



Agenda and Reports

27 April 2017

19 April 2017

To: All Members of Buckinghamshire County Council

SUMMONS

You are requested to attend the meeting of Buckinghamshire County Council to be held in **The Oculus AVDC, Gatehouse Way, Aylesbury, on Thursday 27 April 2017 at 9.30 am**, to transact the business set out in the agenda overleaf.

Please note venue.

SARAH ASHMEAD
Monitoring Officer

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 we can try to put the right support in place. For further information please contact Clare Capjon on 01296 387969.

WEBCASTING NOTICE

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AGENDA

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| 3 COMMUNICATIONS | |
| a To receive any apologies for absence | |
| b To receive any communications the Chairman wishes to present to the Council | |
| 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST | |
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| 5 ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT | 15 - 18 |
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| 6 SELECT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING REPORT 2016/17 | 19 - 36 |
| For Council to note the Annual Report and Recommendations Monitoring Report of the Select Committees 2016/17. | |
| 7 JOINT HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY | 37 - 56 |
| For Council to note the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Refresh. | |
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| To note the written report of Cabinet Members, and any written questions & responses received. | |
| To receive any additional verbal updates from Cabinet Members on their reports, as well as provide an opportunity for any oral questions from Members. | |
| 8a. Leader of the Council | |
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| 8c. Cabinet Member for Resources | |
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12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Council will be on Thursday 18 May at 9.30am in the Oculus, Aylesbury.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Buckinghamshire County Council convened and held on Thursday 16 February 2017 in The Oculus, AVDC, Gatehouse Way, Aylesbury, commencing at 9.33 am and concluding at 11.20 am.

PRESENT

Mrs V Letheren in the Chair;

Mr B Adams, Mr C Adams, Mr M Appleyard, Mrs M Aston, Mrs P Birchley, Ms J Blake, Mr N Brown, Mr A Busby, Mr T Butcher, Mr D Carroll, Mr J Chilver, Mrs L Clarke OBE, Mrs A Davies, Mr D Dhillon, Mr C Ditta, Mr T Egleton, Mr C Etholen, Ms N Glover, Mr P Gomm, Mr D Hayday, Lin Hazell, Mr P Irwin, Mr R Khan, Mr S Lambert, Ms A Macpherson, Mrs W Mallen, Mr D Martin, Mr Z Mohammed, Mr B Roberts, Mr D Schofield, Mr R Scott, Mr D Shakespeare OBE, Mr M Shaw, Mr R Stuchbury, Mr M Tett, Julia Wassell, Mr D Watson, Mr W Whyte and Ms K Wood

DIGNITARIES AND OTHERS PRESENT

Mrs M Soames DL, Sir H Aubrey-Fletcher, Mrs M Clayton, Mr M Colston, Mr P Lawrence, Mrs G Miscampbell OBE DL, Mr R Pushman, Cllr D Hopkins and Mrs S Hopkins

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr W Bendyshe-Brown, Mr W Chapple OBE, Mr P Hardy, Mr A Huxley, Mr R Reed, Mr A Stevens, Mrs J Teesdale, Mr B Allen and Mr K Ross MBE DL

1 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 24 November 2016 were agreed as a correct record.

2 PETITIONS

Mr B Adams presented a petition for the re-opening of the Old Stoke Road railway crossing, Aylesbury. Mr Adams provided background to the issue and requested a meeting be arranged with Network Rail to discuss the concerns raised.

The Chairman thanked Mr Adams and highlighted to Members Mr Adams' recent 80th birthday.

3 COMMUNICATIONS

Apologies were received from Mr B Bendyshe-Brown, Mr B Chapple, Mr P Hardy, Mr A Huxley, Mr A Stevens and from Aldermen Mr B Allen and Mr K Ross.

A minute's silence was held as a mark of respect for the recent passing of Mr Patrick Phillips, former High Sheriff, and for the former County Councillors Mr Martin Phillips, Mrs Brenda Wickham, Mr Francis Robinson and Mrs Brenda Jennings.

In celebration of the 50th anniversary being celebrated by Milton Keynes, the Chairman welcomed Mr David Hopkins, Deputy Mayor and Mrs Sue Hopkins, Deputy Mayoress, to the meeting.

Mr Hopkins addressed the meeting and provided a history of Milton Keynes, highlighting its development from new town to economically successful, vibrant and growing city. Mr Hopkins reiterated the links with the wider county of Buckinghamshire and explained future plans for Milton Keynes. The Deputy Mayor and Mayoress received a presentation from the Chairman on behalf of the Council.

The Chairman reported on events attended since the last Council (full list attached).

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5 STRATEGIC PLAN

Mr M Tett, Leader, presented the report and highlighted in particular that the Strategic Plan:

- Was one of the most important documents for the Council
- Set the strategy and policy for the organisation, provided a mandate for Cabinet and was cascaded through the organisation to officer priorities
- Was a 'live' document for the organisation
- Had been reviewed by Members and as a result although there had been changes to the underlying priorities, no major change of direction was proposed

Mr Tett explained that Council was being asked to approve the Draft Strategic Plan and recommend it to the new Council following elections in May 2017.

Invited to make comments, Members made the following points:

- The importance of the Council remaining vigilant during the construction of HS2
- It was right that the safeguarding of vulnerable people was a primary focus for the Council
- The opportunity to input and influence the document was welcomed

RESOLVED

Council unanimously AGREED the Strategic Plan set out at Appendix A

6 CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S STATUTORY REPORT

Mr R Ambrose, Director of Assurance and Chief Finance Officer, presented the report, highlighting key elements to Members. Mr Ambrose concluded that he considered the budget proposals robust and sustainable for the following two years, and reiterated the importance of the Council continuing with robust challenge and monitoring.

RESOLVED

Council NOTED the Chief Finance Officer's report

7 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

Mr Tett, Leader, introduced the report and made a presentation to Council (see Appendix 2). In his presentation, Mr Tett highlighted the following to Members:

- The political events of the past year, the growth of the local Alliance, and cost pressures in adults and childrens' social care
- The forecasting of challenges and mitigating actions which the Council had taken in preparation for the current environment, including significant income generation and innovation
- That more challenges and initiatives were expected from Government in future
- The work undertaken by the Council at a national level through responding to consultations, meetings with Ministers and lobbying on behalf of residents, in conjunction with partners

Mr Tett extended his thanks to the organisation's workforce for their dedication and in particular the Chief Finance Officer & his team; to Mr Chapple, the Finance, Performance and Resources Select Committee and their officers; and to all Parties for their challenge.

In relation to the Council's financial position, Mr Tett reported that Buckinghamshire County Council would not receive any Revenue Support Grant from the Government from 2017/18 onwards and would be given the lowest Better Care Fund grant in the country (along with Surrey County Council). Mr Tett explained that the Council would receive a net increase of £1.2m from the Adult Social Care grant and the New Homes Bonus, but that this would be for 2017/18 only.

Council heard that there were options around the Adult Social Care precept announced in 2016 but that the increase could not exceed 6% in three years. Mr Tett assured Members that in the budget proposals set out, Council Tax would not be any higher by 2019/20 and that the proposals equated to a £1.11 per week increase for a Band D household.

In relation to Business Rates retention, Mr Tett expressed irritation with the division between District and County Councils and highlighted uncertainty in the Government's plans for distribution when 100% of Rates would be returned.

Mr Tett highlighted that the Council needed to save £46m over the next four years and that the Council would focus on maximising savings before reducing services, including savings to be achieved from closer working with partners.

Members were informed that the Council had managed to increase General Fund Reserves to a more acceptable level in 2016/17.

