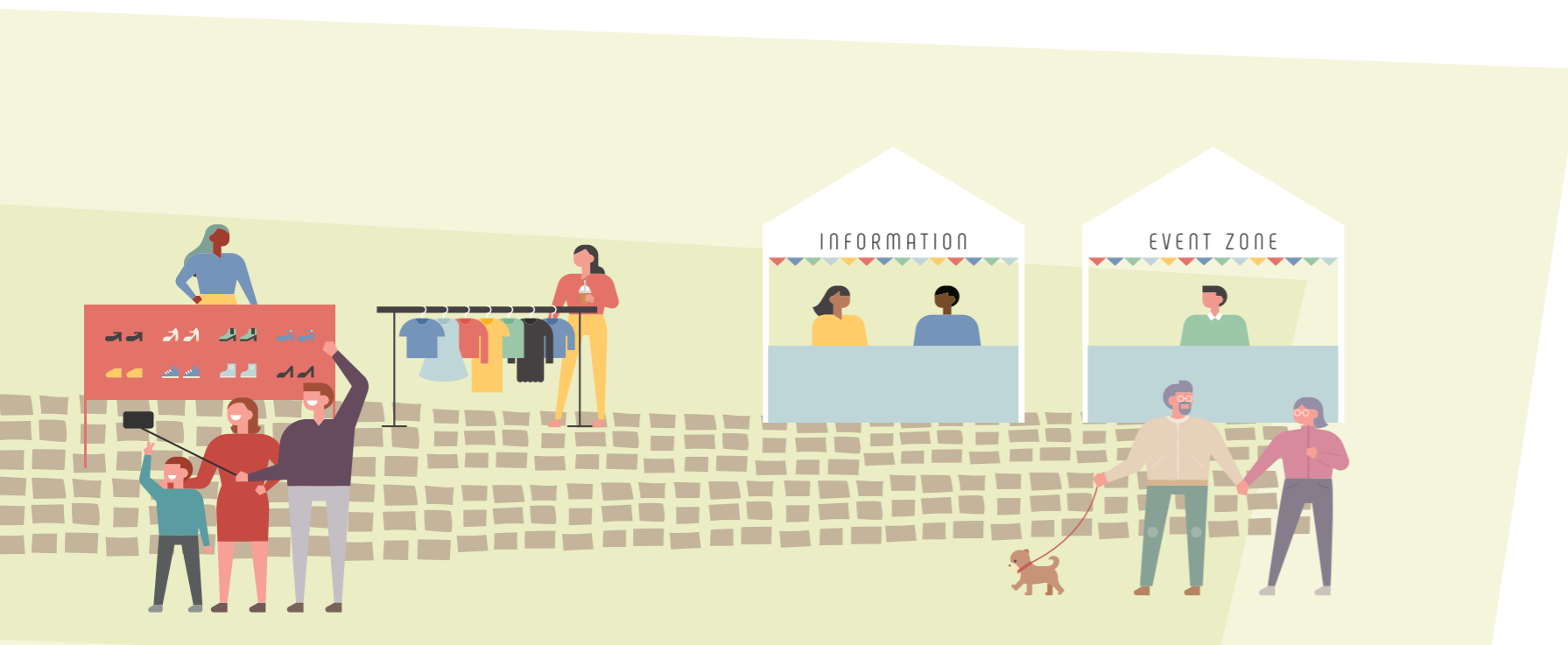


Figure 2 - Example of an assessment of a community using the Place Standard.



Appendix – Public Health Outcomes Grid

Public Health Outcomes Grid - Director of Public Health's Annual Report - Buckinghamshire 2018										
Indicator		Unit	Year	Bucks		South East	England	Time series	CIPFA Peers	
Number	Name			Count	Value				Value	Value
Overarching										
1	Healthy life expectancy at birth (Male)	Years	2014-16	-	69.4	66.1	63.3		65.9	1
2	Healthy life expectancy at birth (Female)	Years	2014-16	-	70.3	66.3	63.9		66.4	1
3	Life expectancy at birth (Male)	Years	2014-16	-	81.9	80.6	79.5		80.6	1
4	Life expectancy at birth (Female)	Years	2014-16	-	84.9	84.0	83.1		84.0	1
Wider Determinants										
5	School readiness: % children achieving good level of development at the end of reception	%	2016/17	4,791	73.5	74.0	70.7		71.8	3
6	Sickness absence - % of employees who had at least one day off in the previous week	%	2014-16	-	2.5	2.2	2.1		2.0	14
7	Killed or seriously injured casualties on England's roads	Rate per 100,000	2014-16	722	45.5	50.6	39.7		47.7	8
8	Violent crime including sexual violence - violence offences per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000	2016/17	5,788	11.0	19.4	20.0		16.6	1
9	Domestic Abuse related incidents and crimes	Rate per 1,000	2016/17	-	16.0	18.9	22.5		19.7	4
10	Social Isolation - % of adult social care users who have as much social contact as they would like	%	2016/17	-	45.1	46.6	45.4		46.4	6
11	Fuel poverty	%	2015	17,551	8.4	9.4	11.0		9.7	6
12	Children in care	Rate per 10,000	2017	455	37.0	51.0	62.0		46.5	5
Health Improvement										
13	Low birth weight of term babies	%	2016	157	2.8	2.3	2.8		2.3	16
14	Excess weight in 4-5 year olds (NCMP)	%	2016/17	1,088	18.0	21.4	22.6		21.3	2
15	Excess weight in 10-11 year olds (NCMP)	%	2016/17	1,384	27.2	30.6	34.2		30.3	3
16	Smoking Prevalence in adults - current smokers (APS)	%	2016	-	11.2	14.6	15.5		13.8	1
17	Excess weight in adults	%	2016-17	-	57.8	59.7	61.3		60.6	3
18	Adults reporting as physically inactive (<30 mins of moderate to high intensity physical activity/week 19+)	%	2016/17	-	17.5	19.3	22.2		20.1	1
19	Diabetes Prevalence (QOF)	%	2016/17	-	5.9	6.0	6.7		6.2	5
20	Admission episodes for alcohol-related conditions - narrow definition	Rate per 100,000	2016/17	2,594	502.6	525.1	636.4		584.9	4
21	Cancer screening coverage - Breast	%	2017	46,832	79.4	76.9	75.4		77.7	3
22	Cancer screening coverage - Cervical	%	2017	47,783	74.7	73.2	72.1		74.4	7
23	Cancer screening coverage - Bowel	%	2017	47,783	60.9	61.0	58.8		61.9	10
24	Cumulative % of the eligible population offered an NHS Health Check who received an NHS Health Check	%	2013/14-16/17	57,762	44.3	45.5	48.9	N/A	48.4	10
25	Self-reported wellbeing - People with a low happiness score	%	2016/17	-	6.2	7.8	8.5		7.7	4
26	Self harm in children: Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm 10-24yrs	Rate per 100,000	2016/17	294	329.2	449.3	404.6		476.5	3
27	Average difficulties score for all looked after children aged 5-16 who have been in care for at least 12 months	Score	2016/17	-	14.3	14.6	14.1		14.7	7
28	Emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm	Rate per 100,000	2016/17	657	126.3	197.3	185.3		194.9	2
29	Women 6-8 weeks post-natal with an Edinburgh Post Natal Depression Score indicative of post-natal depression	%			7.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-
30	Recorded dementia prevalence (65+)	%	Sep-17	4,333	4.3	4.2	4.3		4.2	11
31	Under 18 conceptions	Rate per 1,000	2015	101	10.4	15.0	18.8		14.8	1

Figure 3 - Buckinghamshire Public Health Outcomes Grid

Public Health Outcomes Grid - Director of Public Health's Annual Report - Buckinghamshire 2018

Number	Indicator Name	Unit	Year	Bucks		South East Value	England Value	Time series	CIPFA Peers	
				Count	Value				Mean excluding Bucks	Rank 1-5 are best 12-16 are worst
Health Protection										
32	Chlamydia detection rate (15-24) ¹	Rate per 100,000	2016	685	1,181.8	1,500.5	1,882.3		1588.9	14
33	Children in care with up to date immunisations	%	2017	285	95.3	80.9	84.6		75.4	1
34	Population vaccination coverage - Flu (aged 65+) ²	%	2016/17	70,984	71.3	70.2	70.5		71.4	10
35	Population vaccination coverage - Flu (at-risk individuals) ³	%	2016/17	27,421	48.1	48.3	48.6		48.8	10
36	HIV late diagnosis ⁴	%	2014-16	36	43.4	43.4	40.1		44.7	-
37	Incidence of TB ⁵	Rate per 100,000	2014-16	133	8.4	7.1	10.9		4.8	16
Healthcare and Premature Mortality										
38	Infant mortality	Rate per 1,000	2014-16	64	3.5	3.2	3.9		3.4	11
39	Under 75 mortality rate from all CVD	Rate per 100,000	2014-16	707	52.3	61.5	73.5		62.2	2
40	Under 75 mortality rate from all Cancers	Rate per 100,000	2014-16	1,529	112.8	126.9	136.8		124.5	1
41	Under 75 liver disease mortality considered preventable	Rate per 100,000	2014-16	123	8.8	13.2	16.1		12.3	1
42	Mortality attributable to particulate air pollution	%	2016	-	5.5	5.5	5.3		5.2	13
43	Directly Age Standardised Rate of Mortality in persons (aged 65+) with a recorded mention of dementia	Rate per 100,000	2016	731	710.7	840.7	867.6		820.3	1
44	Excess under 75 mortality rate in adults with serious mental illness (Indirectly standardised ratio)	%	2014/15	-	351.1	347.5	370.0		353.3	9
45	Suicide rate	Rate per 100,000	2014-16	97	7.2	9.8	9.9		9.6	2
46	Hip fractures in people aged 65 and over	Rate per 100,000	2016/17	580	572.6	560.4	575.0		568.2	8
47	Excess winter deaths Index - 3 years	Ratio	Aug 2013-Jul 2016	698	18.0	17.4	17.9		17.3	12
48	Mortality rate from causes considered preventable	Rate per 100,000	2014-2016	1,988.0	132.5	159.6	182.8		156.7	1

Rag Rating: 1. Red: <1,900; Amber: 1,900-2,300; Green: ≥2,300. 2. Red: <75; Green: ≥75. 3. Red: <55; Green: ≥55. 4. Green: <25; Amber: 25-50; Red: ≥50. 5. Red: >50th-percentile of UTLAs; Amber: ≤50th to >10th; Green: ≤10th.

All other indicators compared to England:
● Better ● Similar ● Worse ● Lower ● Similar ● Higher
○ Not Compared

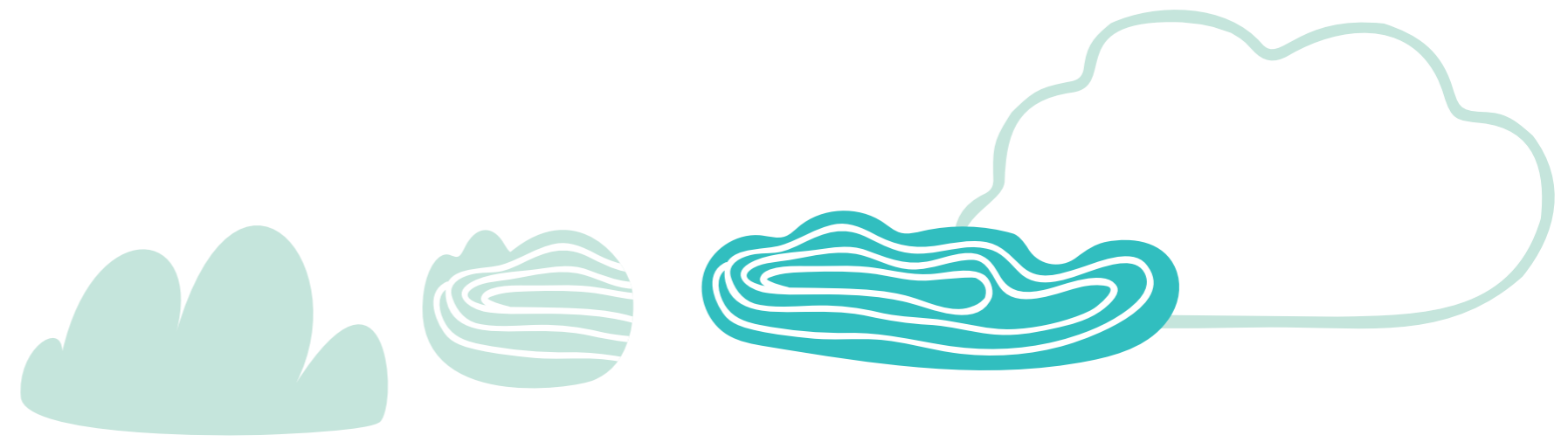


Figure 3 - Buckinghamshire Public Health Outcomes Grid

Update on recommendations from 2016 Director of Public Health Annual Report

Recommendation	Progress
1. Healthcare professionals in contact with pregnant women or new mothers should assess all the factors that could impact on the mother's, baby's and family's health and offer advice, support and referral to appropriate services. This includes lifestyle factors such as smoking, alcohol consumption, drug use, weight and healthy eating as well as mental health, exposure to domestic violence and other social factors. There is significant scope to increase referrals to support services to improve outcomes for babies, mothers and families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buckinghamshire CCG has commissioned a specialist Perinatal Mental Health service. This service has developed a perinatal mental health pathway in Buckinghamshire which is being promoted and embedded into everyday practice. The health visiting service has an infant feeding specialist now in post and the service is working towards UNICEF baby friendly status accreditation. Stage 1 of the process has been achieved and the service is currently being assessed for stage 2 accreditation. Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust (BHT) have implemented a set of actions to improve the identification, recording and referral of pregnant women with high risk lifestyle behaviours, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midwives are being supported by the CCG and healthcare providers to develop skills in delivering holistic care, including identifying high risk women and referring to appropriate services. Pathways are being developed with new providers of lifestyle services to improve referral and care.
2. Buckinghamshire County Council and partners should consider whether there is a need to develop and implement a new comprehensive strategy to support parents in Buckinghamshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 'Transition to Parenthood' pathway (from ante-natal to post-natal care) has been developed and is being implemented. The pathway for vulnerable women is in development.
3. All professionals in contact with pregnant women and families with young children should encourage parents to access universal parenting advice via the red book, national start4life website, Baby Buddy app and the Buckinghamshire Family Information Service.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Baby Buddy app has been commissioned in Bucks with the additional ability to adapt the platform to be more specific to Buckinghamshire. The app is promoted by maternity service and other stakeholders. Uptake and usage of the Baby Buddy app is regularly monitored and information is used to target its promotion in areas with higher need and poor uptake. Buckinghamshire Family Information Services provides national and local information and sources of support during maternity and parenthood is included. A local tool to support signposting to relevant information sources and services is being developed for non-healthcare staff and volunteers in contact with pregnant women and families with young children. This includes signposting for services relating to lifestyle factors, social issues, mental health concerns and domestic violence.

Recommendation	Progress
4. Commissioners and providers of maternity, early years, mental health and substance misuse services should enhance the data collected on the physical and mental health of mothers and babies, the prevalence of risk factors and referral to and outcomes of services. This should enable us to monitor progress and evaluate the impact of our services. Key data should be reported annually to the Health and Wellbeing Board.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BHT has reviewed the process of identifying and recording relevant information on pregnant women and has implemented a process to improve data accuracy and completeness. BHT is working with the new lifestyle service provider to improve data collection. The maternity and health visiting services have implemented a number of actions to improve the completeness and accuracy of data related to breastfeeding. Key indicators related to physical and mental health of mothers and babies are included in the Health and Wellbeing Board Performance Dashboard. These include indicators assessing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maternal mood Smoking status at the time of delivery Low birth weight of term babies Infant mortality.
5. Buckinghamshire County Council should work closely with schools to explore how the new RSE/ PSHE can prepare young people for a healthy and happy life and addresses emotional resilience, healthy relationships, sexual health and healthy lifestyles. One of the future benefits of this should be healthier parents and babies and healthy, planned pregnancies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A PSHE lead has been in post since December 2017. PSHE training sessions have been organised and delivered for primary and secondary PSHE school leads, and primary and secondary school PSHE forums (12 secondary and 20 primary leads plus other PSHE teachers have attended). These sessions have been facilitated by the PSHE lead and have resulted in increasing engagement from schools and improved sharing of practice and models. This will inform the report to be produced by the PSHE lead. A PSHE webpage has been set up which is available to all PSHE staff in schools. A termly newsletter is sent to schools to update them on the latest local and national updates. An increasing number of schools have joined the PSHE association which provides resources, tools and expert advice. A response to the Relationship and sex education consultation was made and the consultation was circulated to schools. The PSHE lead has encouraged schools and pupils to respond to the consultation.
6. Partners should consider how they can contribute to improving outcomes for babies, mothers and families in Buckinghamshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Health and Wellbeing Board hosted a workshop in October 2017 with over 50 delegates attending from a range of key organisations across Bucks including the councils, healthcare providers, healthcare commissioners and the voluntary and charitable sector. The workshop focussed on identifying activities that would improve outcomes for mothers, babies and families in Buckinghamshire with a particular focus on those with poorer outcomes. Individuals and organisations attending the workshop who were able to contribute to further developing and implementing activities and projects were identified and, where appropriate, engaged in the activities above.

Bibliography

- [1] Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, "State of Child Health Report 2017," RCPCH, London, 2017.
- [2] Department of Health, Department for Education, "Transforming Children and Young People's Mental Health Provision: a Green Paper," Crown, London, 2017.
- [3] M. Price, M. Knapp, M. Guerchet, P. McCrone, M. Prina, A. Comas-Herrera, R. Wittenberg, B. Adelaja, B. Hu, D. King, A. Rehill and D. Salimkumar, "Dementia UK: Second Edition - Overview," Alzheimer's Society, London, 2014.
- [4] H. Barton and M. Grant, "A health map for the local human habitat," *Journal for the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health*, vol. 126, no. 6, pp. 252-253, 2006.
- [5] Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, "Community Life Survey 2016-17," 25 July 2017. [Online]. Available: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/community-life-survey-2016-17>. [Accessed 16 March 2018].
- [6] D. Buck and S. Gregory, "Improving the public's health. A resource for local authorities," The King's Fund, London, 2013.
- [7] P. Edward and E. Dani, "Loneliness - What characteristics and circumstances are associated with feeling lonely?," Office for National Statistics, London, 2018.
- [8] Action for Children, "It starts with hello," Action for Children, Watford, 2017.
- [9] H. Griffiths, "Social isolation and loneliness in the UK with a focus on the use of technology to tackle these conditions," IoTUK, London, 2017.
- [10] Campaign to end loneliness, "Threat to health," [Online]. Available: <https://www.campaigntoendloneliness.org/threat-to-health/>. [Accessed 16 March 2018].
- [11] Department for Communities and Local Government, "The economic case for cohesion," Crown, London, 2009.
- [12] Department for Communities and Local Government, "A Decent Home: Definition and guidance for implementation," Crown, London, 2006.
- [13] Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, "Annual Fuel Poverty Statistics Report, 2017 (2015 Data)," Crown, London, 2017.
- [14] K. B. G. Dear and A. J. McMichael, "The health impacts of cold homes and fuel poverty," *British Medical Journal*, p. 342, 2011.
- [15] Marmot Review Team, "The health impacts of cold homes and fuel poverty," Friends of the Earth, London, 2011.
- [16] Public Health England, "Fuel poverty and cold home-related health problems," Crown, London, 2014.
- [17] Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, "English Housing Survey," 25 February 2015. [Online]. Available: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/english-housing-survey>. [Accessed 16 February 2018].
- [18] Public Health England, "Reducing unintentional injuries in and around the home among children under five years," Crown, London, 2018.
- [19] The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, "Facts and Figures in Home Safety," RSPA, [Online]. Available: <https://www.rospace.com/home-safety/advice/general/facts-and-figures/>. [Accessed 16 February 2018].
- [20] H. Garrett and S. Burris, "Homes and ageing in England," BRE Trust, Watford, 2015.
- [21] Shelter, "Full house? How overcrowded housing affects families," Shelter, London, 2005.
- [22] Homeless Link, "The unhealthy state of homelessness," Homeless Link, London, 2014.
- [23] Crisis, "Homelessness: A silent killer," Crisis, London, 2011.
- [24] L. Cairncross, "Environment, Active Ageing and the Built," Housing Learning & Improvement Network, Oxford, 2016.
- [25] Public Health England, "Change4Life Evidence Review: Rapid evidence review on the effect of physical activity participation among children aged 5-11 years," Crown, London, 2015.
- [26] A. Davis, "Claiming the Health Dividend: A summary and discussion of value for money estimates from studies of investment in walking and cycling," Crown, London, 2014.
- [27] A. Davis, "Impact of changes in mode of travel to work on changes in body weight," Bristol City Council, Bristol, 2015.
- [28] C. Celis-Morales, D. Lyall, P. Welsh, J. Anderson, L. Steell, Y. Guo, R. Maldonado, D. Mackay, J. P. Pell, N. Sattar and J. Gill, "Association between active commuting and incident cardiovascular disease, cancer, and mortality: prospective cohort study," *British Medical Journal*, vol. 357, p. j1456, 2017.
- [29] Sustrans, "Bike Life: Summary Report 2017," Sustrans, 2017.
- [30] Cycling UK, "Cycling and Health," Cycling UK, Guildford, 2017.
- [31] Public Health Wales NHS Trust, "Doorstep to desk: Helping more children to walk or cycle to school," 2017. [Online]. Available: <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/888/D2D%20infographic.pdf>. [Accessed 16 February 2018].
- [32] J. E. Brody, "Commuting's hidden cost," *New York Times*, 28 October 2013. [Online]. Available: <https://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/10/28/commutings-hidden-cost/>. [Accessed 12 January 2018].
- [33] Z. Rodionova, "Long commutes 'increase risk of depression, obesity and damaging employees' productivity,'" *The Independent*, 22 May 2017. [Online]. Available: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/long-commutes-work-employee-depression-obesity-productivity-workers-research-travel-a7749206.html>. [Accessed 12 January 2018].
- [34] A. Stutzer and B. S. Frey, "Stress that doesn't pay: The commuting paradox," IZA, Bonn, 2004.
- [35] S. Claris, D. Scopelliti, C. Luebkehan and J. Hargrave, "Cities Alice: Towards a walking world," Arup, London, 2016.
- [36] "INRIX Global Traffic Scorecard," INRIX, Altrincham, 2018.
- [37] T. Harvey, "A review of current traffic calming techniques," [Online]. Available: http://www.its.leeds.ac.uk/projects/primavera/p_calming.html. [Accessed 12 January 2018].
- [38] Department for Transport, "Traffic Calming; Local Transport Note 1/07," TSO, London, 2007.
- [39] National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, "Air pollution: outdoor air quality and health. Draft evidence review 2 on: Traffic management and enforcement, and financial incentives and disincentives," NICE, London, 2016.
- [40] World Health Organisation, "Air pollution," [Online]. Available: <http://www.who.int/sustainable-development/transport/health-risks/air-pollution/en/>. [Accessed 12 January 2018].
- [41] G. Hitchcock, B. Conlan, D. Kay, C. Brannigan and D. Newman, "Air quality and road transport: Impacts and solutions," RAC Foundation, London, 2014.
- [42] Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, "Air pollution in the UK 2016," DEFRA, Crown, 2017.
- [43] Victoria Transport Policy Institute, "Evaluating Public Transportation Health Benefits," Victoria Transport Policy Institute, 2010.
- [44] C. Rissel, N. Curac, M. Greenaway and A. Bauman, "Physical Activity Associated with Public Transport Use - A review and Modelling of Potential Benefits," *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, vol. 9, no. 7, pp. 2454-2478, 2012.
- [45] M. Cepeda, J. Schoufour, R. Freak-Poli, C. M. Koolhaas, K. Dhana, W. Bramer and O. Franco, "Levels of ambient air pollution according to mode of transport: a systematic review," *The Lancet Public Health*, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. e23-34, 2016.
- [46] S. Vardoulakis, "Understanding the impact of particulate air pollution," Public Health England, London, 2015.
- [47] Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, "Air Quality - A briefing for Directors of Public Health," Crown, London, 2017.
- [48] Department of Health, "Cardiovascular Disease and Air Pollution: A report by the Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollution," Department of Health, London, 2006.
- [49] Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, "List of Local Authorities with AQMAS," [Online]. Available: <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/list>. [Accessed 24 April 2018].
- [50] Health Protection Agency, "Environmental Noise and Health in the UK," Health Protection Agency, 2009.
- [51] Natural England, "Health and Natural Environments - An evidence based information pack," Natural England, 2012.
- [52] A. Davis, "Green spaces and cognitive development in primary school children," Bristol City Council, Bristol, 2015.
- [53] A. Dzhambov, D. Dimitrova and E. Dimitrakova, "Association between residential greenness and birth weight: Systematic review and meta-analysis," *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening*, vol. 13, pp. 621-629, 2014.
- [54] Met Office, "Urban Heat Islands," Met Office, Exeter, 2012.
- [55] J. Fazio, "How trees can retain stormwater runoff," Arbor Day Foundation, Nebraska City.

[56] L. Bliss, "The Big Green Payoff from bigger Urban Forests," City Lab, 31 October 2016. [Online]. Available: <https://www.citylab.com/design/2016/10/the-big-green-payoff-from-bigger-urban-forests/505913/>.

[57] Faculty of Public Health, "Food Poverty and Health," Faculty of Public Health, London.

[58] Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, "GBD Compare | Viz Hub," 2016. [Online]. Available: <https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/>. [Accessed 16 March 2018].

[59] The Guardian, "Britons under-reporting calorie intake: tell us how much you really eat," 8 August 2016. [Online]. Available: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/aug/08/britons-under-reporting-calorie-intake-tell-us-how-much-you-really-eat>. [Accessed 16 February 2018].

[60] B. Xi, Y. Huang, K. H. Reilly, R. Zheng, M. T. Barrio-Lopez, M. A. Martinez-Gonzalez and D. Zhou, "Sugar-sweetened beverages and risk of hypertension and CVD: a dose-response meta-analysis," *British Journal of Nutrition*, vol. 113, no. 5, pp. 709-717, 2015.

[61] A. Tedstone, V. Targett and R. Allen, "Sugar Reduction. The evidence for action," Public Health England, London, 2015.

[62] Harvard T.H.Chan School of Public Health, "Vegetables and Fruit," [Online]. Available: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/nutritionsource/what-should-you-eat/vegetables-and-fruits/>. [Accessed 12 January 2018].

[63] Public Health England, "Health Matters: obesity and the food environment," 31 March 2017. [Online]. Available: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-obesity-and-the-food-environment/health-matters-obesity-and-the-food-environment--2>. [Accessed 12 January 2018].

[64] N. Wrigley, "Food Deserts in British Cities. Non-technical summary," Economic and Social Research Council, Swindon, 2005.

[65] Public Health England, "Spatial planning for health: evidence review," PHE, London, 2017.

[66] N. Cavill and H. Rutter, "Obesity and the environment: regulating the growth of fast food outlets," Crown, London, 2013.

[67] J. Korchmaros and K. Haverly, "Community and school garden program. Executive Summary of Evaluation Findings Spring 2017," The University of Arizona, Tuscon, 2017.

[68] A. Egorov, P. Mudu, M. Braubach and M. Martuzzi, "Urban green spaces and health. A review of the evidence," World Health Organisation, Copenhagen, 2016.



Director of Public Health Annual Report

Healthy Places, Healthy Futures – Growing Great Communities

Executive Summary

1. The places and communities in which we live influence our health and wellbeing throughout life, the development and educational attainment of our children and young people, and the social and economic success of Buckinghamshire. This year's Director of Public Health Annual Report focuses on the importance of the physical and social environments in which we live to our health and wellbeing. The report covers the health of Buckinghamshire residents and some key factors affecting our current and future health. It highlights how positively shaping the places we live can help reduce the health and wellbeing challenges facing our residents throughout life. The report focuses on six areas of the physical and social environment that play an important role in health and wellbeing: community life; housing; healthy travel; pollution; healthy food; and the natural environment. It also identifies that certain groups are more likely to be exposed to adverse environmental conditions such as damp or cold housing, air and noise pollution and that children, older people and people with existing poor health are more vulnerable to the impacts of adverse conditions.

2. Health in Buckinghamshire

2.1 Buckinghamshire residents are some of the healthiest in the country but too many people are still living with potentially preventable ill health and disability and dying prematurely from preventable diseases. In addition not all residents enjoy the same levels of good health.

2.2 Life expectancy is increasing but not all those extra years are lived in good health. Healthy life expectancy is approximately 69.4 years for men and 70.3 years for women. Healthy life expectancy is 12 years shorter for men and 14 years shorter for women than life expectancy.

2.3 People living in our more deprived wards have poorer health and lower life expectancy and healthy life expectancy than the rest of Buckinghamshire. The life expectancy gap between wards is 12 years for men and 16 years for women and a similar pattern is seen for healthy life expectancy.

2.4 Many of the commonest causes of ill health and early death are long term conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, cancer, strokes and dementia and a significant proportion of these conditions are preventable. The chances of developing these conditions is influenced by the lives we lead, the places and communities in which we live, learn and work and the health related behaviours we adopt such as being physically active, eating healthily, not smoking or drinking too much alcohol. As people age they tend to develop more long term conditions but this is not inevitable as adopting healthy lifestyles can prevent or delay the onset of a wide range of long term conditions.

2.5 Over the next 20-25 years the number of people aged 65 years and over in Buckinghamshire is set to increase by 60,000 which will increase the numbers of people living with long term conditions and disability unless we age more healthily. Although some health related behaviours

have improved other behaviours have not. More than 6 in 10 adults are overweight or obese in Buckinghamshire and “millennials” (people born between early 1980s and late 1990s typically) are set to be the most obese generation on record with more than 7 in 10 overweight or obese by the age of 35-44 years. Overweight and obesity are driven by poor diet and low levels of physical activity and are key risk factors for a wide range of long term conditions including diabetes, heart disease, stroke, some cancers and dementia.

2.6 Good mental health is a vital resource for life and also an important driver of physical health. It is estimated that 1 in 8 men and 1 in 5 women in Buckinghamshire have a common mental health problem such as anxiety or depression. People with poorer mental health are also at increased risk of poorer physical health. Poor physical health can also adversely affect mental health.

2.7 Loneliness and social isolation are increasingly recognised as raising the risk of developing depression and anxiety but also heart disease, stroke, dementia and early death. National estimates suggest that 1 in 20 people feel lonely often or all the time and that loneliness affects all ages with some surveys reporting loneliness to be highest in 16-24 year olds.

2.8 Children and young people make up one quarter of the Buckinghamshire population. Although children and young people in Buckinghamshire tend to be healthier than the national average there is no room for complacency as UK children’s outcomes are worse than in many other wealthy European countries.

2.9 Low levels of physical activity and unhealthy eating in young people in Buckinghamshire are leading to overweight and obesity that can lead to poorer physical and mental health in childhood and adulthood. There are also rising concerns around children’s and young people’s mental health and wellbeing. In Buckinghamshire it is estimated that 1 in 13 children and young people aged 5-16 years have a clinically diagnosable mental health disorder.

2.10 Children and young people are particularly vulnerable to threats to their health from adverse social and environmental conditions both from before birth and as they grow up.

3. Community life and wellbeing

3.1 The communities in which we grow up, live, work and play profoundly affect our happiness, physical and mental health and our chances of success in life.

3.2 Having supportive social networks, being able to participate in community life and having a voice in local decisions play a vital contribution to health and wellbeing.

3.3 People who have strong social networks tend to live longer and have better mental and physical health than those who don’t. Conversely social isolation and loneliness is linked to a range of physical and mental health problems. People experiencing social isolation are more likely to visit their GP, attend accident and emergency departments and be admitted to hospital as an emergency and three and a half times more likely to enter local authority funded residential care. Social isolation and loneliness can affect anyone at any age but there are risk factors that help predict who may be more likely to become socially isolated or feel lonely e.g. children in care, people with ill

health or disability, bereavement, living alone, caring responsibilities. Strong cohesive communities can reduce levels of social isolation and loneliness, help lower levels of crime, social disorder and depression.

3.4 Young people growing up in communities with positive role models and social norms are less likely to participate in health harming behaviours and more likely to engage in health promoting behaviours.

3.5 The strength and cohesiveness of communities is reliant on the people who live in them. However planning, policies and design can make it easier for people to meet, make friends and get involved in their communities. Good design can help by creating safe, attractive multi-use indoor and outdoor spaces that are accessible and welcoming for everyone to use to make it easy for people to meet informally and connect with friends and neighbours. Involving a wide range of users of all ages in the design of public spaces can improve wellbeing, foster a sense of community and place and is more likely to result in spaces that people will use and care for. People who live in environments that encourage people to walk or cycle rather than using the car are more positive about the places they live and engage more in community life. Good design can also reduce the levels of crime in an area and make people feel safer. This helps encourage more people to get out into their community and reduces social isolation.

3.6 A strong programme of cultural and social activities co-designed with residents also helps develop cohesive communities and foster a sense of place and pride in an area and can benefit health and wellbeing at all ages.

4. Healthy Homes

4.1 The ability to stay healthy and independent, access and maintain education, training and employment and contribute to community life depends on having a safe, affordable and stable place to live.

4.2 The affordability of housing is a key issue for Buckinghamshire. House prices in Buckinghamshire are among the highest in the country and rents are also higher than the national average. A lack of affordable housing can lead to financial hardship and stress, overcrowding and in the most severe cases homelessness. Families living in overcrowded housing can experience a range of health problems and strained family relationships. Their children are also at risk of emotional problems, developmental delay and difficulty studying.

4.3 Poor housing conditions such as housing in poor repair, being cold or damp or having poor indoor air quality are linked to poorer physical and mental health, poorer educational attainment, accidents, higher hospital admissions and excess winter deaths. Children and older people and those with long term conditions or disability are particularly vulnerable to poor housing conditions. Poor quality homes cost the NHS at least £1.4bn and wider society over £18.6bn per year nationally.

4.4 Home improvements have been shown to improve health outcomes particularly for older people and those living with long term conditions on lower incomes.

4.5 Homes also need to be designed to be flexible and to be able to be adapted to peoples changing needs throughout life, enabling them to remain safe and independent in their own home as they age. A range of well-designed property types to meet a range of needs including the needs of people with specific disabilities is essential to keep people healthy and independent. The benefits include reducing the need for health and social care, enabling timely discharge from hospital and rapid recovery from ill health. This is important now and for the future with the predicted growth in our older population.

4.6 Ensuring neighbourhoods are also designed to meet the needs of all ages from the very young to the very old and people with disabilities is also important to maintaining good health and ensuring everyone can participate in community life and access the services and facilities they need.

5. Healthy Travel

5.1 We travel for work and play, to get to school, shops and other services, but how we travel and for how long and how far has significant implications for our health, the health of others and society as a whole.

5.2 Active travel such as walking and cycling improves our health through promoting physical activity but also by reducing air and noise pollution, increasing community connections and making communities safer. Active travel improves our mood, reduces stress and reduces the risk of developing many long term conditions including diabetes, heart disease, cancer, high blood pressure and obesity. Active travel also reduces congestion, absenteeism and boosts economic productivity. Communities where more people walk and cycle are healthier, safer and have better social connections.

5.3 Motor vehicles have enabled people to travel further for work, school and leisure but the benefits need to be weighed against the harms. Long commutes have a detrimental effect on health and wellbeing. They are associated with higher levels of stress, anxiety, depression, higher blood pressure, higher weight, risk of diabetes and cardiovascular disease. They also reduce the amount of time people have for recreational activities, cooking, sleeping and participating in community life. Effects are seen even with commutes of 10 miles one way. In Buckinghamshire the average commuter travels nearly 11 miles each way to work which is longer than the England and South East average.

5.4 Motor vehicles are a major contributor to noise and air pollution which is detrimental to health and children's development.

5.5 Road accidents are also a significant source of early death and disability, especially among younger age groups, claiming 21 lives and over 200 serious injuries each year in Buckinghamshire.

5.6 Good public transport links benefit people who cannot drive due to age or disability and reduces travel costs for all. People using public transport increase their levels of physical activity and have lower stress and exposure to air pollution compared to car travel.

5.7 Designing places to support active travel and good public transport will improve the health and wellbeing of communities. A key facilitator of healthy travel is designing places where houses, employment opportunities, shops, leisure and amenities are close together, reducing the need to travel long distances and ensuring places are connected by safe and attractive walking and cycling routes and public transport so that people have a range of travel options.

6. Air and noise pollution

6.1 Air pollution is the most significant environmental hazard to health. Exposure to air pollutants increases the risk of lung cancer and other lung diseases, cardiovascular disease and increases the risk of death. There is also emerging evidence that long term exposure to air pollution is linked to low birthweight and poorer development in children and the progression of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases.

6.2 Short term episodes of high air pollution are linked to a rise in heart attacks, strokes and exacerbations of lung problems and increased emergency admissions to hospital.

6.3 Many of the air pollutants impacting on health result from road traffic and in urban areas where pollution is a problem, 80% of pollution arises from road traffic. The eight air quality management areas in Buckinghamshire all relate to the road network.

6.4 Children, older people and those with existing cardiovascular or lung disease are more vulnerable to the effects of air pollution.

6.5 Excessive noise impacts on health through sleep disturbance and increased stress and is linked to increased blood pressure and increased risk of conditions such as heart disease and stroke as well as poorer educational attainment in children.

7. Green spaces and the natural environment

7.1 Being in contact with the natural environment is vital for our physical and mental health and wellbeing at all ages.

7.2 People with access to green spaces have better self-reported health and are more likely to be physically active and be a healthy weight.

7.3 Exposure to green spaces reduces stress levels and depression and caring for natural landscapes has been shown to improve health and depressive symptoms.

7.4 Patients in hospital recovering from surgery who have views of green and open spaces have a shorter recovery time and lower levels of pain and anxiety.

7.5 Every 10% increase in green space is associated with a reduction in disease equivalent to a gain of 5 years of life

7.6 Green spaces are beneficial for children’s play and physical activity and exposure to green spaces within and around schools improves children’s attention, learning and educational attainment. Children living in deprived areas with more green spaces were less likely to be overweight and obese than children living in comparable areas with less green space.

7.7 People walk more and socialise more in areas where there are more green spaces and trees which helps to build community ties and reduce social isolation. In addition there is less graffiti vandalism and littering in outdoor spaces with natural landscapes than in comparable plant-less spaces and residents report fewer acts of aggression and violence in these areas.

7.8 Urban greening incorporates green infrastructure such as trees, green walls and roofs and natural drainage measures. This can protect human health by reducing the heat island effect of towns and reducing the impact of heatwaves which can harm the health of the very young and older people particularly. Urban greening can also reduce air pollution by absorbing pollutants and create natural sound barriers reducing noise pollution too. Trees and green roofs also reduce flood risk by absorbing water.

8. Healthy food

8.1 The quality and quantity of the food and drink that we consume are important contributors to our health. A poor diet increases the risk of becoming overweight or obese, developing diabetes, heart disease, stroke, some types of cancer and dementia and contributes to 30% of years lived in disability and early deaths. For every additional sugar sweetened drink consumed per day the risk of developing high blood pressure increases by 8% and the risk of developing heart disease increases by 17%.

8.2 Trends in food consumption show that we are eating more meals out of the home and these are often in larger portions and less healthy when compared to food cooked in the home. Research suggests that access to unhealthier food retail outlets is associated with increased weight in the general population and increased obesity and unhealthy eating in children living in low income areas. In addition there is often a higher density of takeaway food outlets in areas of higher deprivation and these communities can often have limited access to alternative options.

8.3 Increased access to outlets selling healthier food is associated with improvements in diet and adult weight. Providing healthy affordable food in schools is associated with better dietary behaviours and nutrition.

8.4 Growing your own food, in a private or community garden or allotment has many benefits. It has been shown to improve people’s diet, reduce overweight and obesity in children, lower levels of stress and depression and increase physical activity through gardening. Community allotments and gardens are an important asset and have also been shown to increase social networks and can support the wellbeing of people with long term physical and mental health conditions and socially excluded groups.

9. Summary and recommendations

9.1 Good health helps people live rewarding lives and achieve their goals. It supports children's educational attainment, adult's ability to work and everyone's ability to participate in and contribute to community life. The health and wellbeing of our population is vital for the social and economic success of Buckinghamshire. Planning for and investing in the health of our population should be regarded as vital as investing in the infrastructure of our county and take the same long term view.

9.2 This report has shown the myriad ways in which the places where we grow up, live, work, play and age impact on our mental and physical health and wellbeing. It has also highlighted that key groups are more vulnerable to the impact of less healthy environments particularly children, older people and people with existing health problems. In addition some groups are more often exposed to poorer environmental conditions such as people on low incomes, people living in more deprived areas, older people and those with long term conditions. Communities and neighbourhoods need to be designed with this in mind to ensure they meet the needs of all residents and ensure that everyone has a chance to live as healthy a life as possible.

9.3 The impacts of our living environments are wide ranging and are felt throughout life. Where we live can influence how happy we are, whether we know our neighbours and how strong the community ties are and our opportunities to live healthy lives. It can also influence how well children develop and how they do at school, crime levels, fear of crime and economic productivity. All these factors interact and influence our risk of developing a wide range of long term conditions such as high blood pressure, obesity, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, cancer and dementia.

9.4 Improving the health of our residents also makes sound economic sense and reduces demand on health and social care and other public sector services. As our population grows and ages it is more crucial than ever that all our residents start well, live well and age well and delay or prevent the onset of ill health, disability and frailty.

9.5 Improving health through improvements to the environment and community life has additional benefits as it helps Buckinghamshire remain a thriving and attractive place to live and work, can contribute to reducing congestion, air and noise pollution, mitigate the impact of climate change and attract inward investment.

9.6 A wide range of stakeholders have a role in influencing whether our environment is healthy. This includes residents and communities, community, voluntary and faith groups, local authorities, developers, schools, businesses and the public and private sector. Much good work is already underway across Buckinghamshire to protect and improve the places we live and to strengthen communities. However there are significant opportunities for us all to work together to further improve the health and wellbeing of the people who live and work in Buckinghamshire.

To continue and support this good work the following recommendations are for all stakeholders.

Recommendations

R.1 The promotion and protection of the health and wellbeing of everyone who lives and works in Buckinghamshire should be a major consideration when planning new developments or improving existing developments. This should be supported by health impact assessments where appropriate,

to understand the impact on health and wellbeing of these changes, particularly for those most vulnerable and with the greatest risk of poor health.

R.2 Where possible, local authorities and developers should engage communities in co-designing new developments and making improvements to existing developments. They should ensure input from a wide range of current and future residents of all ages and abilities to ensure developments work for all. The WHO 'Age Friendly' Cities guidance and UNICEF Child Friendly Cities and Communities initiative offer useful principles to inform discussions.