In relation to Capital, Mr Tett explained the Council's spend, including the Energy from Waste plant which had delivered significant cost savings whilst providing better protection for the environment. Mr Tett reported that proposals included increased

investment in roads which would be above £15m in 2017/18, with £1.5m on footpaths; proposals for capital spend on schools; and investments secured in partnership with Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership.

In conclusion, Mr Tett explained that the budget was prudent and offered stability for the Council.

Mrs A Davies, Leader of the Opposition, responded to the proposals. Mrs Davies reflected on the changes from the budget proposals in 2016 and the implications for the Council of the inadequacy of the Government's financial settlement. Mrs Davies suggested that the inclusion in the 2017 proposals of unspecified savings with unclear business cases provided an opportunity for the Council to make radical changes.

Mrs Davies explained that the Council Tax rise was supported only because of the withdrawal of Government funding, and that the Group would hold the Cabinet to account for delivery of the Strategic Plan.

Mrs Davies stressed the need for the Council to improve governance and competence of contract management to ensure contracts delivered high quality and value services, and that Cabinet Members needed to challenge the organisation to improve performance.

In conclusion, Mrs Davies acknowledged the challenges on staff and wished the workforce success in the future.

Mr C Adams, Deputy Leader of the UKIP Group, reflected that the financial challenges facing the Council were as a result of Government cuts to grants and that funding should be diverted from foreign aid and HS2 to deliver services for vulnerable people in the UK. Mr Adams urged the Council to secure all possible savings in-house before increasing Council Tax.

Mr P Gomm, Deputy Leader of the Independent Group, encouraged the Council to be more commercial and commented on the importance of Select Committees in reviewing services & identifying savings. Mr Gomm said he would welcome a survey for residents to identify an appetite for additional contributions to funding.

Mr D Shakespeare, Vice Chairman of the Finance, Performance & Resources Select Committee, explained that the Budget Scrutiny Inquiry had been undertaken by the whole Committee, in a change to previous years. Mr Shakespeare acknowledged the financial environment for the Council and congratulated Cabinet for achieving a balanced budget. Members of the Committee and supporting officers were thanked for their work.

In responding to the proposals, Members made the following points:

- Funding for the Aylesbury Wellbeing Project, Local Area Technicians and capital funding for roads in Aylesbury was welcomed
- Thanks were extended to education services for the thorough work undertaken in relation to investment in school places
- The importance of supporting vulnerable people and the challenge of securing savings to underpin social care
- The Government's cuts impacted all services and affected the poorest and most

- deprived people disproportionately
- The Government needed to reconsider both Council Tax and Stamp Duty
- The Council's Budget Scrutiny process was an exemplar in the country
- An example of how the Council was delivering services despite budget cuts was the increase in numbers of people successfully supported to live at home, rather than in residential or nursing homes

In response to comments, Mr Tett made the following points:

- That the Select Committee process was a role model and had included live public questions for the first time which added to the robustness
- That an increase in Council Tax was not welcomed but that it was a Government expectation
- The Aylesbury Wellbeing Project was supported and reflected the success of the Chesham Wellbeing Project
- Local Area Technicians were a vital link between residents and the Council
- The Council had set a £7m income target, which would contribute to the protection of services
- Detailed proposals for savings were developed and the Cabinet required robust business cases which would be regularly reviewed to ensure savings made

Mr Tett thanked all Councillors for their contributions.

A recorded vote was taken as follows:

Members for: Mr M Appleyard, Mrs M Aston, Mrs P Birchley, Mrs J Blake, Mr N Brown, Mr A Busby, Mr T Butcher, Mr D Carroll, Mr J Chilver, Mrs L Clarke, Mrs A Davies, Mr D Dhillon, Mr C Ditta, Mr T Egleton, Mr C Etholen, Mrs N Glover, Mr P Gomm, Mr D Hayday, Lin Hazell, Mr P Irwin, Mr R Khan, Mr S Lambert, Mrs V Letheren, Mrs A Macpherson, Mrs W Mallen, Mr D Martin, Mr Z Mohammed, Mr B Roberts, Mr D Schofield, Mr R Scott, Mr D Shakespeare, Mr M Shaw, Mr R Stuchbury, Mr M Tett, Julia Wassell, Mr D Watson, Mr W Whyte, Mrs K Wood

Members against: Mr B Adams, Mr C Adams

Members abstained: None

The vote was carried with 38 in favour, 2 against and no abstentions.

RESOLVED

Council:

- 1. APPROVED the Revenue Budget for 2017/18 (and indicative budgets for the following three years) as set out in Appendices 1, 2 and 3 and a Net Budget Requirement of £329.940m in 2017/18;**
- 2. APPROVED a Council Tax Requirement of £261.436m and a Band D Council Tax for County Council spending of £1,218.08 in 2017/18;**
- 3. APPROVED the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 5;**
- 4. NOTED the Budget Scrutiny Report of the Finance, Performance and Resources Select Committee (Appendix 6); and**
- 5. NOTED the Commercial Business Unit Plans**

8 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Mr D Watson, Deputy Cabinet Member for Resources, presented the report, highlighting following in the Treasury Management position:

- The Council would set its own affordable borrowing limit each year
- Expenditure (£181m) on the Energy from Waste facility had transformed the Council's investment position (from £200m to £30m on average)
- The prospect for interest rates which were not expected to go lower
- The Council continues to arrange short term loans to meet its borrowing requirements and £11m had been repaid to PWLB on the 14th February

In relation to the Prudential Indicators, Mr Watson highlighted the need for Council to approve an increase in the Operational Boundary for External Debt, in order to enable the Council to increase its income from £70 to £77m.

In conclusion, Mr Watson reported that the papers had been agreed by the Regulatory and Audit Committee on 11 February 2017.

RESOLVED

Council APPROVED the Treasury Management Policy Statement, Treasury Management Strategy Statement, the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and the Annual Investment Strategy for 2017/18, together with the Prudential Indicators for the next four years.

9 PENSIONS INVESTMENTS POOLING

Mr J Chilver, Cabinet Member for Resources, presented the report, highlighting that the proposals were to meet Government requirements in relation to pensions pooling. Mr Chilver explained that the proposal was to pool the County Council's pensions fund investments with 8 other local authorities and the Environment Agency to create a FCA regulated company, Brunel Pension Partnership Ltd. Members were told that the company would appoint fund managers and manage the investments but that the Council's Pension Fund Committee would remain responsible for setting the investment strategy.

Mr Chilver reported that the proposal would create a pool fund of £23bn of assets and that a PWC assessment indicated that the model would deliver £122m savings over the next 25 years.

Mr Chilver concluded by informing Members that the Pensions Fund Committee and Cabinet had reviewed the Business Case.

In response to a question, Mr Chilver assured Council that the changes would protect the pensions of all existing and future staff.

RESOLVED

Council APPROVED:

- a) **The Buckinghamshire Pension Fund to enter into investment pooling with the other Brunel Pension Funds;**
- b) **That a Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) regulated company be established with equal share ownership with the other Brunel Administering Authorities;**
- c) **The establishment of a new supervisory body comprising representatives of the Council and all other participants in the Brunel Pension Partnership to provide effective oversight of the Council's investment and participation in the Brunel Pension Partnership;**
- d) **That all actions required to enter into the Brunel Pension Partnership and establish Brunel Pension Partnership Ltd be delegated to the Chairman of the Pension Fund Committee, the Director of Assurance (s151 Officer) and the Monitoring Officer, including taking such decisions and do all other things deemed necessary in order to promote the interests of the Council with respect to pooling, which without limitation shall include agreeing and authorising any documentation, contracts, financial expenditure or investment that may be required consequential upon the Council's participation in the Brunel Pension Partnership.**
- e) **The arrangement by the Monitoring Officer for the execution of all necessary legal agreements and documentation in accordance with the requirements of the business case.**

10 NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no Notices of Motion

11 CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS TAKEN - INFORMATION ONLY

12 EVENTS AND NOTICES FOR MEMBERS - INFORMATION ONLY

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 27 April 2017 at 9.30am in the Oculus, Aylesbury, followed by a buffet lunch hosted by the Chairman, for which a £5 contribution was requested.