R.3 Local authorities, communities, town and parish councils and local area forums should use this report to consider how they might work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their residents, drawing on the assets in their communities and their local knowledge of what might need to change. This could include strengthening the social ties in an area, increasing community engagement and reducing social isolation or making improvements to the built and natural environment. A useful set of questions to inform discussions is the Place Standard toolkit which uses 14 questions designed to cover the physical and social aspects of a place and help determine priorities for action.

R.4 The public and private sector, voluntary, community and faith sector including local authorities, the NHS, schools, universities and businesses should use this report to consider how they can help improve health and wellbeing through their actions that impact on the environment or strengthen communities in Buckinghamshire. This can include the services they provide, their policies on community engagement and co-design of services with communities, travel, land use and corporate social responsibility.

R.5 We should, where possible, encourage planning for new and existing developments to:

- a) Be socially inclusive, welcoming and accessible to all sections of our community. Designed on a human scale for people and taking into account the needs of children and older people and those with disabilities.
- b) Provide safe, welcoming indoor and outdoor public places where people can meet.
- c) Encourage physical activity, active travel and access to good public transport.
- d) Incorporate natural landscaping and urban greening and good access to high quality green and blue public spaces e.g. parks and community gardens that people of all ages and backgrounds can enjoy.
- e) Improve access to healthy affordable food.
- f) Be designed to help reduce crime.
- g) Provide good quality homes using lifetime home principles and affordable housing.
- h) Provide good access to employment, retail and community facilities and health services which can ideally be accessed by walking or cycling through mixed land use policies.
- i) Minimise the impact of climate change and minimise air, water and noise pollution.
- j) Foster strong social connections and a sense of belonging and link new and existing communities effectively.

Report to Cabinet

Title:	Education and Skills Strategy
Date:	9 July 2018
Date can be implemented:	17 July 2018
Author:	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Contact officer:	Sarah Callaghan
Local members affected:	All [list member name and electoral division]
Portfolio areas affected:	Education and Skills

For media enquires concerning this report, please contact the press office on 01296 382444.

Summary

This is a time of unprecedented local and national change impacting the educational landscape. Nationally, budget reductions as a result of a decrease in central government grants have had, and will continue to have, a significant impact on the centrally retained funding for school support services. The government drive for academisation and increasing selection has resulted in a diversity of school provision which includes maintained schools, academies, free schools, faith schools, independent schools and other educational providers. The increasing rigour of Ofsted frameworks and inspections underpins the overall ambition to raise achievement and attainment, with the current focus being on the development of a school to school, system led model of improvement. The role and responsibilities of local authorities have been reframed to account for this change in approach, with the emphasis on developing a wide range of collaborative working relationships with a variety of external partners such as the Regional Schools Commissioner, as well as with settings and schools. The role of the local authority is changing regarding school improvement to being that of a facilitator and broker in a school-led system of improvement.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Locally, in Buckinghamshire 94% of its schools are either good or outstanding, key issues such as the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers, the recruitment and retention of teachers, rising exclusions and increased demand on services for vulnerable children and those with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) have persisted. The proposed Education and Skills Strategy offers a coherent and coordinated response to these local and national issues, and sets out the vision, principles, priorities for improving outcomes for children and young people in Buckinghamshire (see Appendix A).

Recommendation

That the Education and Skills strategy be ratified by Cabinet.

A. Narrative setting out the reasons for the decision

The purpose of the Education and Skills strategy is to develop and sustain an ongoing dialogue with all schools, regardless of their status, across the County so that we realise our vision for all children and young people in Buckinghamshire to fulfil their potential. It is critical that we continue to work with schools and early years settings to drive forward improvements to the benefit of all children and young people. The development of the strategy is in keeping with the national agenda and supports the development of a school led system of school improvement.

B. Other options available, and their pros and cons

In light of the aforementioned key changes that are impacting the educational landscape and the challenges that these bring, the Council, together with all educational partners, has developed an Education and Skills strategy to ensure that we have the appropriate educational provision for our children and young people. The strategy proposes a 'collective responsibility model' where all educational partners in Buckinghamshire work together and make best use of their collective experience and expertise. The "Side by Side" approach is our new way of working, and is built on the premise that a wide variety of institutions committed to sharing expertise and collaborative working within an environment of mutual trust will thrive and flourish. Rapid and sustainable improvement can be achieved by fostering a system led leadership approach dependent on the essential elements of accountability, challenge and support.

C Resource implications

The removal of the Education Services Grant funding and reduction in the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) has further reinforced the need to change the way that school improvement is delivered. The Side by Side mechanism that is currently being developed in order to embed a school to school led system of improvement is founded on the premise that harnessing expertise in the school or early years' settings system does lead to improved outcomes for children and young people. The School Improvement Monitoring and Brokerage Grant is the transition funding that is in place for a period of two years. This will be used to support the "Side by Side" approach which will support schools, promote inclusion, support SEND provision and improve the transition process between early years and primary schools.

D. Value For Money (VFM) Self- Assessment

BCC will ensure that the statutory duties that were commissioned to the Buckinghamshire Learning Trust will continue to be delivered (please refer to the cabinet report regarding the variation in contract with the Buckinghamshire Learning Trust at the following link) <https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=124&MId=9518&Ver=4>).

E. Legal implications

The Council's statutory duties are set out in Appendix C to this document.

The strategy is designed to support all children and young people and should not disadvantage any groups. A full Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been completed in line with best practice. With the transfer of statutory services from the BLT to BCC, the local authority will be able to provide a range of statutory services to support children and young people. The BLT will be left with non-statutory/discretionary services to offer schools and settings and will therefore become completely traded. The BLT will provide a range of traded services from which schools can choose to purchase whilst BCC as the local authority will be in the position to deliver a wide range of services that will help to realise the aims and objectives of the strategy.

F. Property implications

Services will be delivered as per their current locations.

G. Other implications/issues

The loss of the Education Services Grant alongside significant policy changes with regard to education has contributed to the development of different potential models for service delivery.

The transfer of services from the BLT to BCC will not impact current service delivery to schools, settings, children and young people and provides the opportunity to realign services in a coordinated way to better meet need and address key priorities set out in the strategy.

H. Feedback from consultation, Local Area Forums and Local Member views

A consultation process was carried out over a period of 9 months between July 2017 and March 2018.

- There were dedicated consultation events held during July 2017. Over 200 stakeholders signed up to attend one of the three events that were held between 9 and 12 July; 82% attended and out of those attending 62% were from schools – the remainder were from early years settings or agencies that work with schools and their pupils. Stakeholders were asked to comment on current provision i.e. key strengths and areas for improvement, a proposed vision for and guiding principles and the priorities (pillars) of the Education and Skills strategy.

- In September 2017, the draft strategy and the feedback received from the July events were shared at all of the 19 School Liaison groups and also at the Area Headteacher meetings in November 2017. Further feedback was received and incorporated into the further development of the strategy.
- There was an online consultation launched on 6 September and ran until 24 October 2017. There were 571 respondents to the consultation. The overall profile of respondents were female, white, in work/self-employed and aged between 35- 54 years. 82% of the online respondents were parents/carers (463 out of 571)
- An Education Strategy Reference Group was set up in June 2017 with an initial purpose of advising BCC on the consultation process for the Education and Skills strategy, and to promote participation in the consultation process amongst Headteachers and other educational settings in Buckinghamshire. The group represents Early Years settings, primary and secondary schools, special schools, the University Technical College and Further Education provision within Buckinghamshire. Since the consultation process, the Reference Group has been instrumental as a steering group in developing the Side by Side methodology as a means of realising some of the key ambitions set out in the strategy.
- The views of children and young people were also included in developing the strategy. In December 2017 various year groups within a sample of the schools from the Education and Skills strategy completed a short online survey outlining their thoughts on what they wanted from education and what their priorities would be. Youth Services were also able to share the vision, principles and priorities of the strategy with members of the Youth Council in November 2017, and secure further feedback. As a result, a young person's version of the strategy has been developed (see Appendix B).
- The ambitions of the strategy and the issues that it is designed to address were also shared and presented at the "Breaking Barriers, Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential" event that was held in March 2018. Over 150 professionals attended this event and provided further feedback which concurred and supported the general themes and views generated through the earlier part of the consultation process.

Consultation Outcomes

The general feedback from the consultation events, the school liaison groups and the online survey included the following:

- The consultation events held in July 2017 identified key strengths of current provision including collaboration, support services, Early Years support, support for governance, achievement of pupils, experienced staff. 65% of respondents from the online consultation believed educational provision in Buckinghamshire was good.
- There was recognition that current provision could be improved in SEND, recruitment and retention of teachers, and inclusion.
- There were many comments that the proposed vision was too long; this was summarised now to "ambitious, inclusive and collaborative".
- The principles and priorities were endorsed by the events, Liaison Groups and the online consultation. Schools were concerned how collaboration will be fully effective without adequate resource.

- There was general agreement by schools on the vision, principles and priorities stated in the strategy, but schools want to see action to address issues which they feel have been discussed previously.
- Schools suggested we focus/prioritise certain pillars rather than try to address all six at once e.g. inclusion and SEND.

There were also recurrent themes that emerged from the consultation process which included the following:

- **Early Help** – this was seen as vital to the success of the strategy through preventive work.
- **Parenting** was identified as a key cross cutting theme that is applicable to many of the priority areas, in particular inclusion and Early Years.
- The recruitment and retention of high quality teachers
- Whilst SEND was raised as a major issue, there was also recognition that all agencies need to work together in a timely and effective way (e.g. Health)
- **Inclusion** as a core principle was seen by some respondents as being undermined by the existence of a selective system
- Focus needs to be on improving the performance, particularly of secondary (non-selective) schools through a collaborative model of school improvement
- The overall needs of the individual child must be the driver of all our work: the mental health and general well-being was cited by many as being paramount, as well as meeting the needs of individual groups such as the vulnerable and gifted and talented.
- **Transition** between phases in a child’s journey through education was highlighted as an area of focus; better communication and sharing of information in a consistent way was seen as vital to supporting children to help them realise their potential
- **Funding and adequate resource/support** for schools and nurseries was raised by a significant number of participants
- The development of skills for life and readiness for the world of work was recognised as being as important as the acquisition of academic credentials

Following the feedback through the consultation process that took place between July and December 2017, the strategy was further updated.

I. Progress Monitoring

The effectiveness of the strategy will need to be carefully monitored throughout its duration. Appropriate governance structures will need to be in place in order to evaluate the strategy; these will include internal monitoring and reporting which will continue through the current governance structure within Children’s Services i.e. Senior Leadership Team as well as through the Team around the School meetings, which rely on the sharing of local intelligence from service areas within the Council in order to proactively support schools, settings and their pupils/students. The Education Strategy Reference Group will also provide a forum where the strategy can be evaluated; this body will eventually have the responsibility to monitor and review the impact of various initiatives within the “Side by Side” delivery model. This Board will utilise data and local intelligence to determine key commissioning priorities within the local consortia and will be the driver to implement the

activities needed to secure educational excellence and overall improved outcomes for all children and young people.

Key Milestone	Key Activity
May/June 2018	New offer for services (statutory) discussed with schools at key network meetings
June 2018	School offer summary document issued to schools
June/July 2018	Current Side by Side Secondary project deployments continue during the Summer term with Quality Assurance and review Further Side by Side projects planned and developed, with potential deployments for September onwards identified
July 2018	Strategy to Cabinet for ratification
August 2018	All statutory functions will be transferred to BCC from the BLT by 1 August 2018
September 2018	Side by Side projects in operation with second term of deployments in place for secondary schools Statutory and core school Improvement activities undertaken by BCC

J. Review

The strategy has been developed to address key priorities to cover the time period between 2018 and 2022. Evaluation of the Side by Side project will take place through a rigorous quality assurance process.

Background Papers

Appendix A Buckinghamshire Education and Skills Strategy 2018-2022

Appendix B Full Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) for Education and Skills strategy

Appendix C Statutory Duties highlighted from in pages 45-68 in the Funding Agreement with the Buckinghamshire Learning Trust

Your questions and views

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this paper please get in touch with the Contact Officer whose telephone number is given at the head of the paper.

If you have any views on this paper that you would like the Cabinet Member to consider, or if you wish to object to the proposed decision, please inform the Democratic Services Team by 5.00pm on Friday 6 July 2018. This can be done by telephone 01296 382343 or by e-mailing democracy@buckscc.gov.uk

Building a Better Future for Children in Buckinghamshire

Buckinghamshire Education and Skills Strategy 2018-2022

Education and Skills Strategy for Buckinghamshire 2018-2022

“Buckinghamshire has a reputation for great education and has good and outstanding practice on which to build for the future.”

Mike Appleyard, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

“All children and young people in Buckinghamshire deserve the best education and together with our schools, our mission is to provide them with the best opportunities to thrive.”

Tolis Vouyioukas - Executive Director, Children’s Services

“We are committed to enabling all educational providers to promote excellence and lead their own improvement.”

Sarah Callaghan, Director for Education

ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

Children are at the heart of Buckinghamshire County Council's Strategic Priorities



Safeguarding our vulnerable children

We want Buckinghamshire to be a great place for all children and young people to live, be safe, to learn and achieve successful and fulfilled lives. We have a strong collaborative partnership across the county with families, businesses, schools and colleges, private and voluntary Sector, police, health, district and parish councils and many more.



Creating opportunities and building self reliance

Our vision for children and young people in Buckinghamshire is:

“Children and young people are safe, happy and healthy, feel valued and value others, are treated fairly, have lives filled with learning, thrive and are able to enjoy life and spend quality time with family and friends.”



Keeping Buckinghamshire thriving and attractive

“Children and young people are the future of our country, which is why we have put them at the heart of our strategic priorities. We want Buckinghamshire to be a safe place for children, where they can have fun, grow and thrive. It is really important that all our children and young people are supported to achieve their full potential.”
**Leader of the Council,
Martin Tett**

ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

Education in Buckinghamshire



114

- There are 122,200 children and young people in Buckinghamshire under the age of 18
- There are currently 815 two year olds and 6,433 three and four year olds who are entitled to early years' provision
- We have 235 schools and academies in Buckinghamshire, attended by over 84,000 children and young people
- As a county we have a varied mix of educational provision; Buckinghamshire is one of only a handful of counties to have an almost fully selective secondary system
- In Buckinghamshire, 83% of secondary schools and 13% of primary schools have converted to academy status
- 90% of pupils in Buckinghamshire attend a good or outstanding school

All data November 2017

ambitious



inclusive

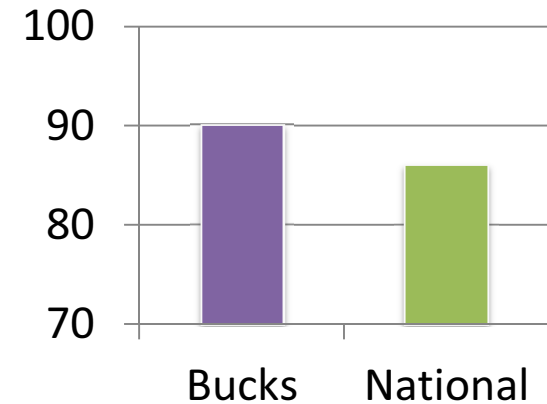


collaborative

Buckinghamshire Strengths

- We have a high percentage of good and outstanding schools (94%) which provide high quality education for our children and young people.
- Over 97% of our Early Years settings are good or outstanding.
- Overall, levels of attainment are higher than the national benchmark.
- Our education system offers variety and choice.
- We provide a wide range of valued services, many of which are provided in house and complemented by an effective commissioned service.
- We have strong, established relationships with both maintained and academy schools.
- Rigorous, systematic and timely analysis of data provides insights into performance to ensure that the needs of schools are understood.
- We have worked closely with existing schools and established new schools to meet the increase in demand for school places.

% of pupils in good or outstanding schools



Type of School	Number
Early Years Settings	843
Nursery	80
Combined Primary	119
Infant	41
Junior	23
Selective Secondary	13
Non Selective Secondary	24
PRUs	3
Special	10

All data November 2017

ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

The Changing National Agenda – key issues

- The government drive to full academisation and establishment of the Free School programme is responsible for all new school development.
- The increasing remit of the role of the Regional Schools Commissioner, who is responsible for school improvement in academies.
- The role of the Local Authority is changing regarding school improvement to being that of a facilitator, broker and quality assurer in a school-led system of improvement.
- Increasing rigour of the Ofsted framework.
- Recruitment and retention of Headteachers, teachers and support staff is a critical issue nationally.
- Raising of the Participation Age to 18 years.
- Ensuring sufficient provision of places to meet the requirements of the 30 hours free childcare entitlement.
- Increasing choice for parents and increasing selective schools.



Buckinghamshire Challenges

- Persistent underperformance of our vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people.
- High and rising demand for services compared to other local authorities.
- Above national rate of inadequate schools.
- Exclusion rates have increased and are too high.
- Alternative provision needs to be in place to meet the growing demand for services and increasing complex needs.
- Too many of our Looked After Children are in placements and schools out of county.
- A rising population means that we need enough school places in the right locations, with transport available for those who need it.
- The National Funding Formula is squeezing many of our school's budgets in real terms. We have a high proportion of small rural schools, which are increasingly vulnerable to budget changes.
- Our Post 16 education and training offer needs to develop to help address the local growth agenda and meet the range of skills required across the County.



ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

What's important to our children and young people?

Rules and expectations are made clear and applied consistently to everyone.

I get access to good information and advice on what opportunities are available when I finish 6th form/college.

My course leads to a good job.

I get a good careers education and the opportunity to gain skills I will need in the workplace.

I am helped to achieve the best results I can.

I feel I can reach my full potential .

I learn lots of different subjects.

I know who to turn to when I need help and support.

Pupils with additional needs have excellent support .

Everyone is supported and encouraged.



I feel happy and safe.

ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

Youth Council Voice

I want to go to a school/college which....

- Makes me feel safe and protected from bullying.
- Helps me achieve the best results I can in my exams.
- Treats everyone fairly and respectfully.
- Will support and stretch me so I get the best results.
- Has excellent support for young people with additional needs.
- Values every student for who they are and makes sure no-one feels left out.

“School are too inward facing, they need to interact with the community more.”

“Having good behaviour in schools is so important; we need all teachers to enforce the school policy fairly.”

“We shouldn’t have to travel to go to a good school. There should be good schools in all towns for everyone.”

“Schools should work together more, to offer a range of qualifications between them so there is greater choice.”

“Lack of resources is a problem. They need to be available for those that need them.”

ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

A Shared Vision for Education in Buckinghamshire

Our *ambition* is to build a better future for all children and young people in Buckinghamshire so they can realise their potential whatever their starting point.

Our *focus* will be on addressing the differential of experience between the vulnerable children in Buckinghamshire and their peers.



ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

Guiding Principles for Education in Buckinghamshire



ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

The Basis for Our Vision

Ambitious

- Education in Buckinghamshire is **inclusive, exciting and aspirational**; it **inspires a lifelong love of learning**. It delivers **positive outcomes, in achievement, skills, progress and ambition** for every child and young person

Inclusive

- Children and young people feel **safe, valued and happy**; they are **resilient and empowered to overcome disadvantage** and fulfil their individual **potential**. Families feel **valued, supported and engaged** in their children's education

Collaborative

- The educational system is **collaborative and self-improving**, with all partners sharing a **collective responsibility** for all learners

ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

The '6 Pillars' of the Strategy

The Education and Skills Strategy for Buckinghamshire 2018-2022

Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Aims



Safeguarding our vulnerable children



Creating opportunities and building self reliance



Keeping Buckinghamshire thriving and attractive

Infrastructure	Early Years & Childcare	School Improvement & Engagement	Inclusion: Supporting the Vulnerable	SEND	Post 16 Provision & Skills Development
Developing sufficient high quality places, in the right locations, to meet the growing need.	Providing the best start to enable all our young learners to flourish and develop a love of learning.	Working collaboratively to deliver high standards and excellent outcomes for all.	Developing a positive, safe and inclusive environment for all children and young people.	Enabling excellent outcomes for all children and young people with SEND.	Equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and experience to thrive in a modern economy.

ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

Key Priorities of the Strategy



Supporting Priorities

ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

Inclusion – Supporting the Vulnerable

Delivering a positive, safe and inclusive education for all children and young people

Workstreams	Raise the achievement of vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people	Develop an inclusive mainstream educational environment which meets the needs of all children and young people	Ensure processes and procedures are in place to increase attendance and prevent exclusions	Multi-agency collaboration, working proactively and preventatively, to provide Early Help to both pupils and families in need of support
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build capacity, confidence and expertise in mainstream schools to enable more children and young people with SEND to be educated in their local community. • Re-configure the Bucks ‘offer’ to ensure we better meet additional needs, by having the right provision in the right place through the work of the Inclusion Hub. • Reduce our dependency on out of area placements so that less of the high needs block funding is spent outside Buckinghamshire. • Celebrate good practice in inclusion, by developing and launching an ‘Inclusion Charter’, a stamp of recognised quality. • Reduce both fixed period and permanent exclusions from schools, particularly those pupils with SEND and ensure all Alternative Provision is inclusive, responsive, flexible and of high quality. 			
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inclusion Hub –a partnership between schools and BCC to provide strategic oversight in order to meet the needs of all Bucks pupils with SEND locally. ▪ Buckinghamshire Inclusive Education Working Group – set up to review fair access /alternative provision, and to foster a climate in which good practice is shared. The working group has representation from primary and secondary (including 1 grammar) schools as well as from our PRUs who through sharing data and information are working together to identify opportunities for earlier intervention, alternative provision so as to reduce the number of exclusions. 			