CHAIRMAN

County Council



Annual Report on the Armed Forces Covenant

Thursday 27 April 2017

Report from Bill Bendyshe-Brown

Background

The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served in the armed forces, and their families, are treated fairly. It sets out the relationship between the nation, the government and the armed forces and recognises that the whole nation has a moral obligation to members of the armed forces and their families, and it establishes how they should expect to be treated. Although it had been proposed by government that the Covenant be enshrined in law, in February 2011 they decided that there was no need to make the Covenant law, proposing instead to cover it in an annual report to Parliament.

Buckinghamshire has always had strong and proud links with the Armed Forces. It has 2 RAF stations in Halton and Wycombe together with the Language School in Beaconsfield (now decommissioned) and a vibrant Reservists population (7 Rifles Regiment). There are 4000 regular military personnel serving at the stations and over 100 reservists.

Current Situation

In recognition of its commitment to the local armed forces and their families the County Council signed an agreement to honour the Community Covenant in July 2012. We have also had the support of a whole range of organisations, including our District Councils, Milton Keynes Council, military affiliated charities, Public Health and the Clinical Commissioning Groups, The Royal British Legion, SSAFA, the emergency services, together with a number of business, sports, cultural and arts, organisations. In total we have more than 20 organisations involved, all of whom are committed to a strong partnership between the Armed Forces and civilian communities in Buckinghamshire.

These organisations all come together in a Military Civilian Partnership Board which meets once per quarter to develop, maintain and deliver an action plan for a more strategic working relationship between partnership organisations, integrate service charities into these plans so that they have a proper forum to help veterans across the county, and to seek funding from MOD to help with local project delivery. The Action Plan has 6 work strands supporting the 4 key objectives of the National Armed Forces Community Covenant: Recognise; Remember; Integrate; and Support.



- Health and Wellbeing. Map and identify the needs of Service personnel (serving, veteran, reserve and families) in order to allow their needs to be better understood and, where possible, to be met.
- Education and Children and Young People. Promote an understanding of the needs of Service children so that they are not disadvantaged in the state funded education system to achieve best outcomes.
- Economy and Skills. Facilitate a sustainable pathway for Service leavers into civilian employment.
- Environment and Infrastructure. Develop a common understanding of infrastructure needs of the Armed Forces community, and veterans, in order to inform Local Authority planning and provision of new homes and existing housing allocation.
- Safer and Stronger Communities. Promote a common understanding and closer integration between military and civilian communities.
- Recognise and Remember. Support civic events that allow the community to recognise the Armed Forces.

Funding

Over £43,000 has been realised this past year from the MoD Fund. “The House at Pooh Corner”, based in High Wycombe, which provides sessional early years education for service families and local civilian families, received a £20k grant for a mobile outdoor play kit and storage facilities. The equipment is being used to benefit many RAF community groups, childcare facilities, community events and other RAF stations. This has already created strong local links between the Armed Forces community and civilian communities.

£20k was received to extend Community Impact Bucks’ successful model of linking people with organisations and groups in their local communities through volunteering to foster stronger, more meaningful, relationships between the station community and local civilian community; by facilitating volunteering outside the RAF station at High Wycombe and by bringing the local community into the station, helping integration and building mutually beneficial relationships.

The sum of £3200 was also awarded for Buckinghamshire Mind to deliver Armed Forces Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) across the county of Buckinghamshire. MHFA for the Armed Forces Community is a specially designed programme providing the basis for increased mental health resilience amongst veterans and serving personnel and their families.

The MoD’s Covenant Fund priorities for the year ahead will include Community Integration and Delivery of Local Services and also Families in Stress.

Events

The County Council contributed towards Remembrance events held across the County last November at which our Chairman and many members were represented.

A successful Armed Forces Day was held at Bletchley Park in June 2016 and planning is well underway for the 2017 Event to be held on Saturday 17th June at Aylesbury Rugby Club between 12pm and 7pm.



A Reception was held in January for the Business Community in Buckinghamshire to promote the Covenant and to highlight the role of Reservists, Cadets and employment opportunities for retiring servicemen.

The Partnership Group was also pleased to support the Maybe Magazine project 'The Secret County – Buckinghamshire Reflects on WWII' which was conceived and produced by a team of veterans and volunteers.

Way Forward

The Partnership Board will be developing future funding bids to the MOD to support its work and will continue to promote the Community Covenant to the public and armed forces at large.

RECOMMENDATION

Council is asked to note the Annual Report

**BILL BENDYSHE-BROWN
THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S ARMED FORCES CHAMPION**



County Council



Select Committee Annual Report & Recommendations Monitoring Report

Date: 27 April 2017

Report of the Select Committee Chairmen

Recommendation

Council is asked to note the Annual Report and Recommendations Monitoring Report of the Select Committees 2016/17

Purpose of this Report

The Select Committee Annual Report provides an overview of the work of the Council's scrutiny function for the year 2016/17. In addition, the recommendations monitoring section of the report provides an overview of Inquiry recommendations and the results of Select Committee monitoring of implementation.

Annual Report

Each year the Chairmen of the Select Committees produce an Annual Report reflecting on the work and outcomes achieved by their Committees over the past year. The 2016/17 Annual Report is attached at Appendix A.

Measuring the Impact of Scrutiny

The role of the scrutiny function is to provide an independent cross-party challenge to decision-makers for public accountability and to improve outcomes for Buckinghamshire's residents.

The recommendations monitoring report for 2016/17 is attached at Appendix B. This report summarises the total number of recommendations made through scrutiny Inquiries, and the implementation of agreed recommendations by decision-makers.

The quantitative information on the impact of scrutiny provides:

- A picture of the collective impact of the work of the four Select Committees;
- Members and Senior Officers with an overview of progress, enabling further action to be taken as needed on specific issues, or the identification of improvements in scrutiny processes to ensure that the scrutiny function maximises its impact and provides value for money from its work.



However, measuring the effectiveness of scrutiny is complex and the data on impact needs to be considered in conjunction with qualitative information. The National Centre for Public Scrutiny does not recommend using performance indicators alone as a measurement for a number of reasons:

- A change may be a result of a number of factors and it can be hard to attribute influence to a scrutiny committee alone;
- Using quantitative measures alone can lead to perverse incentives. For example, does it matter if more or fewer recommendations are accepted by decision-makers? Arguably if fewer recommendations are accepted this might mean that scrutiny has been more challenging. Alternatively if recommendations are 'too easy' for example referring to work already underway then they can be easily delivered;
- The scrutiny function has a wider and unseen role in improving the transparency of decision-making to the public which has an inherent value in strengthening the quality of decision-making. This cannot be quantified or underestimated. In cases where there are serious organisational failures in the public and private sector, a common inspection finding is that there was a failure in public transparency and scrutiny.

The four Select Committees therefore monitor the implementation of recommendations through agenda items, to secure qualitative feedback alongside the quantitative information.