Consultation comments...

“We need to work with pupils who are troubled as opposed to excluding.”

“We need more support for our vulnerable groups to help them achieve better outcomes.”



SEND (SEND Strategy 2017)

Enabling excellent outcomes for all children and young people with SEND

Workstreams	Improve the experiences of families, children and young people of the statutory SEND process	Develop provision and support schools and settings through the development of skills in mainstream settings, refocusing and developing specialist provision to meet complex needs	Develop and implement improved approaches to planning and securing specialist educational places for those children with the most significant complex needs	Strengthen and develop the management, monitoring and accountability of the statutory SEND process
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying the demand for SEND provision over the next 5 years to inform future planning • Proactively identifying children and families at an earlier stage of behavioral problems by closer alignment of SEND provision with Early Help services. • Review funding processes for specialist provision so as to ensure transparency and equity • Help build capacity in mainstream schools to meet the additional needs of children and young people with SEND. • Implement the Graduated Approach and the new 20 week process, including developing a shared understanding of co-production. • Ensuring the voice of the child is evident and acted upon in all EHCP's and Annual Reviews. • Reducing the number of EHCPs and the number of tribunals through earlier intervention. • Improving the experience of children and their families transitioning to adult services. • Increasing capacity in the Educational Psychology Service to improve the timeliness of assessments. • Streamlining the assessment process so joint assessments can be completed where appropriate and advice can be provided to schools without the need for an EHCP request. 			
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of the newly established Integrated Services Board - responsible for overseeing and driving the implementation of the SEND Reforms as outlined in the SEND strategy. ▪ A new SENDIAN pilot in Aylesbury - co-produced by BCC and parent representatives following the work of Inclusive Education Working group. First pilot area in Aylesbury in November/December 2017 with aim to roll out initiative in Spring 2018. 			

Consultation comments...

“We need external specialist input to mainstream schools for more complex needs.”

“Empower young people with SEND to aim high with ambition, and support them into different career paths.”

Link to SEND Strategy

Infrastructure

Developing sufficient high quality places, in the right locations, to meet the growing need				
Workstreams	Proactively ensure a sufficient supply of high quality childcare, Early Years, school and Post 16 places	Ensure that the growth of high quality places is in the right locations, to meet future need	Continually redesign and improve the admission process, cost efficiently, whilst ensuring a high quality service to parents and carers	Ensure the smooth transition of schools converting to academy status
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of a capital strategy that will focus on ensuring sufficient places to meet demand now and as part of the future housing growth. ▪ Focus on expansion of existing provision to make schools more viable and sustainable in the longer term. ▪ Develop new schools where appropriate through the Free Schools initiative. ▪ Ensure our children have access to a good or outstanding school . ▪ Maintain an accessible and effective admissions and allocations process in working with all schools in Buckinghamshire and neighbouring authorities in order to accurately allocate places. ▪ Support and advise schools through the conversion process to academy status so as to secure a smooth transition. 			
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developments are in place to expand existing school and to provide new schools to meet growing demand e.g. new school on the Daws Hill housing development and the St Michael’s Satellite in Aylesbury. ▪ Review current transport provision through the Integrated Transport Programme in order to efficiently target resources where required as well as promoting independence where possible. ▪ School improvement initiatives are underway to increase the number of schools that are good or outstanding and thereby increasing the supply of high quality school places regardless of location. 			

Consultation comments...

“Housing growth is changing catchments ... schools will need support.”

“Don’t spilt up families – this places an additional strain.”



Link to Growth Agenda Strategy

Early Years and Childcare

Providing the best start to enable all our young learners to flourish and develop a love of learning

Workstreams	Provide high quality information and advice through a variety of media to enable parental choice	Mitigate the impact of disadvantage through a comprehensive parenting strategy provided through Early Help agencies and Early Years education to diminish the difference	Engage and support parents and families to ensure the best start in life for every child	Support and embed a settings-led system of improvement in Early Years provision
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure sufficient early years places to meet the introduction of the expansion to 30 hours funded early education from September 2017 onwards. Maintain over 90% of provision as good or outstanding to support improved outcomes for children. Engage parents of eligible 2 year olds to maximise the take up of funded early education as part of “diminishing the difference”. Support and challenge early years providers to make effective use of Early Years Pupil Premium, deprivation and SEND funding to improve outcomes for our most vulnerable children as well as through stronger liaison between Early Help agencies. Conduct a full review of Early Years central support to evidence effective use of resource against statutory duties to move to a provider led quality improvement framework. 			
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop the liaison group network of Early Years providers to forge closer working relationships with Primary schools to improve the journey of the child through education. Establish within the liaison group network a mechanism to encourage sharing of best practice between providers and primary schools to proactively support vulnerable children entering reception class, through an Early Years transition pilot. Continue to develop consistent channels of communication to support and engage parents through the review of existing digital platforms as part of our new ICT strategy. The development of a settings led model of improvement within Early Years provision needs to be closely aligned with Early Help services as part of a preventative approach. 			

Consultation comments...

“Support parents to engage... parents as first teachers.”

“Develop further collaboration between Early Years, Primary, Secondary (including 6th forms and colleges etc.)”

Link to Early Years & Parenting Strategies

School Improvement & Engagement

Working collaboratively to deliver high standards and excellent outcomes for all

Workstreams	Encourage and enable all schools to fully participate in an appropriate form of collaboration and partnership working	Work in collaboration with all educational partners to develop and embed a school led system of school improvement, founded on data and insight, in order to achieve high standards	Support schools and settings to work in collaboration so that all children and young people achieve a smooth, enjoyable and effective journey through the education system	Support schools to recruit and retain high quality school leaders, governors and teaching staff
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Move all schools that are inadequate or requiring improvement to good. ▪ Encourage schools to work together through partnerships, such as federations, alliances or Multi Academy Trusts, which are best suited to the needs of schools and their learners. ▪ Improve retention and recruitment of high quality teachers. ▪ Further develop a business intelligence function that will help schools to identify their specific priorities and where the capacity lies within the system to address these priorities. ▪ To secure clarity for schools on the respective roles and responsibilities of the Regional Schools Commissioner, the local authority and the relationship between both parties. ▪ Develop a sustainable school led system model through collaboration and collective responsibility within the educational community. 			
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Piloting school to school led system of improvement through non-selective secondary schools that are not yet good through the “Side by Side” project. ▪ Developing the School Liaison offer to promote localised school improvement projects. ▪ Complete current projects underway by school improvement partners as well utilise data and insight to establish a “virtual community of support” that addresses persistent issues of underachievement amongst disadvantaged and vulnerable pupil groups. ▪ Support the development of bids with Teaching Schools for funding for school improvement. 			

Consultation comments...

“We need better and faster techniques of early signs of school failure.”

“Collaboration is key to School Improvement, to ensure all children achieve their full potential.”

Link to School Improvement Strategy

Post 16 Provision & Skills Development

Equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and experience to thrive in a modern economy

Workstreams	Develop a strategic overview of Post 16 provision to ensure it meets the needs of both young people and employers	Support young people at risk of non-participation and becoming NEET	Promote the growth in apprenticeships	Ensure that young people have a choice of suitable provision in order to develop their skills and be work ready
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver a plan to ensure that every young person has access to high quality, appropriate post 16 education and training. Improved impartial information, advice and guidance that will enable more pupils to make decisions about their post 16 options that are informed by local market intelligence on skills needs. Post 16 providers develop their curriculum in accordance with the needs of the local economy, investing in the latest advancements in technology and facilities. Develop a local apprenticeship offer which increases supply of and demand for apprenticeships focused on growth sectors and skills shortages. Work closely with the business community and key partners to ensure there are opportunities to help young people to be work ready through the development of key transferable work skills that are needed by the local economy to address the growth agenda 			
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore with schools and other stakeholder whether it would be advantageous to combine 6th form provision through the development of alternative delivery models. Continue to grow our apprenticeship provision in order to help address skills shortages. Ensure that we continue to deliver targeted preventative work to support young people at risk of becoming NEET through the development of a new Early Help Service. Work with the Skills Hub and WANNABEbucks.org to further encourage the development of work readiness skills in young people, especially through work experience opportunities Work with our post 16 providers to deliver the technical education reforms, ensuring all 15 technical routes (T-Levels and Apprenticeships) into skilled employment are available. Have representation from the Skills Board on the Education Strategy Reference Group. 			

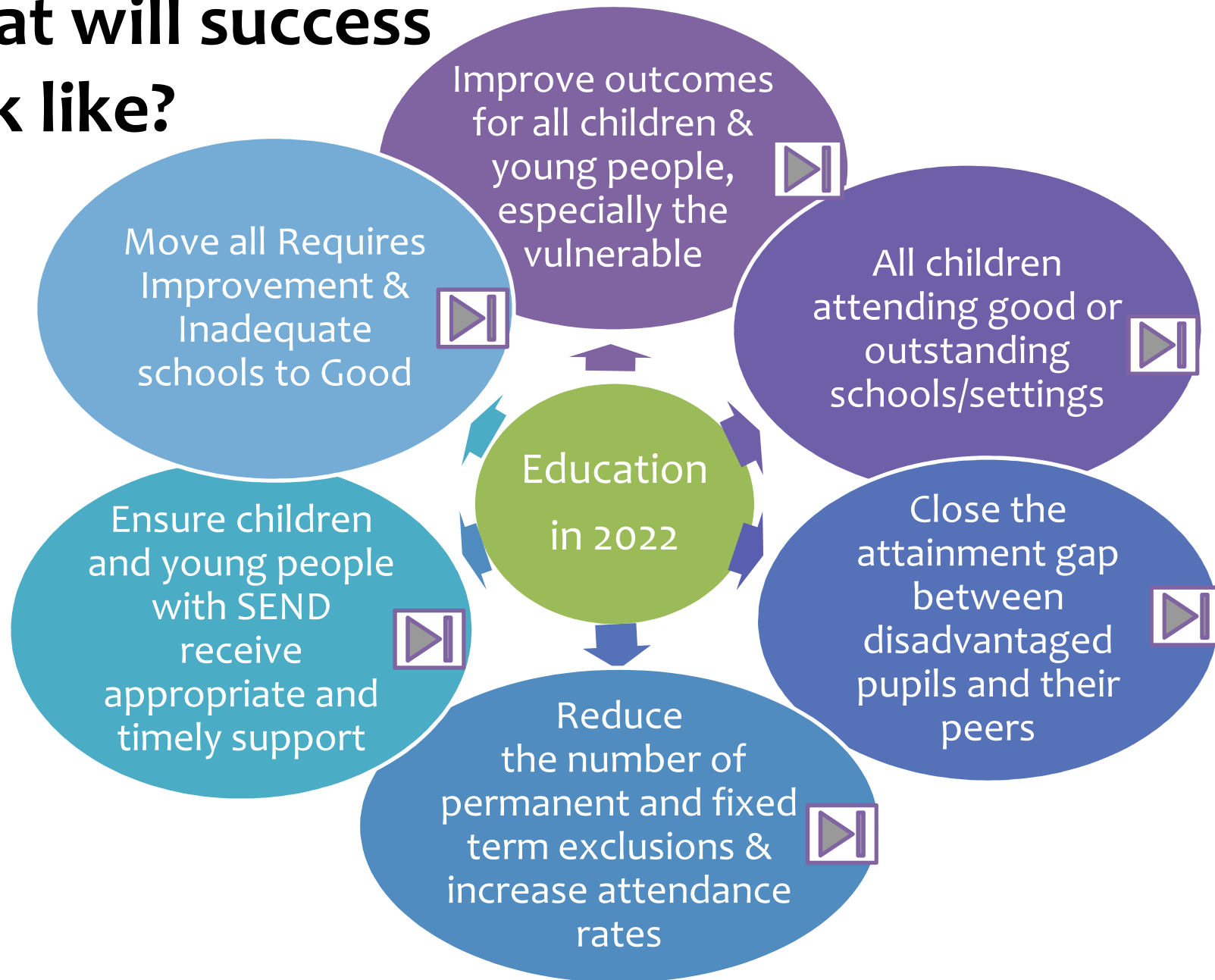
Consultation comments...

“There should be better tailoring of education to the skills required in a changing world.”

“Having a chance to develop skills outside of the curriculum is already giving us a way in to the world of work.”

Link to Bucks Skills Strategy and Skills Board

What will success look like?



ambitious

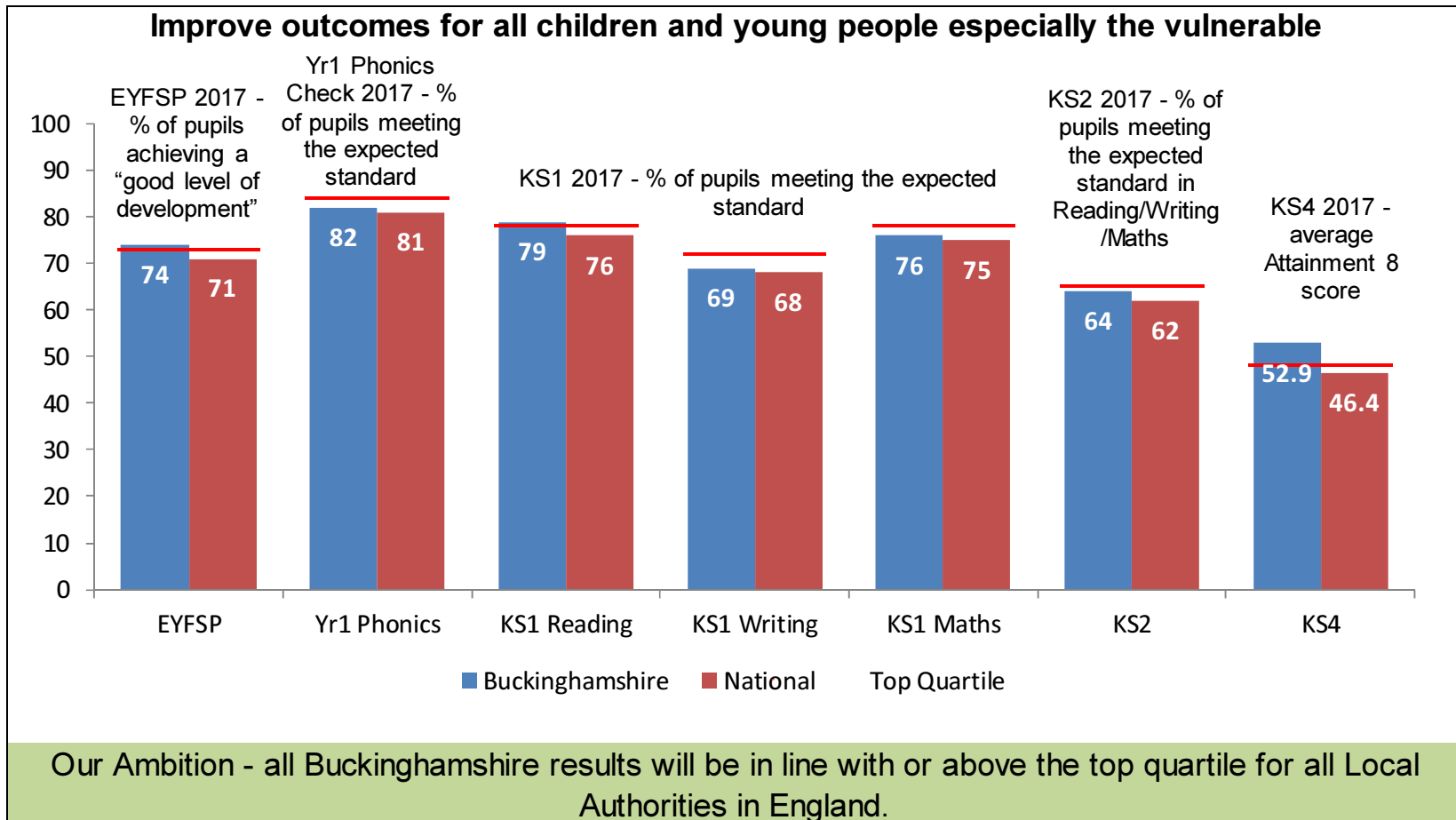


inclusive



collaborative

Improve outcomes for all children & young people, especially the vulnerable




132




All children attending good or outstanding schools and settings

All children attending good or outstanding schools/settings




In January 2018 **90%** of children attend a good/outstanding Buckinghamshire school (National average = 88%)

Move all schools from Requires Improvement/Inadequate to Good



6 Buckinghamshire schools are rated as **Inadequate** by Ofsted (31/01/2018)

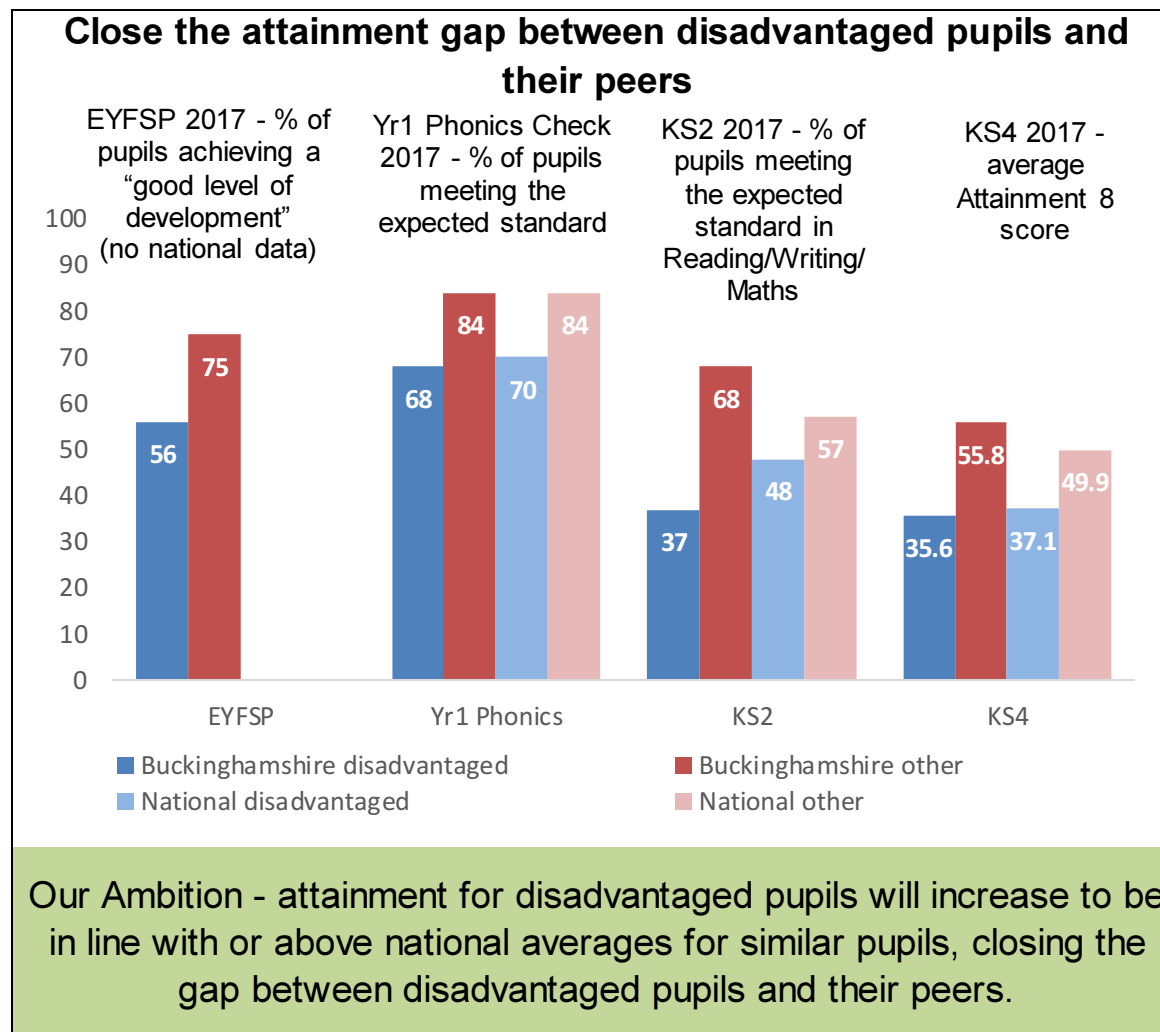


9 Buckinghamshire schools are rated as **Requires Improvement** by Ofsted (31/01/2018)

Our Ambition – all our schools will be rated good or outstanding by OFSTED, with none requiring improvement or being inadequate.



Close the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers



Reduce the number of permanent and fixed term exclusions & increase attendance rates

Reduce the number of permanent and fixed term exclusions, and increase attendance

In 2015/16 there were **24** permanent exclusions in primary schools and **89** in secondary schools.



Primary exclusion rate = 0.05 (National = 0.02)
Secondary exclusion rate = 0.24 (National = 0.17)



Pupils receiving one or more fixed period exclusion

Primary = 0.54% (National = 0.56%)
Secondary = 2.77% (National = 4.26%)

Attendance Rates 2015/16

Primary = 96.1% (National = 96.0%)
Secondary = 94.5% (National = 94.8%)



Our Ambition - All exclusion rates will be at least in line or better than national rates. Overall attendance rates will increase, particularly in secondary schools, and will be in line with or better than national averages.



ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

Ensure children & young people with SEND receive appropriate and timely support

136

Ensure children and young people with SEND receive appropriate and timely support



In 2017, **19%** new Education, Health & Care plans issued within 20 weeks (England 2016 = 59%)

In January 2017, 3.1% of pupils in Buckinghamshire schools had a statement or EHCP (National 2.8%). 8.6% of pupils were on SEN Support (National = 11.6%)

In 2017 **8%** of pupils with a statement of SEN or an EHCP reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 (national average = 8%)

In 2017 the average KS4 Attainment 8 Score for pupils with a statement of SEN or an EHCP was **16.5** (national average = 13.9)

Our Ambition - All EHCPs will be issued within 20 weeks. More children will receive SEN Support to provide the support they need in school, with EHCPs being issued where appropriate.



ambitious

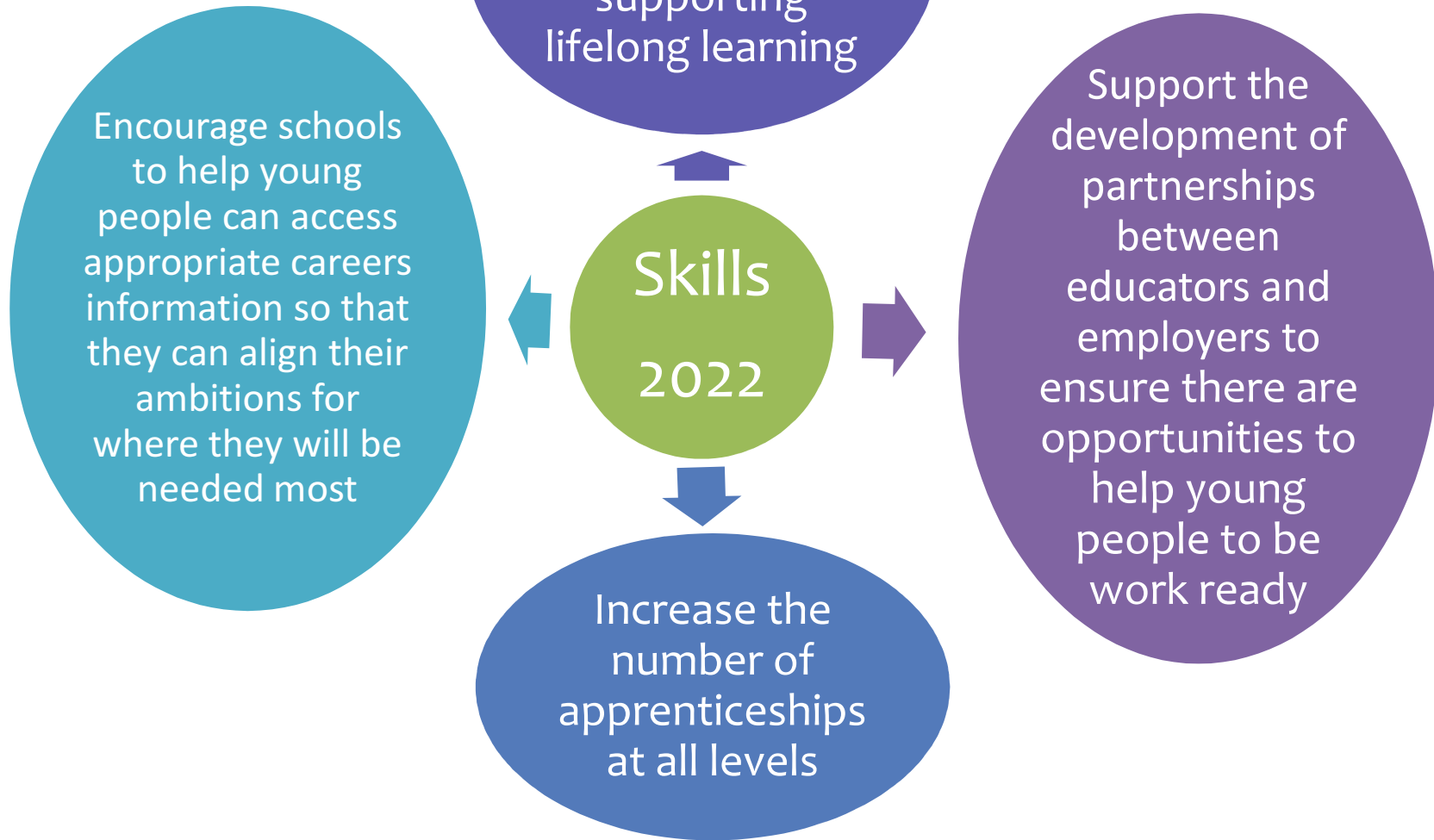


inclusive



collaborative

Supporting the Buckinghamshire Skills Strategy



ambitious



inclusive



collaborative

Building a Better Future for Children in Buckinghamshire



*Buckinghamshire County Council
MTP Equalities & VCS Impact Assessment Proforma*

MTP Ref:		Line title and description of change:	Education and Skills Strategy 2018 - 2022
Officer contact name and telephone number for further information:	Maria Edmonds 01296 382549		
Date assessment completed:	May 2018		
Who else involved in the assessment:			
Signature and name of Cabinet Member signing off this impact assessment and any resulting actions.	Name:	Michael Appleyard	
	Signature:		
	Portfolio:	Education – Learning, Skills and Prevention – Children’s Services	

Section A: Our residents and service users (relates to screening questions 1 and 2)

You have identified that the proposal will or may have an impact on the public or services directly and/or that groups of people will or may be affected differently by the proposal, therefore, you should address the questions below insofar as they are appropriate and relevant to the proposal.

Questions to consider/prompt your thinking	The Findings and your evidence base for these
<p>What do you know about the proposal will impact on different groups of people in Buckinghamshire, particularly, those with protected characteristics? How do you know this? For example, disaggregated data from any relevant consultations/focus groups, national or local published research reports, satisfaction surveys, service monitoring data, benchmarking with other providers, demographic data or other information. Please refer to the county council’s “Research” information on the website and the information provided by partners on the BSP website.</p> <p>What new research might you need to undertake to understand the impact of implementing this proposal on different groups of people (in</p>	<p>A fundamental principle of the Education and Skills strategy is to provide targeted support to schools and groups of children that are underperforming. The strategy aims to address the attainment gap that exists between the performance of disadvantaged pupils and their peers. The ambition of the strategy is to stem the tide of rising exclusions and increase attendance; these are key performance indicators which need to be closely monitored. Inclusion is a key element of the strategy and through the consultation events that have been held thus far it is been recognised that this is important. This will mean a change in culture within the educational community in that all partners recognise a collective responsibility for ensuring the best outcomes for all children and young people</p>

*Buckinghamshire County Council
MTP Equalities & VCS Impact Assessment Proforma*

<p>particular those with protected characteristics)?</p>	<p>regardless of their background and needs.</p>																			
<p>If your findings indicate actual or potential indirect discrimination¹ you must demonstrate how the proposal is the least discriminatory way of achieving a stated legitimate business aim.</p>	<p>The aim of the strategy is maintain and build upon current service provision and is not intended to any adverse impact on any groups of children and young people. There are currently 84,294 children/young people attending one of the 235 schools that are currently in Buckinghamshire. The strategy wants to ensure that all children and young people are enabled and supported to fulfil their potential, and developed to address the persistent issues of under achievement of the disadvantaged compared to their peers. The table below highlights the profile of disadvantaged pupils within Buckinghamshire.</p>																			
<p>How will implementing the proposal impact on future service users? For example, what does data tell you about who is and who should be benefitting from the existing service? What do you know about the needs and barriers of people who should be accessing the service but aren't? What action, if any, should you take to address these issues? Will implementing the proposal prevent these issues from being addressed?</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="text-align: right;">Buckinghamshire</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">Number of Pupils on Roll (March 2018)</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">84294</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pupils</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pupils eligible for Free School Meals</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5.9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4,973</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disadvantaged pupils (pupil premium)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12.1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10,199</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Buckinghamshire			Number of Pupils on Roll (March 2018)	84294			%		Pupils			Pupils eligible for Free School Meals	5.9	4,973	Disadvantaged pupils (pupil premium)	12.1	10,199
Buckinghamshire																				
Number of Pupils on Roll (March 2018)	84294																			
	%																			
Pupils																				
Pupils eligible for Free School Meals	5.9	4,973																		
Disadvantaged pupils (pupil premium)	12.1	10,199																		
<p>Where the proposal is about removing/reducing a service, changing delivery methods or increasing charges, what are the implications for people with protected characteristics, our priority groups in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, geographical communities and different socio economic groups? Consider also any implications for people in terms of how this may change their mode of travel/travel time, as well as any other increases in time spent accessing the service, increased inconvenience and personal cost. How likely is increased dissatisfaction with the service or the county council?</p>																				

140

¹ Indirect discrimination can occur when a provision, criterion or practice is applied equally to everyone **and** as a result, people who share the service user's protected characteristic are put, or would be put, at a particular disadvantage when compared with people who don't share that protected characteristic **and** the service user is put, or would be put at that disadvantage **and** the service provider cannot justify this as a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate business aim

*Buckinghamshire County Council
MTP Equalities & VCS Impact Assessment Proforma*

141

<p>Could implementation of the proposal lead to groups of people perceiving preferential treatment of another group, or that the needs of their own group have been ignored in favour of another group? If yes, how will you address these fears/concerns? Consider the role, or potential role, of the media, advocacy groups and extremist groups to misrepresent the county council's actions or intent.</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Pupils with a SEN Statement or EHCP</td> <td>3.4</td> <td>2,866</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pupils with SEN Support</td> <td>8.4</td> <td>7,080</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pupils from a BME background (not WBRI)</td> <td>34.3</td> <td>28,913</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pupils with a first language other than English</td> <td>17.4</td> <td>14,667</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pupils with a social care plan (CLA, CIN & CP)</td> <td>2.1</td> <td>1,770</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Pupils with a SEN Statement or EHCP	3.4	2,866	Pupils with SEN Support	8.4	7,080	Pupils from a BME background (not WBRI)	34.3	28,913	Pupils with a first language other than English	17.4	14,667	Pupils with a social care plan (CLA, CIN & CP)	2.1	1,770					
	Pupils with a SEN Statement or EHCP	3.4	2,866																		
	Pupils with SEN Support	8.4	7,080																		
	Pupils from a BME background (not WBRI)	34.3	28,913																		
	Pupils with a first language other than English	17.4	14,667																		
	Pupils with a social care plan (CLA, CIN & CP)	2.1	1,770																		
<p>Whilst the focus will be on the vulnerable, the principles and priorities underpinning the strategy clearly demonstrate that all children and young people regardless of their background and needs will be supported in order to be safe and successful.</p> <p>At present the proposals put forward in the Education and Skills strategy do not impact on current service provision but as a new service delivery model is developed, trialled and implemented, service delivery teams could be affected.</p>																					
<p>Section B: Our internal and external partners (relates to screening question 3)</p> <p>You have identified that the proposal will or may have an impact on how other services are delivered by the county council, external suppliers or other statutory agencies, you should answer the questions below insofar as they are appropriate and relevant to the proposal. (Please note that VCS organisations are dealt with separately in Section D.)</p>																					
<p>Questions to consider/prompt your thinking</p>	<p>The Findings</p>																				
<p>Could implementation of the proposal lead to increased service demands or costs for other county council services, external providers or statutory agencies? If yes, what is being done mitigate the impact or prepare those services/organisations for the increased demand/costs?</p>	<p>The purpose of the Education and Skills strategy is to sustain an ongoing dialogue with all schools, regardless of status across the County so that we realise our vision for all children and young people in Bucks to fulfil their potential. Without an ongoing dialogue with schools, we risk losing important intelligence on issues that our</p>																				

*Buckinghamshire County Council
MTP Equalities & VCS Impact Assessment Proforma*

Where the proposal relates to an external contractor, what is the impact on:

- The contractor e.g. staffing, capacity, business continuity management capability?
- the future of the service (especially if several other authorities are also contracting services from this provider i.e. domino effect)
- Beneficiaries, service users and carers (if not answered in Section A above)?
- The wider local community?
- Further down the supply chain, especially where locally sourced?

What steps have you taken to reduce the council's potential liability for breaches under the Equality Act where services are being delivered on our behalf? How will compliance monitored?

impacting on children and young people that leads to poor outcomes and sometimes costly interventions funded by the Council. There are persistent issues which the Education and Skills strategy will need to address through the implementation of a new delivery model (Side by Side) based on local commissioning/collective responsibility. A local commissioning/collective responsibility model has the advantage of promoting a school led system of school improvement and targeting support at underperforming schools and groups of children within Buckinghamshire. Whilst BCC will be a lead partner, schools and settings will be very much involved in developing strategies and local solutions to raise aspiration and achievement. The Side by Side model allows BCC to invest in strong partnerships in order to shape the quality of educational provision and improve standards. This model will support the growth of outstanding practice and offer innovative solutions that will provide the best outcomes for children and young people

The Side by Side methodology will fully utilise available insight to appropriately secure support between schools for schools, using a combination of soft and hard intelligence gathered at a macro level using information from the "Team Around the School" model which is internal to BCC and at the micro level from the schools in their liaison groups and areas. This will support the infrastructure needed to facilitate school to school support and build capacity within the system. The Team around the School model will be developed from its current form as reacting to schools in difficulties to looking at schools more holistically and identifying potential problems earlier, and feed this intelligence into the Side by Side delivery mechanism.

Staff are being transferred from the BLT to BCC under TUPE arrangements with expertise and knowledge to ensure that statutory duties are delivered alongside the transformational work within Side by Side. Where external support is required or new systems are needed appropriate procurement procedures will be followed as per corporate

*Buckinghamshire County Council
MTP Equalities & VCS Impact Assessment Proforma*

guidelines.

Section C: Our employees (relates to screening question 4)

You have identified that the proposal will or may have an impact on our employees, therefore, you should address the questions below insofar as they are appropriate and relevant to the proposal.

Questions to consider/prompt your thinking

The Findings

How have you ensured that employees affected by the proposal but who are absent because of long term sickness, being on secondment or a career break, being on maternity/paternity, adoption or carer's leave are not disadvantaged by their absence?

How have you ensured that any employee selection processes do not directly or indirectly discriminate against employees because of a protected characteristic? Have you ensured that, where relevant, reasonable adjustments have been made to ensure that a person who is disabled is able to fully participate in the process?

If the proposal is about delivering a service differently, how have you ensured that employees are properly equipped with the relevant tools, skills and knowledge to do so?

How will you be able to demonstrate that you have implemented the council's policies and procedures fairly? For example, what employee monitoring data do you need to gather, analyse and compare pre and post implementation of the proposal?

At present the proposals put forward in the Education and Skills Strategy do not impact on current service provision but as the new service delivery model through Side by Side is developed, trialled and implemented, service delivery teams could be affected. Another full EIA would need to be completed once the specific details of the new delivery model have been identified and agreed, with any services having to be reconfigured or restructured as a result.

Where staff are transferring from the BLT to BCC, due process has been followed as in line with TUPE guidelines. Any reconfiguration/realignment of services that may result subsequently will follow a consultation process, involving all staff affected within the relevant service.

143

*Buckinghamshire County Council
MTP Equalities & VCS Impact Assessment Proforma*

Section D: The Voluntary and Community Sector (relates to screening question 5)

You have identified that the proposal has a direct impact on voluntary and community sector organisations either as a result of a reduction in, or cessation of, grant funding, or where contracts are coming to an end and will not be renewed, or where new contracts are at a reduced level of funding than was previously the case. Therefore, you should address the questions below insofar as they are appropriate and relevant to the proposal.

Questions to consider	The Findings
Which VCS organisation(s) is / are involved?	<p>A reduction in DSG/ESG will have a significant impact on the Council's alternative delivery vehicles (ADV) strategy which led to the establishment of BLT. Following the Cabinet decision taken in January 2018 to vary the current agreement with the BLT by transferring the grant funded statutory activities to BCC, work has been undertaken to ensure the effective transition of these services. The BLT will have the opportunity to trade and continue to offer a range of discretionary services to schools following the expiration of the current funding agreement with BCC on 31 July 2018, and will continue to hold NQT appropriate body status on behalf of the Council for a minimum of one year.</p> <p>The School Improvement Monitoring and Brokerage Grant is the transition funding that is in place for a period of two years, and. this will be used to support the "Side by Side approach which can be used to not only support schools to becoming good but also to promote inclusion, support SEND provision and improve the transition process between early years and primary schools, which are among the key priorities within the Strategy (indicative funds are outlined in the table overleaf).</p>
What is the source of the current funding (i.e. BCC budget, national funding stream)?	
What will the financial impact of the proposal be on the organisation(s) involved? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % reduction in BCC contribution • % reduction in the organisation's total income (based on current year income) 	
What funding does the organisation receive from other Buckinghamshire bodies or organisations (e.g. District Councils, Bucks Community Foundation)? Please provide a breakdown.	
What are the reasons for reducing or ending the funding?	
How will the proposal impact on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the organisation(s) e.g. staffing, capacity)? • the future of the service* • beneficiaries, service users and carers (if not answered in Section A above)? • volunteers currently providing the service? • any assets used to provide the service*? • the wider local community*? • the supply chain, especially where locally sourced? 	

144

*Buckinghamshire County Council
MTP Equalities & VCS Impact Assessment Proforma*

Is alternative provision of the services available to existing clients? If yes, from which organisations?				
Could implementation of the proposal lead to increase demand on other voluntary sector organisations? If yes, what is being done to prepare for this increased demand?	School Improvement, monitoring and brokerage transition Grant (DfE)			
Is there a particular geographical impact?		Year 1:	Year 2:	Year 3:
Will this reduction have a positive, negative or neutral impact on our efforts to encourage people and communities to become more self-reliant?		2017/1 (£,000)	2018/19 (£,000)	2019/20 (£,000)
		373	529	210
Section E: Consultation and Engagement (relates to any screening question where the answer was “yes” or “maybe”)				
Please answer the questions insofar as they are relevant to the proposal. If they are not relevant, please indicate this in “The Findings” box below.				
Questions to consider/prompt your thinking	The Findings			
<p>Equalities Perspective:</p> <p>Does the proposal require targeted engagement to ensure that people directly affected are aware of the proposal and/or consulted with about how to mitigate an adverse impact or to eliminate any identified discrimination? If yes, how will this be achieved? How will you ensure that communication is appropriate to meet the different communication needs of different groups of people? For which groups will face to face communication be preferable/the most effective method?</p>	<p>Consultation events held in July 2017 informed partners of the necessity to change approach and have an education strategy. The consultation events in July 2017 allowed face to face discussion with key stakeholders such as schools, other educational providers and associated agencies Online consultation allowed wider participation of views which were collated with feedback already gained from consultation events to further form the strategy. Feedback from the events and the online survey has been shared with the wider school community through School Liaison groups, Area Headteacher meetings and at Leadership Briefings and the Local Consultative Group. The views of children and young people were also taken into account through the Youth Council and also through a survey that went to a sample of schools in November/December 2017. By</p>			

145

*Buckinghamshire County Council
MTP Equalities & VCS Impact Assessment Proforma*

146

	<p>incorporating feedback into the strategy should mean that any potential adverse effects of the proposed changes should be mitigated.</p>
<p>VCS Perspective: How will you discuss the potential implications of your proposal with the VCS organisation(s) involved?*</p> <p><i>*The Bucks Compact states “Where there are restrictions or changes to future resources, discuss with VCOs the potential implications as early as possible, give organisations the opportunity to respond, and consider the response fully, respecting sector expertise, before making a final decision.”</i></p>	<p>Changes in school funding, and grant funding to BLT and general de-delegation of funding have been discussed and agreed at Schools Forum for 2017-18. This process will need to be repeated for subsequent years where relevant.</p>
<p>Section F: Monitoring implementation and impact (relates to any screening question where the answer was “yes” or “maybe”)</p> <p>Please answer the questions below insofar as they are relevant to the proposal. If they are not relevant, please indicate this in “The Findings” box below.</p>	
<p>Questions to consider/prompt your thinking</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Findings</p>
<p>How will you monitor the implementation of the proposal to assess its impact on the county council’s Equality Duty and its commitment to a strong and vibrant voluntary and community sector?</p> <p>You will need to consider what information you already have that will enable you to analyse and interpret information in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show the numbers of particular groups using the services and 	<p>Once the Education and Skills strategy has been finalised following the feedback obtained through the consultation process and it has been ratified by Cabinet, the Side by Side delivery model will need further analysis. A robust system of quality assurance will need to be in place in order to monitor the effectiveness of the new delivery model as it is trialled and this will require that the correct governance processes are established.</p>

Buckinghamshire County Council
MTP Equalities & VCS Impact Assessment Proforma

<p>what outcomes they experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show under-use of a service by an equalities group• Show over-use by an equalities group• Reveal discrimination• Demonstrate that services are not discriminatory• Measure the effectiveness of service changes• Identify the need for new or changed services	
--	--

Assessment - Actions Arising

Please list all the actions that result from this Impact Assessment (continue on separate sheets as necessary). You must ensure that these are integrated into the relevant service or implementation plan for this proposal and are carried out. Please note that actions arising may also be highlighted in any covering report to Cabinet/Council. Please also note that you will be asked for a monitoring update in 12 months time.