The Monitoring Process

To provide a transparent and consistent approach, a protocol on how each of the Select Committees monitors recommendations is in place, reflecting the Constitution and local practice agreed by Select Committee Chairmen. This is refreshed annually and key elements are:

- Where recommendations are agreed by Cabinet, the relevant lead officer remains responsible for implementation, providing update reports as required to the Cabinet Member for sign-off;
- Each Select Committee monitors implementation of recommendations at 6 and 12 months, and for longer as needed;
- The Select Committees assess progress using a RAG status template, published with the relevant Select Committee meeting minutes.

Key Findings

- **In 2016/17 94% of recommendations made were agreed by decision-makers (Cabinet & partners)**
- **Of the recommendations for the County Council agreed by Cabinet in 2015/16, 84% are either fully complete or on track for completion (an increase from 71% in 2014/15)**

Next Steps

- The guidance on Select Committee Inquiries, including recommendations monitoring, will be shared in the scrutiny induction programme in June 2017

- The Annual Report will be published on the scrutiny pages on the County Council's website
- All Select Committees will continue to monitor progress on recommendations and raise issues as needed

**BILL CHAPPLE OBE
DEV DHILLON
DAVID CARROLL
BRIAN ROBERTS**

SELECT COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Scrutiny at Buckinghamshire County Council

Making a Difference

Annual Report 2016/17

Foreword

It has been a very busy and exciting year across the four Select Committees and as Chairmen of the Select Committees, we are delighted to present our Annual Report for 2016/17.

The Select Committees continue to hold decision-makers to account, contribute to policy development and look at issues of concern for residents across Buckinghamshire. Our Select Committees are cross-party and non-political and our overall aim is to improve outcomes for our residents through the work of the Select Committees.

In this report you will find a summary of some of the key pieces of work and key achievements during 2016/17 from across the four Select Committees and the difference that we have made. Our Inquiries this year have included a wide range of topics ranging from the hearing the voice of the child to sustainable school travel; and from income generation to the hospital discharge process.

Hearing the views of the public is vitally important in our work and this year we have used a number of techniques to gather evidence including: resident and service user surveys; live questions during the Budget Scrutiny Inquiry; and focus groups.

We welcome and value the contribution that members of our communities have made to the work of the Committees. We hope this will continue next year and more people will get involved by attending a meeting, watching our webcasts and submitting questions, providing evidence to an Inquiry or by suggesting topics for us to look at. You will find more information on how to get involved at the end of this document.

This year 90% of the recommendations we made were accepted by decision-makers and 84% of the recommendations we made last year have either been implemented or are on track for completion.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the hard work of the previous Select Committee Chairmen, Val Letheren and Angela Macpherson. We would like to thank all Councillors who have contributed to scrutiny this year, Cabinet for their continued support of scrutiny and to all officers, co-optees, partners and public who contributed valuable experience and support throughout the year. We hope 2017/18 proves to be as exciting and successful.



Bill Chapple OBE, Chairman,
Finance, Performance and
Resources Select Committee



Brian Roberts, Chairman,
Health and Adult Social Care
Select Committee



David Carroll, Chairman,
Transport, Environment
and Communities Select
Committee



Dev Dhillon, Chairman,
Children's Social Care
and Learning Select
Committee

What is scrutiny?

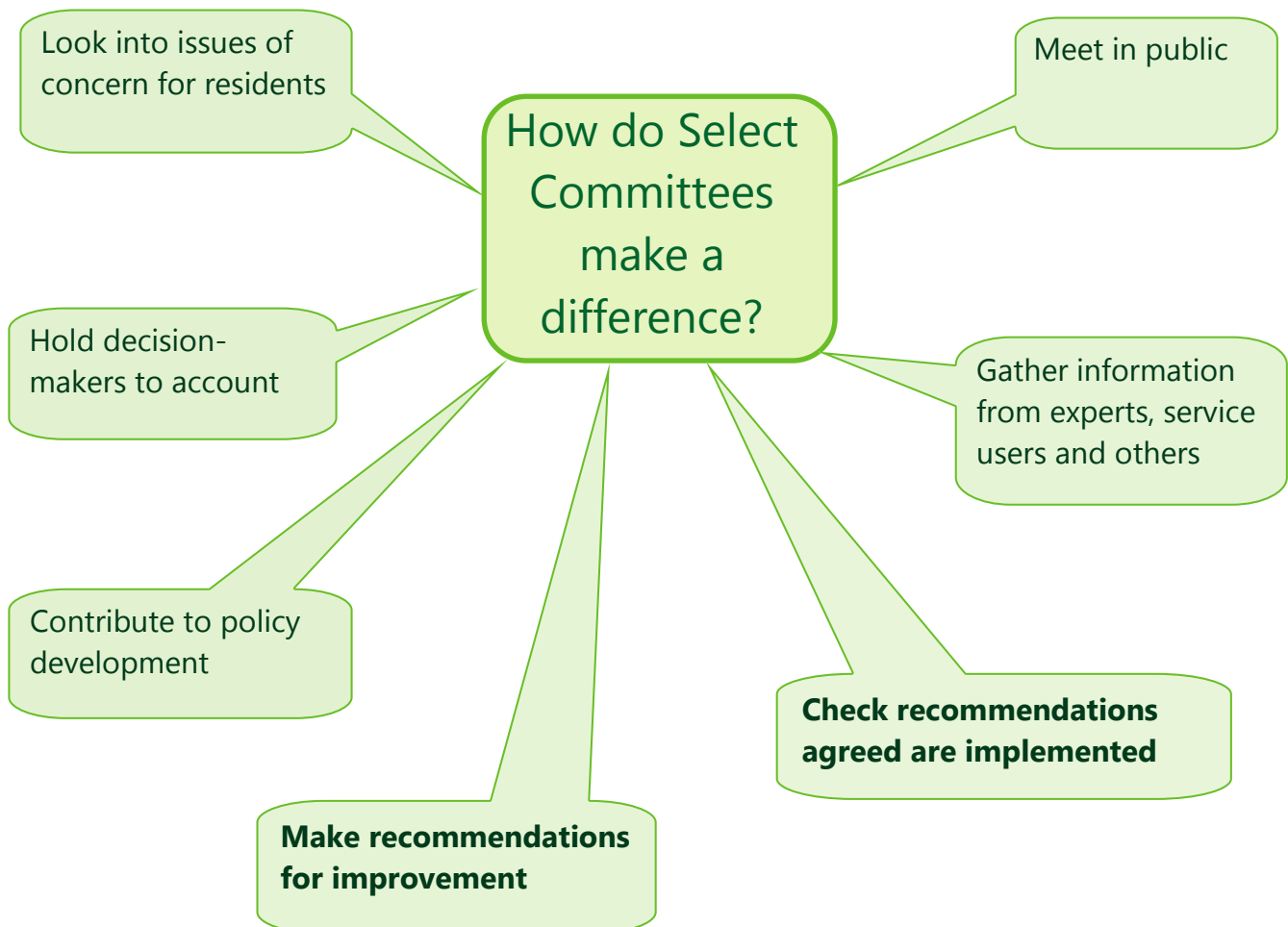
Scrutiny is an important part of local democracy and provides the legal power for Councillors to look into issues of concern for residents and to hold decision-makers to account for the decisions they are making.

Although scrutiny can't make decisions, it makes recommendations for improvement to decision-makers. Within the Council, this is the Cabinet but as scrutiny can look at services provided by other organisations, it often makes recommendations for partners.

There are also specific powers for scrutiny to hold the NHS to account ('health scrutiny')

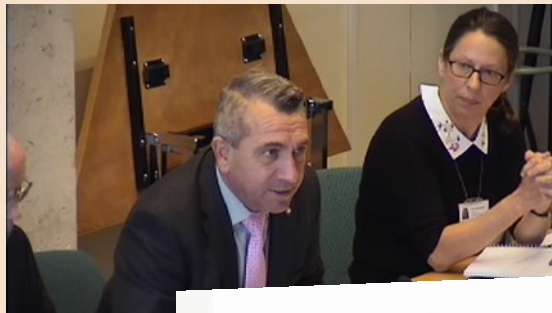
Scrutiny in Buckinghamshire County Council is undertaken by four Select Committees. These Committees are made up of elected Councillors who are not part of the Council's Cabinet, together with co-opted representatives from relevant local organisations.

Each Select Committee has a different area of responsibility and each examines local services across the public sector.



Making a difference in 2016/17

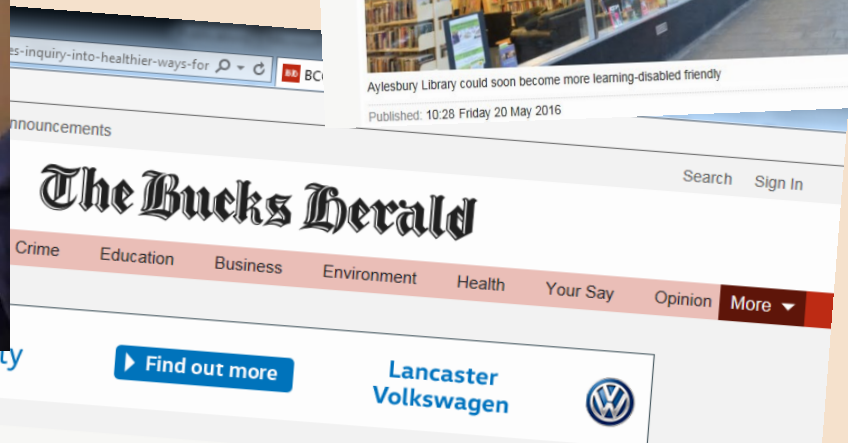
Committees in Action



Inquiry into learning disabilities hears evidence of 'unhelpful' transport providers – while changes at Aylesbury Library could spearhead service improvements



Aylesbury Library could soon become more learning-disabled friendly
Published: 10:28 Friday 20 May 2016



BCC launches inquiry into healthier ways for parents, children and carers to make the school journey



Making a difference in 2016/17 Committees in Action



County Councillors in Bucks are having to justify their budget plans during an intense 3 day scrutinisation by a cross-party committee.

Among the things being looked at is the proposed council tax hike of 3.99% that is said to be necessary to deal with 'expenditure pressures'.

For example it's expected that government grant money for schools in Bucks will be significantly reduced. The County Council anticipate a drop of £3.8m per year in the Education Services Grant by September 2017.

The council report also highlighted that demand for adults and children's social care services is increasing.

Suggests

County and NH service integration

The Health being broken down



Report stopping blockin

12 recommendations have been made to the Council



Children's Social Care and Learning Select Committee

This Select Committee scrutinises children's social care and the education of children and adults. It gathers evidence from a wide range of partners which this year has included Barnardo's, RU Safe, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, The National Youth Advocacy Service and Buckinghamshire Learning Trust.

The Committee has heard directly from families and children and young people through surveys and attending a Youth Voice event. Committee Members also undertook fact finding visits to a number of Children's Centres across the County to meet staff, parents and children.

During the year, as well as tracking improvements in children's social care, the Committee has also focused on child sexual exploitation, educational attainment and provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Key Achievements

During 2016/17 recommendations made in the Committee's "Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation" Inquiry have been implemented, including

- ◇ the production of a tool-kit now used widely in primary schools to help foster resilience in pupils and
- ◇ the rolling out of training and briefings for Members on spotting the signs of child sexual exploitation.

The Committee has continued to monitor progress in implementing the recommendations from its 'Narrowing the Gap' Inquiry into educational attainment, which continue to have a positive impact. For example the recommendation to focus resources on improving phonics in early years to improve literacy led to improving attainment for disadvantaged children in this area.

As a result of a recommendation in the "Voice of the Child and Young Person" Inquiry, improvements have already been made to the website for children and families to include easy access to the new "Mind of My Own" (MOMO) app which allows children to give their views quickly and easily from their phones or computers.

Listening to Children and Young People

Listening to and acting upon the views of children and young people is an important priority for the Council.

During the autumn, the Committee looked in depth at the extent to which the views of children and young people influenced the way children's services were planned, commissioned and delivered and how easy it was for children and young people to give their views to the Council.

As a result of this review, 8 recommendations for improvement were made and these were all agreed in full or in part. The Committee will continue to monitor the implementation of all the recommendations during the coming year.

Transport, Environment and Communities Select Committee

This Select Committee has a wide remit covering transport, environment and communities services and issues.

This wide remit leads to a varied and interesting work programme. Over the past 12 months the Committee has looked into:

- modern slavery
- country parks
- Transport for Buckinghamshire's performance indicators
- The devolution of services to Parish and Town Councils.
- Buckinghamshire and Surrey Joint Trading Standards Service

The Committee has also helped with the development of strategy in key areas, such as the Safer Bucks Plan.

Key Achievements

- ◇ **S106 Inquiry 2015** — A Section 106 Officer has been appointed and improved systems introduced to manage and monitor S106 contributions.
- ◇ **Flooding Inquiry 2015** — an all Member Briefing on Emergency Planning was held and a more co-ordinated approach to the supply of sandbags in a flood event has been agreed with district councils.
- ◇ **Economic Development Inquiry 2016** — a user friendly guide for the public and Members 'Economic Development in Bucks' was produced and the Buckinghamshire Thames Valley LEP will now report annually to Council.

Sustainable School Travel in Buckinghamshire

The Committee has recently completed an Inquiry into Sustainable School Travel in Buckinghamshire.

Evidence was gathered from Council officers, Head Teachers, parents, local residents, pupils, Police, Fire and Public Health.

The Inquiry team was impressed to learn that Buckinghamshire is recognised for its innovative solutions to promoting sustainable travel to school and reducing car use, but has made recommendations to make it easier for more children to travel to school without the use of the car



The Inquiry findings will be reported to Cabinet in April 2017.

Finance, Performance and Resources Select Committee

The Finance, Performance and Resources Select Committee looks at all areas of the Council's strategic performance, financial management and corporate issues, with the work programme driven mainly by the results of the annual Budget Scrutiny process.

In 2016/17 the Committee reviewed and challenged a number of key strategies including:

- Income Generation
- Digital Strategy
- BSP Business Plan
- OD Shared Services with Harrow
- Budget Savings monitoring
- Property Review

The Committee also reviewed the progress on recommendations from:

- the 2016/17 Budget Scrutiny Inquiry
- The Rent in Advance Inquiry

Key Achievements

- ◇ **2016 Budget Inquiry** — Alternative ways of delivering the Duke of Edinburgh Awards and Youth Counselling have been identified, which makes the services more financially sustainable.
- ◇ **Rent in Advance 2015** — BCC has initiated a rent in advance loan scheme in partnership with the Credit Unions to support Buckinghamshire residents.

Income Generation

This issue was initially highlighted during the Budget Scrutiny Inquiry in 2016.

An Inquiry was launched to consider whether enough was being done to identify opportunities and increase income across the Council, and to identify what, if anything, needed to be put in place to maximise income generation opportunities.