Action	Officer responsible	By when
Devise draft strategy - February 2017	Maria Edmonds	Draft strategy completed by March 2017 submitted to CMT and LAG agreement secured to go to consultation
Consultation – Summer/Autumn 2017	Maria Edmonds	Education Reference Group set up in June 2017 to help steer BCC with consultation and support. Dedicated consultation events held with educational community in Summer 2017. Online consultation to commence 5 September running to 23 October 2017, with feedback shared through network meetings for schools, early years settings and governors. Views of children and young people to be

Action	Officer responsible	By when
		gained late Autumn Term 2017
Develop new delivery model Autumn 2018 onwards	Maria Edmonds	Preliminary notion of delivery model developed and refined based on feedback from events and online consultation. Side by Side model developed and piloted with the non-selective secondary schools that are not yet good. Deployments commencing in Spring Term with review in Summer Term 2018. Further Side by Side programmes to be developed and set up for September 2018 onwards
Final version of Education and Skills Strategy needs to be signed off	Maria Edmonds	Education Strategy needs to be endorsed by all and signed off by Cabinet by July 2018
Implement new model September 2018 onwards	Maria Edmonds	Side by Side programmes now deployed with regular review processes established. Statutory

Action	Officer responsible	By when
		services within School Improvement and Governor Services transferred from BLT to BCC by 1 August and the delivery of these services will continue along with Side by Side as part of the overall offer to support schools

Please return this completed equality impact assessment to Angie Sarchet, Manager, Community Engagement and Development Team, 6th floor, New County Offices. If you have any questions relating to the assessment, please feel free to telephone her on 01296 382756 to discuss or contact her by email asarchet@buckscc.gov.uk.

Appendix C Statutory Duties highlighted from pages 45-68 of Funding Agreement with the Buckinghamshire Learning Trust

Appendix 1 – School Improvement Support of Council’s Statutory Functions

Statutory duties School Improvement take a lead on

 Not Current

Department	Theme	Unique ref Number	Legislation	Year	Title of duty	Function – What is it intended to achieve?
Department for Education	Education	DFE_194	Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 Schedule 13 inserts section 69A into the Education and Inspections Act 2006, amended by Education Act 2011 section 44.	2009	Powers of the Secretary of State to require a local authority to give a warning notice to a maintained school.	Allows the Secretary of State to intervene in under-performing schools.

Department for Education	Complaints	DFE_106	Education Act 2005 Sections 11B and 11	2005	Power of Chief Inspector to investigate complaints about schools: Duty on local authority , if requested to do so by the Chief Inspector, to (1) provide information relevant to an Ofsted investigation of a parental complaint about a school maintained by the local authority ; (2) make arrangements for meeting for parents to be held (where the school does not have a delegated budget); (3) provide a copy of the Chief Inspector’s report to parents (where the school does not have a delegated budget).	To facilitate the investigation, by Ofsted, of a parental complaint about a maintained school.
---------------------------------	------------	----------------	--	-------------	--	--

Department for Education	Curriculum	DFE_093	Education Act 2002 Sections 79 (6) and (7).	2002	General duties in respect of the curriculum. .	To have regard to statutory guidance on sex education issued by the Secretary of State when exercising any function that may affect the provision of sex education in maintained schools
Department for Education	Assessment	DFE_071	Assessment and reporting arrangements for Early Year Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 – document has statutory force by virtue of section 87(11) of the Education Act 2002 and article 9 of SI 2004/2783, but also includes non-statutory guidance to local authorities	2004	Key Stage 1: Local authorities must collect teacher assessment information from their maintained schools, quality assure it and submit it to the Department for Education.	Key Stage 1 data is reported to the Department for Education for school performance monitoring purposes. This requirement has been reviewed and confirmed following the commitment in the White Paper ‘The Importance of Teaching’.
Department for Education	Schools	DFE_107	Education Act 2005 Section 15, amended by Education Act 2011 section 40.	2005	If after a section 5 inspection the Chief Inspector considers a school to require special measures or significant improvement, local authorities are required to prepare a written statement of action they propose to take in light of the report and to send a copy to the Chief Inspector, and in the case of a voluntary aided school, the person	To ensure local authorities take action when a school goes into an Ofsted category.

					who appoints the foundation governors and the appropriate appointing authority.	
Department for Education	Complaints	DFE_116	Education and Inspections Act 2006 Section 63	2006	If a local authority requires a school eligible for intervention (other than where a warning notice has been given under section 60A) to enter in to 'arrangements' (e.g. collaboration/federation etc), the local authority must consult the Governing Body of the school and, in the case of foundation or voluntary schools, the appropriate diocesan or appointing authority. If the school is eligible for intervention because a warning notice has been given under section 60 of the Act, the power must be exercised within 2 months following the end of the compliance period.	To allow a local authority to require a school eligible for intervention to enter into a contract or arrangements with another school, FE college or named person for the purpose of school improvement.
Department for Education	Curriculum	DFE_075	Education Act 2002 Section 79	2002	Local authorities, governing bodies and head teachers have a duty to exercise their curriculum functions with a view to securing that the curriculum in their school satisfies the requirements of section 78 of the Education Act 2002	Ensures that the curriculum provided by maintained primary and secondary schools is broad based and balanced and that it comprises the National Curriculum and provision for religious education and, for

						pupils in secondary school, sex education.
Department for Education	Teachers and staff	DFE_057	Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998 Section 19. Secondary – The Education (Induction Arrangements for School Teachers) (England) Regulations 2008.	1998	Duty to act as Appropriate Body in statutory induction process for maintained schools and non-maintained special schools, which includes: joint responsibility with the head teacher for the supervision and training of Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs) during their induction; responsibility for deciding whether or not NQTs have passed induction; where they are the employer, responsibility for terminating the employment of NQTs who have failed their induction; responsibility for granting extensions or reductions to the induction period in certain circumstances; and where they are the employer, responsibility for terminating the employment of NQTs who have failed their induction.	Ensure that all teachers in the maintained sector have demonstrated that they meet the core professional standards for teaching. No qualified teacher can be employed in a maintained school or a non-maintained special school unless that person has satisfactorily completed an induction period in accordance with these regulations, subject to various exceptions.
Department for Education	Assessment	DFE_073	Assessment and reporting arrangements for Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 – document has statutory force by virtue of section 87(11) of the Education Act 2002	2002	Key Stage 1: Local authorities should ensure schools are aware of the need to store Key Stage 1 task and test materials responsibly.	Ensuring security of assessment documents.

			and article 9 of SI 2004/2783, but also includes non-statutory guidance.			
Department for Education	Assessment	DFE_070	The Education (National Curriculum) (Key Stage 1 Assessment Arrangements) (England) Order 2004 (article 6) (made under section 87 of the Education Act 2002).	2002	Key Stage 1: Local authorities must make provision for moderating teacher assessments in respect of the schools which they maintain in relation to at least 25% of all relevant schools.	Requirement for local authorities to moderate assessment in at least 25% of schools to ensure consistency of standards. This requirement has been reviewed and confirmed following the commitment in the White Paper 'The Importance of Teaching'.
Department for Education	Assessment	DFE_074	The Education (National Curriculum) (Key Stage 2 Assessment Arrangements) (England) Order 2003 (article 6) (made under section 87 of the Education Act 2002 and article 11 of the Order).	2003	Key Stage 2: Local authorities must visit 10% of schools administering National Curriculum Tests (NCTs) for monitoring purposes.	Requirement for local authorities to visit 10% of schools during test week to ensure they are being administered correctly. This requirement has been confirmed following the external review of KS2 testing and accountability.

Department for Education	Curriculum	DFE_078	Education Act 2002 Section 88 (1A)	2002	The local authority and governing body of each school is required to exercise their functions with a view to ensuring, and the head teacher must ensure, that the National Curriculum for England and the assessment arrangements specified in the National Curriculum are implemented.	Requirement for local authorities to ensure head teachers fulfil their statutory duty in implementing and administering Key Stage assessment arrangements. Basic feature first laid out in the Education Reform Act 1988 to deliver the national curriculum. Part 6 of the Education Act 2002, as amended, provides for the current curriculum requirements in maintained schools. This requirement has been reviewed and confirmed following the external review of KS2 testing and accountability and the commitment in the White Paper 'The Importance of Teaching'.
Department for Education	Education	DFE_024	Education Act 1996 Section 409 & Part 10, Chapter 2 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children & Learning Act (ASCL) 2009, amended by Education Act 2011 section 45.	2009	Complaints about the curriculum in maintained schools.	S409 requires local authorities to consider complaints about the curriculum, religious education and collective worship referred to them after the complaint has been considered by school governing bodies. This duty was removed in some areas following the partial

						commencement of the complaints provisions in ASCLA 2009. This duty is therefore currently in force in all local authorities except the 14 areas where the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO) complaints service operates. In those areas such complaints can currently be considered by the LGO. The duty on the remaining English local authorities to investigate complaints will be removed when Section 45 of the Education Act 2011, which restricts Section 409 of the EA96 to Wales, is commenced. This is expected to happen in August 2012.
Department for Education	Assessment	DFE_072	Assessment and reporting arrangements for Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 – document has statutory force by virtue of section 87(11) of the Education Act 2002 and article 9 of SI	2002	Key Stage 1: Local authorities should offer schools training and advice on all aspects of assessment at Key Stage 1 and ensure they have an electronic system to submit Key Stage 1 data.	Ensuring schools are equipped to undertake Key Stage 1 teacher assessment and capture / submit results.

			2004/2783, but also includes non-statutory guidance.			
Department for Education	Curriculum	DFE_200	The Education (National Curriculum) (Key Stage 1 Assessment Arrangements) (England) Order 2004 article 6A, inserted by the Education (National Curriculum) (Key Stage 1 Assessment Arrangements) (England) (Amendment) Order 2011 (made under section 87 of the Education Act 2002).	2011	Key Stage 1: Local authorities must exercise their functions to monitor at least 10% of relevant schools to ensure the Year 1 phonics screening check is being administered correctly.	Requirement for local authorities to ensure head teachers fulfil their statutory duty in implementing and administering the Year 1 phonics screening check, which is being rolled out nationally from summer 2012.
Department for Education	Curriculum	DFE_201	Assessment and reporting arrangements for Year 1 phonics screening check – document has statutory force by virtue of section 87(11) of the Education Act 2002 and article 9 of SI	2011	Key Stage 1: Local authorities must visit at least 10% of relevant schools before, during and / or after the phonics screening check, and submit information / data to the Department.	Requirement for local authorities to monitor the phonics screening check in at least 10% of schools to ensure it is being administered correctly (from summer 2012).

			2004/2783 as amended by article 7 of SI 2011/3057, but also includes non-statutory guidance to local authorities			
Department for Education	Education	DFE_067	Education Act 2002 section 20. Secondary – School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007. School Governance (Federations) England Regulations 2007	2002	To make the Instrument of Government for all maintained schools and federations of maintained schools	Provides a framework for decision making and accountability.
Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_142	The Education School Information (England) Regulations 2008 Regulation 8 of SI 2008/3093.	2008	Local authority to publish other information for parents	Places a duty on local authorities to publish miscellaneous information annually (including the making of educational grants, Special Educational Needs provision, school transport strategies, school uniform policies etc). The amendments to these regulations (SI 2010/1006), which came into force on 1 September 2010, do not amend this duty.

Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_059	Learning and Skills Act 2000 Section 139A (as amended by Education and Skills Act 2008, Section 80)	2008	Expands and transfers to the local authorities the duty currently on the Secretary of State to arrange for assessments of a person's educational and training needs in certain circumstances, and his power to arrange such assessments. The duty on local authorities is to arrange for an assessment of a person in respect of whom it maintains a statement of Special Educational Needs – who is either in his or her last year of compulsory schooling or is over compulsory school age but still at school – at some time during the person's last year of schooling.	To ensure young people with a learning difficulty or disability are able to secure appropriate learning provision in the Further Education Sector
Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_034	Education Act 1996 Part IV, Chapter 1 (sections 312-332B) and Schedules 26 and 27. Secondary – The Education (Special Educational Needs) (England) (Consolidation) Regulations 2001 (SI 2001/3455).	1996	Children with Special Educational Needs	Identifying and assessing Special Educational Needs, making and reviewing Special Educational Needs statements and a transition plan from age 14. Keeping arrangements for Special Educational Needs provision under review. Making arrangements for an advice and information service and a dispute resolution service for parents of children with Special Educational Needs. More recent legislation has made minor amendments to the Education Act 1996.

						(Subject to proposals in the SEN Green Paper.)
Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_199	Education Act 2011 section 75 inserts sections 532A, 532B and 532C into Education Act 1996	2011	Allows local authorities to make direct payments for services for children with special educational needs, and allows the Secretary of State to set up pilots for such direct payments.	Enables direct payments for services for special educational needs.
Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_061	The Special Educational Needs (Provision of Information by Local Education Authorities) (England) Regulations 2001 (SI 2001/2218).	2001	Publication of information about Special Educational Needs (SEN).	Publishing information on the local authority's Special Educational Needs policies and the arrangements and activities in carrying them out.

Appendix 2 – Governor Services Support of Council’s Statutory Functions

Key Statutory duties Governor Services take a lead on Contribute Towards Undertaken by Legal and Democratic Services

Department	Theme	Unique ref Number	Legislation	Year	Title of duty	Function – What is it intended to achieve?
Department for Education	School Governors	DfE_068	Section 22 of the Education Act 2002	2002	To provide training and information for school governors	To provide information they consider appropriate and training they consider necessary free of charge for governors of maintained schools to enable governors to effectively to discharge their duties
§ Department for Education	School Governors	DfE_066	Section 19 of the Education Act 2002, amended by the Education Act 2011, sections 38 and 39. Secondary: School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007 and 2012.	2002	To appoint local authority governors to all maintained school governing bodies.	Provides for one local authority governor to be appointed for each maintained school now that the Education Act 2011 amendments are in force.

Department	Theme	Unique ref Number	Legislation	Year	Title of duty	Function – What is it intended to achieve?
Department for Education	School Governors	DfE_069	Section 34 of the Education Act 2002, Secondary: School Governance (New Schools) (England) Regulations 2007.	2002	To set up temporary governing bodies for new maintained schools.	Plays an important role in setting up the new school, especially recruiting the new head teacher.
Department for Education	Education	DFE_067	Education Act 2002 section 20. Secondary – School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007. School Governance (Federations) England Regulations 2007	2002	To make the Instrument of Government for all maintained schools and federations of maintained schools	Provides a framework for decision making and accountability.
Department for Education	Schools	DFE_107	Section 15, Education Act 2005, amended by Section 40 of the Education Act 2011.	2005	If after a section 5 inspection the Chief Inspector considers a school to require special measures or significant improvement, local authorities are required to prepare a written statement of action they propose to take in light of the report and to send a copy to the Chief Inspector, and in the case of a voluntary aided school, the person who appoints the foundation governors and the appropriate appointing authority.	To ensure a local authority takes action when a school goes into an Ofsted category.

Department	Theme	Unique ref Number	Legislation	Year	Title of duty	Function – What is it intended to achieve?
Department for Education	School Governors	DfE_023	Section 499 of the Education Act 1996. Secondary: Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.	1996	To appoint parent governor representatives to local authority committees dealing with education.	Enables local authorities to include parents on their committees dealing with education – usually overview and scrutiny committees.

Appendix 3 – Early Years Support of Council’s Statutory Functions

Key Statutory duties Early Years take a lead on Contribute Towards Not Current

Department	Theme	Unique ref Number	Legislation	Year	Title of duty	Function – What is it intended to achieve?
Department for Education	Early Years	DFE_123	Childcare Act 2006 Section 1	2006	General duty to improve the well-being of children under five and reduce inequalities.	Places a duty on local authorities to improve the outcomes of all children under 5 and close the gaps between groups with the poorest outcomes and the rest by ensuring early years’ services are accessible to all families.
Department for Education	Early Years	DFE_124	Childcare Act 2006 Section 1(3) and (4). Secondary – local authority Targets (Well-Being of Young Children) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007 / 1415).	2006	Local authorities are required to act in manner best calculated to meet targets set for them by the Secretary of State. NOT CURRENT	Section 1 gives powers to Secretary of State to set targets in relation to the local authority early years outcome duties and underpinning regulations set out the process to be followed. i.e. local authority targets set must relate to the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile. Local authorities are under a duty to act in response to targets set for them by the Secretary of State in relation to Early Years outcomes, but the Secretary of State no longer sets any such targets so this duty has no practical effect.

109

Department for Education	Information	DFE_128	Childcare Act 2006 Section 12. Secondary – SI 2007 No 3490: Children and Young Persons, England – The Childcare Act 2006 (Provision of Information to Parents (England) Regulations 2007.	2006	Duty to provide information, advice and assistance	The duty is intended to ensure that local authorities establish and maintain a service providing information, advice and assistance for parents and prospective parents with information on the provision of childcare and on other services or facilities, or publications that may benefit them or children or young people. They should also provide particular help to parents from groups likely to find it more difficult to access suitable childcare, e.g. parents of disabled children.
Department for Education	Childcare	DFE_137	Childcare Act 2006 Section 13	2006	Duty to provide information, advice and training to childcare providers, and prospective providers.	To ensure that local authorities give local childcare providers and would-be providers in their area the necessary support to help deliver sustainable affordable and high quality childcare that meets the needs of the community.
Department for Education	Early Years	DFE_138	The Early Years Foundation Stage (Learning and Development Requirements) Order 2007	2007	Early Years Foundation Stage: Places a duty on local authorities to make provision to ensure that early years foundation profile assessments made by providers in their areas are accurate and consistent, and have regard to any guidance given by the Department for Education.	Enables local authorities to ensure schools and early years providers fulfil their statutory duty in implementing and administering early years' foundation stage assessment arrangements. The duty is intended to support the accuracy and consistency of early years' foundation stage profile data

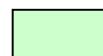
						reported to parents and practitioners and by the Department for Education at national and local authority levels.
Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_142	The Education School Information (England) Regulations 2008 Regulation 8 of SI 2008/3093.	2008	Local authority to publish other information for parents	Places a duty on local authorities to publish miscellaneous information annually (including the making of educational grants, Special Educational Needs provision, school transport strategies, school uniform policies etc). The amendments to these regulations (SI 2010/1006), which came into force on 1 September 2010, do not amend this duty.
Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_034	Education Act 1996 Part IV, Chapter 1 (sections 312-332B) and Schedules 26 and 27. Secondary – The Education (Special Educational Needs) (England) (Consolidation) Regulations 2001 (SI 2001/3455).	1996	Children with Special Educational Needs	Identifying and assessing Special Educational Needs, making and reviewing Special Educational Needs statements and a transition plan from age 14. Keeping arrangements for Special Educational Needs provision under review. Making arrangements for an advice and information service and a dispute resolution service for parents of children with Special Educational Needs. More recent legislation has made minor

						amendments to the Education Act 1996. (Subject to proposals in the SEN Green Paper.)
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

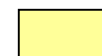
Appendix 4 – Specialist Teaching & Cognition and Learning Service – Support of Council’s Statutory Functions



Statutory duties Specialist Teaching & Cognition & Learning Team take a lead on



Contribute Towards



<p>Department for Education</p>	<p>Young People</p>	<p>DFE_143</p>	<p>Education and Skills Act 2008 Section 68.</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>To make available to young people and relevant young adults such services as they consider appropriate to encourage, enable or assist them to engage and remain in education or training. The services are currently known as Connexions services. Local authorities can fulfil the duty to make services available either by providing them itself or by making arrangements with others which could include other local authorities.</p>	<p>Local authorities have a statutory duty to ‘assist, encourage and enable’ young people aged 13-19 (and young adults with a learning difficulty and/or disability up to the age of 25) to participate in education or training. Services provided under this duty are delivered under the ‘Connexions’ brand. The Government announced on 4 November 2010 the establishment of an all-age careers service by April 2012. These new arrangements will mean local authorities no longer provide a universal careers guidance offer, but they will retain responsibility for providing targeted support for vulnerable young people and have greater flexibility to do so.</p>
<p>Department for Education</p>	<p>Children and Young People</p>	<p>DFE_102</p>	<p>Children Act 2004 Section 10 (1)</p>	<p>2004</p>	<p>Duty to co-operate’ – to make arrangements to promote co-operation between the local authority; each of the authority’s relevant partners, and such other</p>	<p>To promote and encourage better co-operation and partnership working among the various agencies which provide or commission services for children (and families) at every organisational level from</p>

					persons or bodies the authority consider appropriate to improve outcomes for children. Those outcomes are defined as the five Every Child Matters outcomes: be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being	strategic planning to front line multi agency team work
Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_142	The Education School Information (England) Regulations 2008 Regulation 8 of SI 2008/3093.	2008	Local authority to publish other information for parents	Places a duty on local authorities to publish miscellaneous information annually (including the making of educational grants, Special Educational Needs provision, school transport strategies, school uniform policies etc). The amendments to these regulations (SI 2010/1006), which came into force on 1 September 2010, do not amend this duty.
Department for Education	Young People	DFE_144	Education and Skills Act (2008) chapter 2 section 10	2008	Required to promote the effective participation in education or training of the young people in their area to 18 (or 25 for those with learning difficulties or disabilities). The duty is already enacted but	Key driver behind Raising the Participation Age.

					comes into force in June 2013.	
Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_059	Learning and Skills Act 2000 Section 139A (as amended by Education and Skills Act 2008, Section 80)	2008	Expands and transfers to the local authorities the duty currently on the Secretary of State to arrange for assessments of a person's educational and training needs in certain circumstances, and his power to arrange such assessments. The duty on local authorities is to arrange for an assessment of a person in respect of whom it maintains a statement of Special Educational Needs – who is either in his or her last year of compulsory schooling or is over compulsory school age but still at school – at some time during the person's last year of schooling.	To ensure young people with a learning difficulty or disability are able to secure appropriate learning provision in the Further Education Sector

Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_034	Education Act 1996 Part IV, Chapter 1 (sections 312-332B) and Schedules 26 and 27. Secondary – The Education (Special Educational Needs) (England) (Consolidation) Regulations 2001 (SI 2001/3455).	1996	Children with Special Educational Needs	Identifying and assessing Special Educational Needs, making and reviewing Special Educational Needs statements and a transition plan from age 14. Keeping arrangements for Special Educational Needs provision under review. Making arrangements for an advice and information service and a dispute resolution service for parents of children with Special Educational Needs. More recent legislation has made minor amendments to the Education Act 1996. (Subject to proposals in the SEN Green Paper.)
Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_199	Education Act 2011 section 75 inserts sections 532A, 532B and 532C into Education Act 1996	2011	Allows local authorities to make direct payments for services for children with special educational needs, and allows the Secretary of State to set up pilots for such direct payments.	Enables direct payments for services for special educational needs.
Department for Education	Special Education Needs	DFE_061	The Special Educational Needs (Provision of Information by Local Education Authorities) (England) Regulations 2001	2001	Publication of information about Special Educational Needs (SEN).	Publishing information on the local authority's Special Educational Needs policies and the arrangements and activities in carrying them out.