In December 2016, the Inquiry reported to Cabinet and made a number of recommendations including:

- That governance arrangements are put in place to ensure oversight and delivery of Income Generation targets across the Council.
- That a mechanism is established by which income generation information, best practice and support can be shared across all Business Units, including skills development resources.

As a result, one of the Council's senior management team has been named as the organisation's Income Generation 'Champion' and a network of Income Generation Champions has already been established across all Business Units.

Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee

The Health & Adult Social Care (HASC) Select Committee covers all NHS services received by Buckinghamshire residents and the Council's public health and adult social care services. These Council services form the largest area of the local authority's budget.

This year the Committee has reviewed and challenged a number of key areas including:

- Oral Health
- Maternity Services
- System Resilience
- Pharmacy
- The Better Care Fund
- Public Health Services
- Musculoskeletal Services
- Vascular Services

Key achievements

- ◇ As a result of recommendations in the Committee's Accessibility and Promotion of Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities Inquiry, updated training has been given during 2016 to operators providing transport services to people with learning disabilities to improve access and experience for users .
- ◇ Key recommendations made by the Committee about implementing more robust monitoring to ensure policies around care visits are adhered to have been fully implemented during 2016 so that care is delivered in a dignified manner and meets the needs of service users.

Hospital Discharge

This inquiry was set-up to review the Hospital Discharge process to include performance around delayed transfers of care across the whole system. The Inquiry group felt that the move towards more integrated health and social care services provided an opportunity to review the current discharge process to see which areas require more focus and resource in order to create a seamless patient pathway in the future. Evidence was gathered in different ways through speaking directly to frontline health and social care professionals.

Recommendations have been made to:

- Standardise and computerise patient paperwork across the system.
- Improve the Patient, Carer and Family Voice in the decision-making process.
- Develop a Trusted Assessor role to speed-up the assessment process.
- Speed up the introduction of seven-day working to reduce pressure across the system.

A joint response to the recommendations is currently being developed by the County Council, Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust and the Clinical Commissioning Groups.

Joint Scrutiny

Each year a major piece of scrutiny takes place in January when the Council's proposed budget plans are scrutinised in detail. The comprehensive way we examine the budget plans has been recognised as national good practice.

Although the Budget Scrutiny Inquiry is led by the Council's Finance, Performance and Resources Select Committee, the Chairmen of the other three Select Committee join the Committee on an intensive three and a half day Inquiry.

The Council is facing a difficult financial time and scrutiny of budget plans is vital to make sure that plans are realistic and achievable. To achieve this, the Leader of the Council and each Cabinet Member were questioned in detail by the Committee on the budget proposals for their portfolio area.

The Budget Inquiry meetings were held in public and webcast live. This year, as an innovative approach, members of the public were invited to submit their questions for individual Cabinet Members via Twitter, which further enhanced transparency and public accountability. The Committee was able to ask over 25 questions on behalf of Buckinghamshire residents.

Budget Scrutiny 2017/18

Budget Scrutiny made 14 recommendations, 11 were agreed and 1 was agreed in part. Highlights of the agreed recommendations include :

- ***Cabinet will now receive specific quarterly progress reports on income generation to make sure the Council is maximising resources which can be used to help the most vulnerable residents***
- ***An additional £350,000 per annum will be invested in the gully maintenance regime to reduce the risk of flooding across the County***
- ***No further reductions in the number of Local Area Technicians will be made within the next three years, maintaining this vital local resource***

In addition, the Budget Scrutiny process has increased Members' understanding of the budget pressures in all service areas and will inform the ongoing work programmes of each of the Council's Select Committees.

Public Involvement in 2016/17

Public involvement in scrutiny is an important part of the Select Committee's work.

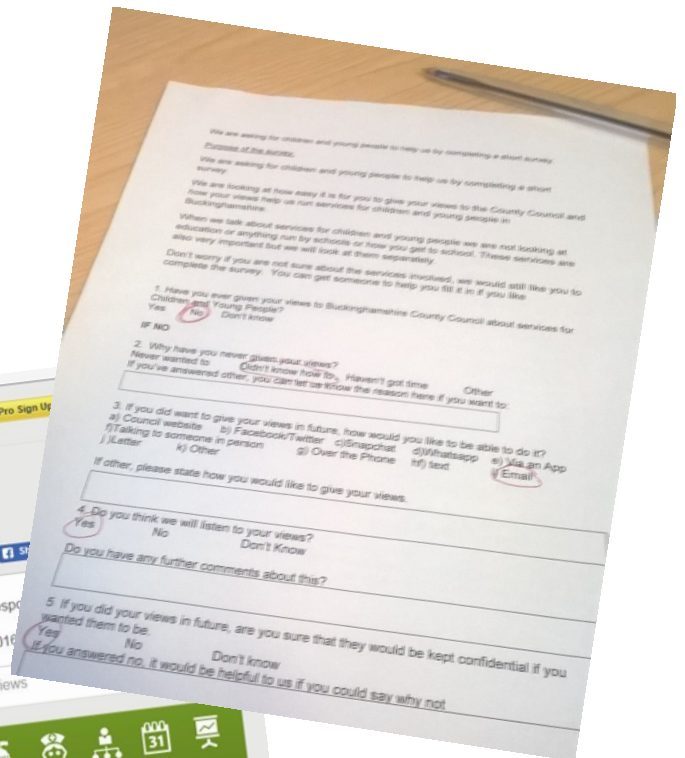
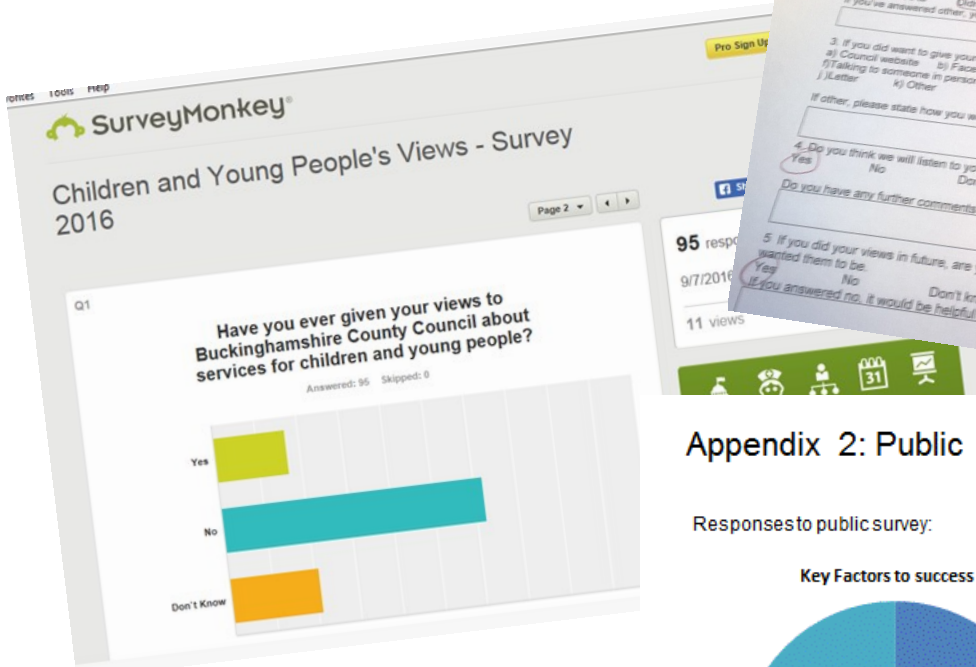
In 2016/17 members of the public have been fantastic in responding to our calls for evidence. Buckinghamshire residents have helped with our work in a number of ways, including:

Filling out surveys to give us views on reducing car journeys to schools and on the ability of young people to influence services

Submitting live questions for us to use when challenging Cabinet Members about their budget plans

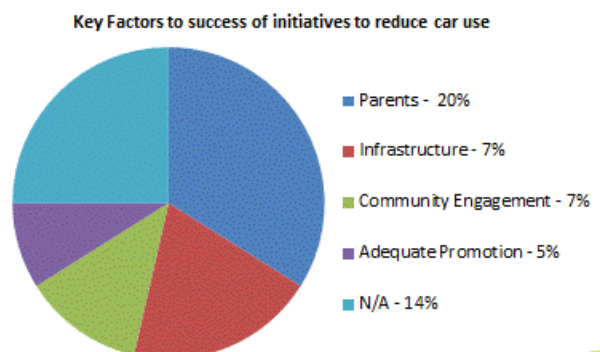
Junior Road Safety Officers providing written and video evidence for our School Travel Inquiry

Providing information through a survey, video and views gathered through Young Carers to help with our Voice of the Child Inquiry



Appendix 2: Public Engagement Results

Responses to public survey:



Getting Involved

The Council welcomes the public's involvement in scrutiny because public services are provided to help improve local lives. There are a number of ways in which anyone who lives, works or studies in Buckinghamshire can get involved in the work of scrutiny at the County Council.

Suggest a topic

Any member of the public can suggest topics for the Select Committees and are welcome to do so by using the online form or emailing democracy@buckscc.gov.uk

Contribute to an inquiry

Scrutiny work is improved by the involvement of local people. To have your say on any current scrutiny inquiry, please email democracy@buckscc.gov.uk

Public Questions

Public Questions is an opportunity for the public to put their question or point of view on any issue that has an impact on their local community or the county as a whole. For more information, visit the Council's website (which also gives information on other routes for individual issues).

Come to a meeting

Select Committees are open to the public and anyone interested simply needs to turn up at the meeting. Dates of all meetings are on the Council's website.

Watch a webcast

The Select Committees are webcast and can be watched live or up to six months after the meeting on the Council's website.

Follow us on Twitter  @BucksDemocracy



Inquiry	Select Committee	Date considered by Cabinet	Number of Recommendations				Recommendations after 12 months					Monitoring Status	6 month update report (due or complete)	12 month updated report (due or complete)
			Total	Total agreed (fully or in part)	Agreed in part only	Rejected	Fully implemented (Green tick)	On track but not complete (Green star)	Off track (Amber)	Of concern (Red)	No longer relevant			
COMPLETED INQUIRIES IN 2016/17														
Sustainable Travel for Schools	TEC	Apr-17	7									Open	Oct-17	Apr-18
Hospital Discharge	HASC	Apr-17	3									Open	Oct-17	Apr-18
Budget Scrutiny	FPR	Jan-17	14	12	2	2						Open	Jul-17	Jan-18
Income Generation	FPR	Dec-16	5	5	1	0						Open	Jun-17	Dec-16
Voice of the Child	CSC&L	Nov-16	8	8	1	0						Open	May-17	Nov-17
Economic Development	TEC	Jul-16	4	4	0	0						Open	Jan-17	Jul-17
Workforce - Children's	CSC&L	Apr-16	5	4	0	1						Open	✓	Apr-17
Accessibility and Promotion of Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities	HASC	May-16	13	13	0	0						Open	✓	May-17
OVERAL TOTALS FOR 2016/17			59	46	4	3								
COMPLETED INQUIRIES IN 2015/16														
Budget Scrutiny	FPR	Feb-16	16	14	5	2	7	4	3	0	0	Closed	✓	✓
Child Sexual Exploitation	CSC&L	Jan-16	10	9	0	1	7	0	2	0	0	Open	✓	✓
Flooding in Bucks	TEC	Dec-15	8	7	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	Closed	✓	✓
Access to Rent in Advance	FPR/TEC	Nov-15	3	3	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	Closed	✓	✓
15 Minute Care Visits in Bucks	HASC	Sep-15	5	5	4	0	5	0	0	0	0	Closed	✓	✓
Section 106: Getting Better Outcomes	TEC	May-15	7	7	5	0	5	2	0	0	0	Closed	✓	✓
Children's Internet Safety	CSC&L	Apr-15	7	7	2	0	7	0	0	0	0	Closed	✓	✓
Crisis Support in Bucks	FPR	Apr-15	9	7	4	2	0	3	4	0	0	Open	✓	Apr-16
OVERAL TOTALS FOR 2015/16			65	59	20	6	38	11	9	1	0			

Overview Statistics	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Scrutiny KPI TARGET: Percentage of scrutiny recommendations agreed by decision-makers and assessed by Select Committees as on track/complete after 12 months.	80%	80%	n/a
Scrutiny KPI RESULT: Percentage of recommendations agreed by decision-makers and assessed by Select Committees as on track/complete after 12 months	71%	84%	n/a
Percentage of agreed recommendations which were fully implemented 12 months after Inquiry	17%	66%	n/a
Total Recommendations fully implemented 2 years after the Inquiry Completion	n/a	Monitoring Gap	n/a
Percentage of recommendations made and accepted by Cabinet fully or in part	85%	90%	94%

Notes:

At the end of the last financial year Select Committees agreed to continue monitoring against the public transport Inquiry; Young People Ready for Work Inquiry; and the Governance Inquiry. These have not been followed up so not possible to confirm if the recommendations have been implemented.

County Council



Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Refresh 2016 - 2021

Thursday 27 April 2017

Report from Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

Purpose of this Report

The report sets out the background to the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Refresh 2016 – 2021 following ratification at the Health and Wellbeing Board on 9 March 2017.

Background

Local Authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups have equal and joint duties to prepare and publish Joint Strategic Needs Assessments and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategies, through the Health and Wellbeing Board. They are required to set out the shared vision for Health and Wellbeing across the whole county and present the high level priorities and outcomes to be used as a basis to shape commissioning and coordinate action to work towards better health and wellbeing for the whole population.

The Health and Wellbeing Board is refreshing the strategy at a time when the health and care system in Buckinghamshire is operating under significant pressures, combined with increased demand for local services.

The refreshed strategy continues to take the same life course approach but widen its potential further through a new focus on place and greater emphasis on mental health and reducing health inequalities. It builds on the priorities set out in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-16 and is aligned with future plans across health and wellbeing partners in the county, including [Buckinghamshire's Transformation and Sustainability Plans](#) and Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Plan 2017 – 2020.

The Health and Wellbeing Board aims to impact on five key priority areas over the five years of the strategy:

1. **Every child has the best start in life**
2. **Keep people healthier for longer and reduce the impact of long term conditions**
3. **Promote good mental health and wellbeing for everyone**
4. **Protect residents from harm**
5. **Support communities to enable people to achieve their potential and ensure Buckinghamshire remains a great place to live**

The draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Refresh document was on line for consultation from 10 October to 2 December 2016 and has been presented at a number of public meetings including the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Clinical Commissioning Group's Governing Body and the Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust Public Board meeting.

The document sets out the refreshed priorities only. The Health and Wellbeing Board will agree action plans and performance monitoring on a continual basis at themed meetings focused on the strategy priorities over the course of the year and are committed to sharing an annual progress report with partners.

Recommendation

Council is asked to note the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Refresh set out at Appendix 1.

**MIKE APPLEYARD
CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

Buckinghamshire

Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

2016-2021 (2017 revision)



Health & Wellbeing Board
Buckinghamshire

Our vision: To create the best conditions in Buckinghamshire for people to live healthy, happy and fulfilling lives and achieve their full potential

We are pleased to present a refreshed Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Buckinghamshire.