			(SI 2001/2218).			
Department for Education	School Admissions	DFE_047	School Standards and Framework Act 1998 Section 86(1A) as amended by section 42 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.	1998	To provide advice and assistance to parents when deciding on a school place and allow parents to express a preference.	Support parents when deciding on a school place and allow them to express a preference for a school.
Department for Education	Education	DFE_158	Equality Act 2010 Section 88 and Schedule 10. This came into force on 1 October, replicating duties under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. The Disability Discrimination (Prescribed Times and Periods for Accessibility Strategies and Plans for Schools).	2010	Accessibility for Disabled Pupils	To develop accessibility strategies to facilitate better access to education for disabled pupils. Under this same legislation schools also have to develop access plans which build upon the local authority access strategy.

Appendix 5 – Early Years – Workforce Development Team Support of Council’s Statutory Functions

Key Statutory duties EY Workforce Development take a lead on Contribute Towards Not Current

Department for Education	Information	DFE_128	Childcare Act 2006 Section 12. Secondary – SI 2007 No 3490: Children and Young Persons, England – The Childcare Act 2006 (Provision of Information to Parents (England) Regulations 2007.	2006	Duty to provide information, advice and assistance	The duty is intended to ensure that local authorities establish and maintain a service providing information, advice and assistance for parents and prospective parents with information on the provision of childcare and on other services or facilities, or publications that may benefit them or children or young people. They should also provide particular help to parents from groups likely to find it more difficult to access suitable childcare, e.g. parents of disabled children.
Department for Education	Childcare	DFE_137	Childcare Act 2006 Section 13	2006	Duty to provide information, advice and training to childcare providers, and prospective providers.	To ensure that local authorities give local childcare providers and would-be providers in their area the necessary support to help deliver sustainable affordable and high quality childcare that meets the needs of the community.
Department for Education	Early Years	DFE_123	Childcare Act 2006 Section 1	2006	General duty to improve the well-being of children under five and reduce inequalities.	Places a duty on local authorities to improve the outcomes of all children under 5 and close the gaps between groups with the poorest outcomes and the rest by ensuring early years’ services are accessible to all families.

Report to Cabinet

Title:	Parking Delivery Plan
Date:	Monday 9 July 2018
Date can be implemented:	Tuesday 17 July 2018
Author:	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation
Contact officer:	Dave Roberts, 01296 383947
Local members affected:	All
Portfolio areas affected:	Transportation

For press enquiries concerning this report, please contact the media office on 01296 382444

Summary

Buckinghamshire's Vision for Parking was adopted in October 2017. The principles for the implementation and delivery of this vision were originally set out in the Parking Implementation Plan, published at the same time.

In response to comments received from senior Members about the practical implementation of this plan, the documents has been refined and re-written to better reflect how Members wish to see the Vision for Parking Delivered.

This revision is the Parking Delivery Plan.

Recommendation

That Cabinet approve and adopt the Parking Delivery Plan and the principles it contains as attached at Appendix One and summarised in Appendix Two.

A. Narrative setting out the reasons for the decision

The Secretary of State's Operation Guidance for Local Authorities: Parking Policy and Enforcement – March 2015 recommends that:

“Enforcement authorities should design their parking policies with particular regard to managing the traffic network to ensure expeditious movement of traffic, as required under the Traffic Management Act (2004) Network Management Duty;

- *improving road safety;*
- *improving the local environment; improving the quality and accessibility of public transport;*
- *meeting the needs of disabled people, some of whom will be unable to use public transport systems and depend entirely on the use of a car; and*
- *managing and reconciling the competing demands for kerb space”*

The guidance also states that:

“It is a sensible aim that local authority parking enforcement should be self-financing as soon as is practicable. “The Secretary of State will not expect local taxpayers to meet the deficit.”

The Buckinghamshire Vision for Parking aims to address these priorities and has four key objectives:

1. Provide parking where appropriate
2. Control parking where necessary
3. Enforce parking fairly
4. Operate parking efficiently and cost effectively

The Parking Delivery Plan sets out practical steps and key actions to achieve these objectives.

B. Other options available, and their pros and cons

To continue to use the current Parking Implementation Plan to guide the underlying principles of delivery. The major dis-benefit of this option is that it is not felt to be aligned with Member wishes.

C. Resource implications

There are no new resource implications.

D. Value for Money (VfM) Self-Assessment

Providing value for money, through effective on-street parking enforcement lies at the heart of the Parking Delivery Plan. In addition, the document sets out to simplify the implementation of new schemes, which will mean better value for money for the bodies promoting these, such as the Local Area Forum.

E. Legal implications

There is no specific legal requirement for the Parking Delivery Plan, but there is a clear expectation from the Secretary of State that such a delivery document be adopted and kept under regular review. The legislation that is covered is set out under legal background contained within the plan.

F. Property implications

None.

G. Other implications/issues

None.

H. Feedback from consultation, Local Area Forums and Local Member views

The Parking Delivery Plan has been produced in direct response to Member views expressed about the previous Parking Implementation Plan. More specifically, it has been developed following discussions with the Leader and Deputy Leader.

I. Communication issues

The Parking Delivery Plan will be published on the Council's website. Links to it will be provided on the Member's pages and the Local Area Fora will be made aware of the document, with presentations at for a being arranged in due course.

J. Progress Monitoring

The Parking Delivery Plan will be subject to regular review and monitoring by the Parking Governance Board at its quarterly meetings. This board, made up of Members and senior officers, is responsible for overseeing the on-street parking enforcement contract. It is an advisory body to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation on changes in Parking Policy.

K. Review

The Vision for Parking, forming part of this decision is due to be reviewed in 2019.

Background Papers

Appendix One: Parking Delivery Plan

Appendix Two: Parking Delivery Plan, Summary of Actions

Your questions and views

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this paper please get in touch with the Contact Officer whose telephone number is given at the head of the paper.

If you have any views on this paper that you would like the Cabinet Member to consider, or if you wish to object to the proposed decision, please inform the Democratic Services Team by 5.00pm on Friday 6 July 2018. This can be done by telephone (to 01296 382343), or e-mail to democracy@buckscc.gov.uk

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

PARKING DELIVERY PLAN

March 2018

DRAFT



Contents

	Page
1. Introduction	3
2. Buckinghamshire's Vision for Parking	3
3. Legal background	4
4. Management of public parking	5
5. Buckinghamshire on-street parking management	5
6. Decision Making and the Parking Governance Board	5
7. The parking delivery plan	6
7.1 Reducing the parking service deficit	8
7.2 Objectives of on-street parking control	10
7.2.1 Parking guide for LAFs	10
7.2.2 Scheme development and local engagement	10
7.3 Tackling parking congestion	13
7.3.1 Commuter parking	13
7.3.2 Controlled parking zones	14
7.3.3 Disabled parking	15
7.3.4 Footway and verge parking	16
7.3.5 School-run parking	18
7.3.6 Street clutter reduction	19

1. Introduction

This document is an update to the Parking Implementation Plan produced in October 2017.

A new Local Transport Plan LTP4 covering March 2016 – 2036 and revised guidance from the Secretary of State for Transport necessitated the publication of a revised Buckinghamshire Vision for Parking and a new on-street Parking Delivery Plan to deliver it.

This Parking Delivery Plan (PDP) is an 18 point plan that is designed to help shape, manage and deliver Buckinghamshire County Council's Vision for Parking, setting out specific actions for delivery as well as aspirations for future parking management.

Subsidiary documents set out how we carry out civil enforcement:-

- **Buckinghamshire civil enforcement protocols**
- **Parking guide for LAFs**

All documents are available on our website at: - www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport/parking

These documents support Buckinghamshire County Council's Local Transport Plan 4: 2016 – 2036.

2. Buckinghamshire's Vision for Parking

The Secretary of State requires local authorities to have a clear idea of what its parking policies are and what it intends to achieve by them. Local authorities are also required to appraise their policy and objectives regularly.

The 2016 Buckinghamshire County Council's Vision for Parking is to:

- Provide parking where appropriate;
- Control parking where necessary;
- Enforce parking fairly;
- Operate parking efficiently and cost effectively.

3. Legal background

On-street parking enforcement activities and policies are governed by a comprehensive suite of primary legislation. The main acts covering these activities are:

The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984: (as amended) (RTRA) makes it the duty of the local traffic authority (Buckinghamshire County Council) to “secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities so far as this is practicable”. The Act empowers the county council to control waiting and loading and to provide parking places.

The Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996: sets out the legal process for making traffic regulation orders to implement measures under the RTRA.

The Road Traffic Act 1991 (RTA) decriminalised parking offences and introduced civil penalties in London taking the role of enforcement of waiting, loading and parking away from the police and traffic warden service and transferring the responsibility of enforcement to the traffic authority.

The Civil Enforcement of Parking Contraventions (England) General Regulations 1997: extended the civil penalties regime outside of London.

Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 (enacted 2008) (TMA): replaced the RTA for England and Wales and is the current legislation under which civil parking enforcement (CPE) is regulated.

The Secretary of State’s Statutory Guidance to Local Authorities on Civil Enforcement of Parking Contraventions (November 2015) and;

The Secretary of State’s Operational Guidance to Local Authorities on Parking Policy and Enforcement (March 2015) provide additional regulation and good practice for traffic authorities operating CPE.

The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016 (TSRGD) prescribes the traffic and parking signs to be used on the highway.

4. Management of public parking

The decriminalisation of parking enforcement (DPE) under the provisions of the RTA enabled traffic authorities to have, for the first time, control over parking and traffic policy and its enforcement. At the same time, it made the process a civil matter and put in place measures to enable a motorist to challenge enforcement that was free to use and avoided having to go to Law.

Buckinghamshire (like the majority of county councils) adopted the enforcement model whereby the county on-street enforcement was carried out under agency agreements by the district councils along with their off-street car park enforcement. Initially all districts except South Bucks took on DPE powers. A further, later application extended powers to include the South Bucks district highway network while excluding the South Bucks District Council's car parks from the civil parking enforcement regime.

The current operational model (as at February 2018) is:-

- Buckinghamshire County Council is responsible for countywide on-street parking enforcement under CPE;
- Aylesbury Vale District Council, Chiltern District Council, South Bucks District Council (from April 2017) (managed by Chiltern District Council) and Wycombe District Council, each operate off-street parking enforcement under CPE;

5. Buckinghamshire on-street parking management

Day-to-day operational management and formal representations are undertaken by the Parking Services team sitting within Transport for Buckinghamshire.

On-street enforcement, administration of permits and first-line representations of appeals are carried out under contract by NSL Services Ltd.

6. Decision Making and the Parking Governance Board

The Secretary of State's Operational Guidance to Local Authorities on Parking Policy and Enforcement requires enforcement authorities to formulate, publish and review its parking policies and enforcement operation. In Buckinghamshire, policy decisions are made by the Cabinet or are delegated to a specific Cabinet Member. In the case of parking, this is the Cabinet Member for Transport.

The key advisory body to the Cabinet Member for Transport on Parking Issues is the Parking Governance Board, who are also part of the governance structure for the management of the On-Street Parking Enforcement Contract. The Board is made up of Councillors, Officers and Contractor representatives and meets quarterly.

7. The Parking Delivery Plan

7.1 Reducing the parking service deficit

One of the key principles of decriminalisation of parking was that schemes should be at least self-financing. Part 6 of the TMA replaced the RTA in England and Wales and changed DPE to civil parking enforcement (CPE). Under the Secretary of State's Statutory Guidance published under s.87 of the TMA, the requirement that parking regimes should be at least self-financing also changed with the advice that CPE enforcement authorities should run their civil parking enforcement (CPE) operations "efficiently, effectively and economically". It goes on to say that it is still a sensible aim to make the operation self-financing as soon as possible, and that traffic authorities "will need to bear in mind that if their scheme is not self-financing, then they need to be certain that they can afford to pay for it from within existing funding. The Secretary of State will not expect either national or local taxpayers to meet any deficit".

Since civil parking enforcement was adopted in Buckinghamshire it has operated at a financial deficit. Enforcement and first line notice processing is contracted out (currently to NSL Services Ltd until 2021) while the County Council retains responsibility for parking policy, formal representations and contract management and the introduction of new waiting, loading and parking schemes through Transport for Buckinghamshire. These measures have significantly reduced the operational deficit to its current level.

Parking Delivery Plan 1: Civil Enforcement to be self-financing over time

PDP.1 – The County Council believes civil enforcement should aim to be self-financing. It will implement strategies that aim to significantly reduce or ideally eliminate the deficit over time.

Options to reduce the deficit

Reducing the deficit and balancing the account can only be achieved by either:-

- a. Reducing expenditure
- b. Efficiencies
- c. Increasing the income

Or a combination of all three.

- **Reducing expenditure**

Bringing on-street parking enforcement into a single centralised operation and contracting out enforcement and first line representation has delivered significant efficiencies and reduced operational expenditure. The existing contract and contractor works well and a recent negotiated extension of the contract to August 2021 has delivered an additional 5% overall saving without any loss of service. There is little opportunity for further efficiencies on the current contractual model.

Reducing the number of deployed civil enforcement officers (CEOs), the main cost element of enforcement, is not an option. The current level of CEOs (23 CEOs as at 2017) is stretched thinly to adequately enforce the existing restrictions over a predominantly rural county and any reduction could result in a loss of income and a deterioration of our primary objective of maintaining safe traffic flow on the highway network and increase levels of dissatisfaction from residents and Members where parking issues are a problem.

- **Efficiencies – online applications and virtual permit options**

There are opportunities for greater efficiencies particularly where technology can streamline or eliminate resource intensive activity. Opportunities exist to move to online applications which will be quicker to process. There is also the opportunity for a number of our paper-based permits to be replaced by virtual permits which will potentially save on the cost of stationary and postage as well as giving significant enforcement advantages.

Parking Delivery Plan 2: online applications and virtual permits

PDP.2 – Actively work towards the Delivery of improved on-line application procedures and the introduction of virtual permits during 2018.

Parking Delivery Plan 3: cashless parking

PDP.3 – Formulate the terms of reference and contractual process for implementing cashless parking during 2018.

Parking Delivery Plan 4: review of limited waiting bays

PDP.4 – The provision of free on-street limited waiting bays shall be reviewed in a case by case basis, commencing in the town centres and areas of greatest parking stress.

Free limited waiting bays are inefficient and time consuming to enforce. Even where we do issue a penalty charge notice (PCN) there is an increasing trend that appeals are being lost due to the reliance of evidence such as tyre valve position that a vehicle has not moved.

Because of this, they may not deliver the turnover of parking spaces needed for the vitality of local communities.

As such, we will be reviewing the provision of limited waiting bays, including investigation of potential alternative methods of enforcement through new, innovative, technology that do not rely on valve-position evidence or lengthy visits by CEOs.

Parking Delivery Plan 5: streamlining the TRO Process to improve delivery times

PDP.5 – The process for making a TRO by signature has been adopted for all Traffic Regulation Orders. Further opportunities to improve delivery times will be sought during 2018.

As well as bringing the traffic order making process in-house, we have introduced the process of making the order by signature rather than by seal. This has reduced the amount of time and cost involved in making new Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO). Further opportunities to improve delivery times will be sought during 2018.

- **Increasing income to reduce the deficit**

Parking income comes from four main sources:-

- Increasing parking controls.
- Resident and other permit charges;
- Penalty charge notice (PCN) income;
- On-street parking charges

- **Increasing parking controls**

The demand from residents for increasing areas of parking controls, particularly in our towns and built up areas, continues and is only constrained by available resources. In principle, this should mean that with more restrictions, the potential is there for more income from permits sold and PCNs issued provided that enforcement levels are increased to take account of the greater area.

Where new controls are adjacent or close to others the likelihood is that the enforcement cost would be covered by the income from the new controls. This is less certain where new controls are isolated, involving greater travel time to and from the area to be enforced.

- **Resident and other permit charges**

Prior to 2017, resident permit charges were not been reviewed or changed for about a decade. Most enforcement authorities regularly review their permit charges to ensure they remain fit for purpose.

Increasing permit charges does increase income, but unless they are very significant it would not have a significant effect on reducing the deficit.

Parking Delivery Plan 6: charges to be reviewed annually

PDP.6 – Parking and permit charges will be reviewed annually as part of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan Process. Any changes will be implemented for the start of the next financial year.

- **Permit options: Limiting the number of permits per household**

In built up areas where kerb space parking is at a premium, multiple car ownership per household causes problems for neighbours who find it difficult to find a parking space particularly where properties are only wide enough for at most one parking space outside the property.

Buckinghamshire County Council has already implemented the principle of limiting the number of permits to 3 permits per household and a differential parking structure with higher charges for the second and third permit.

Having a maximum permit number provides a degree of fairness particularly in streets with no off-street parking and limited kerbside space. Where there is sufficient kerbside space for additional permits, these may be considered, and a review of this policy will take place in 2018

Parking Delivery Plan 7: revisions to permit eligibility criteria

PDP.7 – Revised permit eligibility criteria has been formulated to implement differential resident permit with a limit to a maximum of three per residence in locations where on-street parking is at a premium. This is to be further reviewed for impact and findings discussed with the Parking Governance Board and Members to establish whether the limit should be removed.

- **Penalty charge notice income**

Penalty charge notice (PCN) income is derived from motorists parking in contravention and getting a 'ticket' for doing so. The Secretary of State sets the level of the PCN and there are higher and lower charges dependent on the contravention type.

The stated objectives of CPE are a move towards 100% compliance which would mean motorists never parking in contravention. The ideal that all motorists will park legally may seem far-fetched but authorities who have been operating CPE for longer than ourselves and whose enforcement area restrictions have not grown in size have reported more compliance and a downward trend in the number of PCNs issued.

In recent years the PCN income in Buckinghamshire has remained fairly static but this is mostly as a result of more areas of enforcement being introduced rather than a tendency for motorists to ignore the restrictions – although this of course does still happen. The demand for more restrictions to tackle parking demand and inconsiderate and dangerous parking continues to grow in the county and is only restricted by the limited availability of funds to develop and implement such schemes. This has meant that the trend towards better compliance and less PCNs issued has been masked by the increase in areas of restrictions which has kept PCN numbers broadly the same. Over time this situation will change and as a result the income from PCNs cannot be relied on as a key means of reducing the parking account deficit.

7.2 Objectives of on-street parking control

7.2.1 Parking Guide for LAFs

The development of parking schemes is primarily promoted locally through the Local Area Forums (LAFs). We have produced guidance covering the formulation of parking schemes and local engagement in the 'Parking Guide for LAFs' which sets out the detail for parking scheme development and the practical delivery of the Council's first two policy statements:-

'1. provide parking where appropriate and 2. control parking where necessary'

LAF funded schemes will be progressed where there is the demonstrable need to:-

- Remove dangerous or obstructive parking
- Reduce congestion caused by parked vehicles
- Make best use of kerb-side parking space available by:
 - Prioritising parking for permit holders over others for the available spaces
 - Improve access and reduce congestion in residential streets
 - Reduce the number of commuters restricting local parking
 - Short-stay parking (1 - 2 hours) prioritised in locations near shops and businesses
 - Provision for the delivery of goods
 - Blue Badge provision made in line with standards

7.2.2 Scheme development and local engagement

Parking issues have the potential to be very contentious, partly due to the difficulty in gauging the problem area and level of support for 'something to be done' locally. Looking at too small an area often results in solving one problem by displacing it to another adjacent street resulting in more calls to do something about the parking.

Individuals or local groups may believe or give the impression that they are representing the views of the wider community but this is not always the case. Experience has shown that some local informal consultation is beneficial and can help inform the decision making process along the way. Localised engagement also helps in potentially resolving contentious aspects and has the potential to reduce the number of objections at the Statutory Consultation stage when the traffic orders are formally advertised.

For parking schemes other than purely highway safety waiting and loading restrictions we will standardise the consultation process stages as 'opinion survey', 'detailed design survey' and 'statutory consultation' stages.

Opinion Survey

It is intended that the opinion survey will use a standard questionnaire designed to establish the extent of the parking problem and inform the design process. The respondents will be focused on

the parking issues in their street and will be encouraged to respond online. The consultation period will mirror the statutory timeframe when the traffic orders are advertised of 21 days.

The analysis of the opinion survey will enable the scheme details to be finalised without abortive work for measures unlikely to be supported locally. The results of the opinion survey, the parameters of the detailed design area will be reported in an appropriate formal decision report.

Detailed Design

The detailed design consultation will be based on the tried and tested measures out below. Once the preliminary design is finalised and agreed, a second, detailed, design consultation will be carried out to gauge if we have come up with the right solution and the extent of support for the scheme. As with the opinion survey, we will use a standardised questionnaire which will allow the local community to express their view via the online questionnaire on the proposals for their street. The consultation period will mirror the statutory timeframe when the traffic orders are advertised of 21 days.

The results of the detailed design consultation, amendments to the finalised design will be reported in an appropriate decision report. As part of the approval, the decision to advertise traffic orders will be agreed along with the statement of reasons for doing so.

Localised highway safety schemes

A significant number of requests to 'do something about parking' actually relate to dangerous or obstructive parking where motorists are breaking the Highway Code rules.

Where it is proposed to introduce waiting restrictions to reinforce only the Highway Code rules set out in more detail below, it is intended to dispense with informal consultation stages and proceed directly to the Statutory Consultation stage when the traffic orders are formally advertised. As part of the formal approval process, the decision to advertise traffic orders will be agreed along with the statement of reasons for doing so.

Inconsiderate, as well as dangerous, parking in these circumstances also needs control and where a LAF funded scheme primarily aims to control such measures it should not have to go through the extensive informal consultation stages that are necessary for other parking schemes before they are implemented.

Statutory Consultation

The Statutory Consultation stage is when the draft traffic order is formally advertised and the local community have a statutory 21 day period to make written objection to the proposals. The process involves placing street notices in the area, adverts in the local press and a letter drop to affected frontages. We also publish details on the Council's website.

Any objections have to be in writing and must specify the reasons for objecting. We have to consider all written objections and test against the statement of reasons for proposing the scheme. Any decision to overrule objections will be taken in agreement with the Division Councillor and will be reported in an Officer Decision Report, which will include a recommendation to either Make the traffic order and bring the scheme into operation or agree further revisions to the proposed scheme.

Parking Delivery Plan 8: business permits

PDP.8 – During 2018, we will produce further options for a business permit for vehicles essential to the efficient operation of the business. The business permit criteria will be reviewed by the PGB at its second quarter meeting in 2018 following the trial in Cressex Business Park, and will make a recommendation to the Cabinet Member for Transport

Parking Delivery Plan 9: Highway Code test schemes

PDP.9 – Parking schemes will be designed and implemented in accordance with the Parking Guide for LAFs with a view to streamlined implementation of measures that meet the “Highway Code” test.

Parking Delivery Plan 10: make best use of kerb space while tackling problem parking

PDP.10a – New parking schemes will be designed and implemented to tackle problems caused by anti-social and long-term, commuter parking, whilst making the best use of kerb-side space and considering the potential impact of displaced parking on the surrounding area.

PDP.10b – Existing restrictions will be reviewed and revised to make the best use of parking space where requested by the Local Member or Local Area Forum and appropriate funding is available.

Parking Delivery Plan 11: parking scheme delivery

PDP.11a – Complex and area wide parking scheme development will use local engagement with Opinion Survey, Detail Design consultation and Statutory Consultation as the standard procedure.

PDP.11b – Simpler parking schemes or those that pass the ‘Highway Code test’ will be progressed without the need for extensive informal consultation. Only the statutory (formal) consultation process set out in the traffic regulation order process will apply.

7.3 Tackling parking congestion

Parking congestion occurs when the number of vehicles parking is close to, or exceeds the available kerbside space. In residential areas, this type of congestion can cause access difficulties and delay for larger vehicles such as refuse lorries and emergency services, as well as increasing anti-social and thoughtless parking that directly impacts on local residents.

However, parked vehicles in appropriate locations can also be a very effective form of passive traffic calming. Removing parking entirely from areas where low speeds are desirable, such as residential roads, can often result in increased traffic speeds and hazards for pedestrians and other road users. Blanket restrictions can also tend to displace parking problems to nearby areas resulting in further demands for parking controls.

Parking schemes should seek to manage kerbside space effectively, to remove and manage problem parking without introducing additional problems. New schemes will be designed and implemented on the basis that parking may be allowed where it is safe for vehicles to park and this does not cause problems for local residents. Where the parking problem is primarily caused by residents themselves having more cars than there are available parking spaces, the parking scheme will need to consider how best to manage in the number of resident permits.

7.3.1 Commuter parking

One of the main and most irritating parking problems for a local community is caused by motorists parking all day and taking up kerb-side parking spaces to the detriment of local residents. The County Council receives a large number of complaints about anti-social and thoughtless commuter parking, with access to private drives made difficult, and obstruction of residential streets to large r vehicles such as refuse lorries and fire-engines. When this is coupled with banging doors and revving engines early and late at night it is probably the most common reason for requests for parking controls to be introduced. Commuters using popular destinations such as railway stations will walk considerable distances to avoid having to pay for parking. Introducing parking controls in just the immediate and current parking problem area will often displace the parking problem to the nearest unrestricted area. Care needs to be given to looking at a sufficiently wide area in scheme design.

Access protection markings (APM)

These are white elongated 'H' shaped lines (also referred to as 'H' bars) painted on the road to draw attention to a driveway or access. They are only advisory markings and have no legal standing but can work well where the issue is about inconsiderate or careless parking, or where driveways in rural locations are difficult to see. They are quick to install on request from residents. The current charge (correct at February 2018) for installation is £90 per driveway.

Curfew parking controls

Short term single yellow line waiting restrictions of one or two hour's duration can be an effective measure for eliminating commuter parking. One of the disadvantages of curfew measures is that the restrictions apply to all road users including local residents who are unable to park in their street during the restricted times. It should be noted that such restrictions can be resource intensive and difficult to enforce cost-effectively. They must be planned and managed appropriately to ensure a reasonable level of enforcement appropriate to the location. If the parking account were to operate

with a surplus, the option to increase CEO numbers could mean curfew parking scheme enforcement could be enhanced.

Parking Delivery Plan 12: curfew parking schemes

PDP.12 – Curfew parking controls can be an effective tool to control anti-social long-term parking. Where they are appropriate, operational hours will need to be carefully designed so as to be enforceable whilst meeting local needs

7.3.2 Controlled parking zones (CPZs)

Probably the most common form of parking restriction but also the most misunderstood. Technically a CPZ is an environmental measure to reduce the need for signs where a common waiting restriction is present. In its purest form, a CPZ does not contain parking places. The reality though, is that almost always parking bays are included in a CPZ but these are actually an ‘exemption’ from the common waiting restriction and therefore require having a sign with operational details for each bay. If a parking scheme is made up of mainly double yellow lines (which do not need to be signed) and parking bays it does not need to be introduced as a CPZ.

If a CPZ is deemed to be the best parking solution and is supported, consideration needs to be given to the operational hours and days of control. During the operational hours, residents who wish to park will need to buy a permit for their vehicle and potentially pay for a voucher for their visitors to park. Extensive operational hours may seem initially attractive but will not, in most circumstances, provide a greater level of protection. It will mean that residents who use their car to drive to and from work will have to buy a permit even though they do not normally park in the zone during the day.

Traditionally, CPZs have been implemented with working hour controls that replicate the ones typically used for single yellow lines where maintaining traffic flow is the priority, i.e. 8:30am-6:30pm. While these hours are necessary for maintaining vehicular access the hours do not have to be as long to remove all day non-residents parking from a permit area.

Shorter operational hours for permit holder bays have advantages insofar as they allow visitors to come and go at the start and end of the day without having to pay for a permit or voucher. For the resident who uses their own car to commute to and from work, the shorter operational hours could mean they do not need to buy a permit. A number of enforcement authorities have adopted shorter operational hours for CPZs of 9:30am-4:30pm and have reported that they work well and are generally popular with residents. It is recommended that a similar approach is adopted in Buckinghamshire for new schemes.

Extended operational hours should only be considered where there is compelling evidence that extensive non-resident parking pressures are present and would make it difficult for a resident to find a parking space without longer controls.

Parking Delivery Plan 13: standard operational hours

PDP.13a – New on-street parking schemes will be implemented with standard operational hours agreed as part of the scheme decision making process.

PDP.13b – Longer operational hours will only be considered where there is compelling evidence of need and agreed with the Cabinet Member for Transport.

7.3.3 Disabled Parking

Disabled parking bays in urban/town centre areas

The disabled badge scheme was originally introduced in 1971 and replaced by the current European Blue Badge scheme. The scheme aims to help those with severe mobility problems and who rely on a car for transportation to be able to park close to where they need to go. Apart from the concession to be able to park for up to 3 hours on yellow lines where it is safe to park and where there is no loading restriction in force, it also allowed traffic authorities to mark disabled parking bays on the highway.

The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions (TSRGD) sets out the national requirements for signs and lines to be used on the highway network. Disabled parking bays backed by a traffic order (and therefore enforceable) need to be marked out in accordance with the relevant TSRGD diagram. In urban town centre settings there is a need to provide general enforceable Blue Badge within 50-100m of likely destinations such as Banks, Post Offices or shops. These bays should be regularly enforced to prevent misuse.

Disabled parking bays in residential areas

In residential areas our current procedure is to only consider installing a disabled bay if there is a Blue Badge holder living at the property and the car that the Blue Badge holder uses is registered at the address. We do not install a bay if there is suitable off-street parking or it is within 10m of a junction, or if the road is not wide enough to accommodate the bay and still allow the free flow of traffic.

The disabled bays are installed as advisory. This means they do not have a traffic sign or traffic order and have no legal standing. In the main they are generally well respected by other drivers and left for the use of those that need them. The main advantage of using advisory bays is the speed of installation. The existing procedure of using advisory disabled bays is proposed to continue.

Previously the advisory disabled bay markings were a Buckinghamshire creation which includes a saltire and wheelchair logo within the bay marking. This does not match the standard disabled bay marking set out in the TSRGD. One of the disadvantages of the Bucks bay is that it is very difficult to ascertain if the bay is a disabled bay when a vehicle is parked in it whereas the TSRGD bay has 'disabled' painted outside the bay. We have adopted the TSRGD diagram for all new advisory disabled bay markings and will re-mark existing advisory bays as part of the lining maintenance programme.

Blue Badge enforcement

Civil enforcement officers can be given the power to inspect and retain Blue Badges if there are reasonable grounds to believe that the badge is stolen, a fake or is being misused. The County Council's Blue Badge Team who vet and issue Blue Badges do not have the resources themselves to undertake such checks and are concerned that Blue Badge misuse occurs in Buckinghamshire.

Genuine Blue Badge holders are widely supportive of action to tackle the misuse of the badge scheme and recognise that lack of action has the potential to bring the whole scheme into disrepute.

The Blue Badge Team has asked that NSL Ltd be authorised to undertake these powers and NSL have undertaken a trial of this.

Further development of this will incur a cost and require a variation to the contract for NSL setting up and carrying out such enforcement. Evidence from other authorities who already undertake Blue Badge enforcement indicate that with time, the cost of enforcement can be covered by the fines imposed by the Court resulting in a cost neutral position.

Parking Delivery Plan 14: Blue Badge misuse

PDP.14 – We will undertake enforcement against Blue Badge misuse commencing in 2018.

Any surplus over and above the cost of enforcement will be shared between the Blue Badge Team and the Parking Account. The enforcement effectiveness will be reviewed in Q3.

Parking Delivery Plan 15: advisory Blue Badge bays

PDP.15 – We will continue the current policy of providing advisory Blue Badge bays for residents meeting the eligibility criteria. The carriageway markings will comply with TSRGD diagram 1028.3.

7.3.4 Footway and verge parking

Footway and verge parking is an issue at many locations across the county. Motorists often do so in the belief that they are keeping the carriageway free for passing vehicles. What many motorists fail to take into account is the problem it causes for pedestrians and wheelchair users trying to walk on the footway or the potential damage to the footway itself and assets under the footway.

Under current legislation, taking action against vehicles parking on the footway or verge is not straightforward. Where a yellow line restriction is in place it also covers the footway and/or verge and we can enforce. Where no restrictions are in place, CEOs cannot enforce unless there is a specific footway parking restriction in place (unless it is a HGV). This may change in the medium to long term as the DfT (Department for Transport) are considering options to extend the blanket-wide footway parking bans that apply in London and some other cities.

The 2016 edition of the TSRGD has allowed the option to create an area-wide footway/ verge parking ban which is signed in a similar fashion to a CPZ. This is a potentially attractive option to consider but before adopting we will need to define some standardised protocols to be used in the consideration of future schemes. Preliminary discussions with the DfT indicated that the Brexit negotiations had impacted their ability to progress the primary legislation for a national footway parking ban. The decision to delay by a year consideration for specific measures for Buckinghamshire was taken and this item will be considered further in 2018.

Parking Delivery Plan 16: footway parking ban

PDP.16 – An options paper for the potential delivery of area-wide footway/ verge parking ban zones and the protocols for delivery will be brought to the PGB for consideration at its 2Q2018 meeting, with a view to making a recommendation to the Cabinet Member for Transport.

There are certain locations where vehicles have traditionally parked partly or fully on the footway in order to maintain a wide enough thoroughfare on the carriageway or where the footway is sufficiently wide that footway parking would not be a problem. Certain tests need to be applied before allowing footway parking. It is proposed that a rule of thumb will be applied whereby a double buggy or wheelchair can easily pass a parked vehicle – in essence the unobstructed footway width would be around 1.2m.

In some locations where the footway and carriageway is particularly narrow, consideration will be given to allow footway parking on one side of the road provided the other footway is unobstructed. Where footway parking is allowed, traffic signs complying with the TSRGD will be placed to indicate the extents where footway parking is allowed. Verge parking would not be allowed.

Parking Delivery Plan 17: footway parking schemes

PDP.17 – Footway parking measures will only be implemented where damage to the footway construction and underground services is unlikely and after the 'double buggy' test and only with agreement from local councillors. Where allowed, appropriate signing in accordance to the TSRGD diagram 667/668 will be installed.

7.3.5 School-run parking

This is an issue close to many schools where problems are generated by parents dropping off or picking up their children. Although in many instances the schools do all they can to encourage parents to park lawfully and considerately, it is also clear that often this does not happen.

Residents living close to schools can be subjected to inappropriate and antisocial parking and obstruction and calls for 'something to be done' are regularly received. There is however only a limited amount that can be achieved by the introduction of parking restrictions, as there are exemptions to most restrictions that allow stopping for a short time to drop off or pick up passengers. In addition, as all the children tend to arrive and leave at the same time and parents try and park as close as possible to the school, it is a concentrated problem for a relatively short period of time.

The school run is a problem that requires a broad approach and the county council works with schools across the county to produce school travel plans which are designed to promote sustainable travel and reduce the reliance on the use of cars for the school run. Any restrictions designed to tackle parking problems near schools will require careful analysis. They should only be installed if they are certain to achieve the desired result. The PGB at its 3Q17 meeting recommended that a cross organisational working group be formed and chaired by the Deputy cabinet member for Transportation to formulate and recommend policies and actions relating to the management and control around the school run for consideration further during 2018.

7.3.6 Street clutter reduction

Parking schemes can lead to an increase in signs and lines and care and consideration needs to be given to the negative impact they can have on the environment. In rural and village locations particular care needs to be given to minimise urbanisation. The Traffic Signs Manual published by the DfT gives advice and guidance. Chapter 5, published in 2003 provides guidance on waiting and parking installations. Since its publication things have moved on. English Heritage published 'Streets for All' in September 2004. Its aim was to advocate looking at streets as a whole and to reduce unnecessary street clutter on the basis that 'less is more'. Since then, Historic England has published regional 'Streets for All' documents providing advice and guidance on paved surfaces, street furniture and traffic signs.

The DfT published a Traffic Advisory Leaflet, Reducing Sign Clutter (TAL 01/13) in January 2013. This document advocates engineers to 'use their engineering judgement' on the number and location of signs and street furniture. This advice does not engender a particularly consistent approach and it is down to individuals and organisations to establish its own design principles. Further work needs to be done to produce a clear, design guidance for Buckinghamshire but the principles will be an aim to:-

- reduce the number of signs to a minimum
- combine signs where possible
- fix signs to existing street furniture
- avoid marking lines on cobbles or granite setts – instead use restricted street process
- consider using 'permit holder parking only' zones where appropriate
- Conservation signing and lining where appropriate

Parking Delivery Plan 18: reduction in street clutter

PDP.21 – Parking schemes will be designed and implemented with the aim to reduce street clutter.

- Minimise the amount of signs used while still maintaining enforceability;
- Fix signs wherever possible to existing street furniture;
- New signs positioned at the back of footways;
- In environmentally sensitive areas, consider using 'restricted street' or 'permit holder parking area' zones;
- In environmentally sensitive areas, consider applying for special signs approval from the DfT to use a reduced height for signs and consider wayleaves for fixing to garden walls and buildings
- In environmentally sensitive areas, consider reducing the number of pay and display machines in favour of cashless payment options.

Parking Delivery Plan – Summary of Actions

Parking Delivery Plan 1: Civil Enforcement to be self-financing over time

PDP.1 – The County Council believes civil enforcement should aim to be self-financing. It will implement strategies that aim to significantly reduce or ideally eliminate the deficit over time.

Parking Delivery Plan 2: online applications and virtual permits

PDP.2 – Actively work towards the Delivery of improved on-line application procedures and the introduction of virtual permits during 2018.

Parking Delivery Plan 3: cashless parking

PDP.3 – Formulate the terms of reference and contractual process for implementing cashless parking during 2018.

Parking Delivery Plan 4: review of limited waiting bays

PDP.4 – The provision of free on-street limited waiting bays shall be reviewed in a case by case basis, commencing in the town centres and areas of greatest parking stress.

Parking Delivery Plan 5: streamlining the TRO Process to improve delivery times

PDP.5 – The process for making a TRO by signature has been adopted for all Traffic Regulation Orders. Further opportunities to improve delivery times will be sought during 2018.

Parking Delivery Plan 6: charges to be reviewed annually

PDP.6 – Parking and permit charges will be reviewed annually as part of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan Process. Any changes will be implemented for the start of the next financial year.

Parking Delivery Plan 7: revisions to permit eligibility criteria

PDP.7 – Revised permit eligibility criteria has been formulated to implement differential resident permit with a limit to a maximum of three per residence in locations where on-street parking is at a premium. This is to be further reviewed for impact and findings discussed with the Parking Governance Board and Members to establish whether the limit should be removed.

Parking Delivery Plan 8: business permits

PDP.8 – During 2018, we will produce further options for a business permit for vehicles essential to the efficient operation of the business. The business permit criteria will be reviewed by the PGB at its second quarter meeting in 2018 following the trial in Cressex Business Park, and will make a recommendation to the Cabinet Member for Transport

Parking Delivery Plan 9: Highway Code test schemes

PDP.9 – Parking schemes will be designed and implemented in accordance with the Parking Guide for LAFs with a view to streamlined implementation of measures that meet the “Highway Code” test.

Parking Delivery Plan 10: make best use of kerb space while tackling problem parking

PDP.10a – New parking schemes will be designed and implemented to tackle problems caused by anti-social and long-term, commuter parking, whilst making the best use of kerb-side space and considering the potential impact of displaced parking on the surrounding area.

PDP.10b – Existing restrictions will be reviewed and revised to make the best use of parking space where requested by the Local Member or Local Area Forum and appropriate funding is available.

Parking Delivery Plan 11: parking scheme delivery

PDP.11a – Complex or area wide parking scheme development will use local engagement with Opinion Survey, Detail Design consultation and Statutory Consultation as the standard procedure.

PDP.11b – Simple parking schemes or those that pass the ‘Highway Code test’ will be progressed without the need for extensive informal consultation. Only the statutory (formal) consultation process set out in the traffic regulation order process will apply.

Parking Delivery Plan 12: curfew parking schemes

PDP.12 – Curfew parking controls can be an effective tool to control anti-social long-term parking. Where they are appropriate, operational hours will need to be carefully designed so as to be enforceable whilst meeting local needs

Parking Delivery Plan 13: standard operational hours

PDP.13a – New on-street parking schemes will be implemented with standard operational hours agreed as part of the scheme decision making process.

PDP.13b – Longer operational hours will only be considered where there is compelling evidence of need and agreed with the Cabinet Member for Transport.

Parking Delivery Plan 14: Blue Badge misuse

PDP.14 – We will undertake enforcement against Blue Badge misuse commencing in 2018.

Any surplus over and above the cost of enforcement will be shared between the Blue Badge Team and the Parking Account. The enforcement effectiveness will be reviewed in Q3.

Parking Delivery Plan 15: advisory Blue Badge bays

PDP.15 – We will continue the current policy of providing advisory Blue Badge bays for residents meeting the eligibility criteria. The carriageway markings will comply with TSRGD diagram 1028.3.

Parking Delivery Plan 16: footway parking ban

PDP.16 – An options paper for the potential delivery of area-wide footway/ verge parking ban zones and the protocols for delivery will be brought to the PGB for consideration at its 2Q2018 meeting, with a view to making a recommendation to the Cabinet Member for Transport.

Parking Delivery Plan 17: footway parking schemes

PDP.17 – Footway parking measures will only be implemented where damage to the footway construction and underground services are unlikely and after the 'double buggy' test and only with agreement from local councillors. Where allowed, appropriate signing in accordance to the TSRGD diagram 667/668 will be installed.

Parking Delivery Plan 18: reduction in street clutter

PDP.21 – Parking schemes will be designed and implemented with the aim to reduce street clutter.

- Minimise the amount of signs used while still maintaining enforceability;
- Fix signs wherever possible to existing street furniture;
- New signs positioned at the back of footways;
- In environmentally sensitive areas, consider using 'restricted street' or 'permit holder parking area' zones;
- In environmentally sensitive areas, consider applying for special signs approval from the DfT to use a reduced height for signs and consider wayleaves for fixing to garden walls and buildings
- In environmentally sensitive areas, consider reducing the number of pay and display machines in favour of cashless payment options.