The Health and Wellbeing Board is renewing the strategy at a time when the health and care system in Buckinghamshire is operating under significant pressures, combined with increased need and demand for local services.

Buckinghamshire residents benefit from good health and access to high quality health and care services relative to the rest of England. Although many people do enjoy good health, this is not the experience of all; the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims to address this.

We continue to follow the same approach and priorities based around the stages of life as set out in our first strategy, but seek to widen our impact further through a new focus on place

and greater emphasis on mental health and reducing health inequalities.

As representatives of Buckinghamshire's health and care services, our Health and Wellbeing Board members have pledged to champion the aims set out in this strategy. We hope that by working closely as a partnership we can make a real difference to improve the health and wellbeing of Buckinghamshire residents. We are also committed to ensuring that residents, patients and key organisations are all involved in helping to achieve the aims of the strategy over the next five years.

Martin Tett

*Buckinghamshire County
Council Leader*

*Chair of the Health &
Wellbeing Board*

Graham Jackson

*Clinical Chair of Aylesbury Vale
Clinical Commissioning Group*

*Vice Chair of the Health &
Wellbeing Board*

What does the strategy do?

This strategy describes our vision, aims and priorities for improving health and wellbeing in Buckinghamshire over the next five years. It supports the ambitions set out by local partners implementing the local plans for the NHS Five Year Forward View and will align with the Buckinghamshire chapter of the [Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Sustainability and Transformation Plan](#).

It is set to the same timeframe, to coordinate the rebalancing of the health and social care spend and to increase support for prevention and early intervention initiatives, enabling all Buckinghamshire residents to live, age and stay well.

The main evidence base for the strategy is the [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment](#) (JSNA), which considers the current and future health, care and wellbeing needs of the local community. The Health and Wellbeing Board started work on refreshing the JSNA in the summer of 2015, starting with a discussion event with key stakeholders. The JSNA has now been set up

as a continuous process supported by a multi-agency development group so that it provides an up to date picture to inform commissioners and influence priorities for the use of resources across the county. The Health and Wellbeing Board will continue to draw on the JSNA to prioritise its work programme.

Who are we? The Buckinghamshire Health & Wellbeing Board

Buckinghamshire's Health and Wellbeing Board brings together local councillors, local GPs, senior managers in the local authority and NHS, and a representative of local people through Healthwatch Buckinghamshire. It was established in 2013 to promote integrated working between commissioners of health services, public health and social care services, to improve the health of all people in the county.

Delivering the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The 2016 – 2021 strategy aims to create the best conditions in Buckinghamshire for people to live healthy, happy and fulfilling lives and achieve their full potential. Our vision is to improve outcomes for the whole population as well as having a greater impact on improving the health and wellbeing of those people in Buckinghamshire who have poorer health and wellbeing.

↻ The strategy aims to make an impact on the five key priority areas set out on this page.

The following pages show each of the priority aims and work that partners are committed to over the five years. These are also reflected in local authority and NHS plans. The Health and Wellbeing Board has selected the areas that it agrees will make the biggest difference for residents.

OUR KEY PRIORITIES

1. Give every child the best start in life
2. Keep people healthier for longer and reduce the impact of long term conditions
3. Promote good mental health and wellbeing for everyone
4. Protect residents from harm
5. Support communities to enable people to achieve their potential and ensure Buckinghamshire is a great place to live

1: Give every child the best start in life



Why is this a priority?

To get the best start in life we know that a baby's mother needs to be healthy before and during pregnancy and childbirth. What happens during the early years, starting in the womb, has lifelong effects on many aspects of a child's future health and wellbeing – from obesity, heart disease and mental health, to educational achievement and economic success.

As children enter school, the school environment and their peers become an increasingly important influence. Adolescence is also an important time of development; the brain develops rapidly during early adolescence, particularly those areas that deal with social relationships, taking risks and controlling feelings and emotions. At this time adolescents are susceptible to peer influence and risk taking which may have immediate and harmful consequences.

The focus for 2016 – 2021

During maternity, we will improve the health and wellbeing of mothers and their babies by:

- Supporting the adoption of healthy lifestyles for the whole family.
- Ensuring good support for maternal and paternal mental health.
- Early detection and support for people experiencing domestic violence.
- Ensuring access to high quality parenting advice and support.
- Delivering targeted campaigns to raise awareness about the importance of antenatal care to all women and offer culturally sensitive information, advice and support to women from specific ethnic groups according to need.

During the early years, we will support good health and development for all children in the early years by:

- Offering high quality early years parenting programmes and advice.

- Commissioning a high quality healthy child programme.
- Commissioning sufficient high quality accessible early years and childcare places.
- Ensuring all parents have the advice they need to keep their children healthy and safe from harm.

Through the school years, we will support the physical, emotional and social wellbeing of children and young people by:

- Promoting a whole school approach to health and wellbeing.
- Ensuring emotional resilience of young people is supported and developed.
- Increasing the number of children and young people with a healthy weight by ensuring delivery of the national child weight measurement programme and actions to promote healthy eating.
- Increasing the number of young people who are physically active through implementation

of Active Bucks and the Bucks physical activity strategy and action plan.

- Helping to reduce alcohol and substance misuse in younger people through the provision of good quality information and guidance to schools and wider action as part of the Buckinghamshire substance misuse strategy.

We will improve the experience of services for all residents including key transitions through the life course by:

- Working closely with Children's Social Care and Learning and engaging early with services users, carers, families and providers to inform planning and commissioning, and to ensure the timely sharing of data and intelligence.
- Supporting the delivery of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy so that the transition from childhood to adolescence and through to adulthood is a good experience for every child and young person.

- Supporting the delivery of the new Carers Strategy by identifying and supporting carers, especially those under the age of 16 and those over 75, and jointly reviewing the carers' pathway to ensure the provision of timely, accurate and good quality information to carers and professionals.

2. Keep people healthier for longer and reduce the impact of long term conditions



Why is this a priority?

On average people in Buckinghamshire are healthier than the rest of the country, but too many are still suffering from avoidable diseases such as heart disease, cancer and diabetes. The risk of developing these conditions can be reduced by adopting a healthy lifestyle. For the many people who already have a long term condition we want to make it easier for them to look after their health and stay as well as possible. Smoking remains one of the biggest preventable causes of ill-health and early death with an estimated 560 smoking related deaths per year in Buckinghamshire.

Not everyone in Buckinghamshire enjoys the same good health; people living in more deprived areas tend to have poorer health at all stages of life- from birth to old age. Health also

differs between different ethnic groups, and people with mental health problems often also experience poorer physical health.

The focus for 2016 – 2021

We will help people stay healthier for longer, and prevent the development of long term conditions by increasing levels of physical activity and healthy eating, reducing smoking and substance misuse and making it easier to make healthier choices. We will provide advice and support to people with long term conditions to help them live well.

We will do this by:

- Continuing to implement and promote the Active Bucks programme and updating the Buckinghamshire Physical Activity Strategy and action plan.
- Implementing the Buckinghamshire Healthy Eating Strategy.
- Continuing multi-agency action to prevent the uptake of smoking and to support smokers who want to quit.

- Implementing the Buckinghamshire Substance Misuse Strategy.
- Delivering NHS Health Checks to identify people at increased risk of long term conditions and offering support to reduce that risk.
- Integrating the promotion of healthy lifestyles as part of care for people with long term conditions.
- Creating health, care and wellbeing pathways and facilities that actively promote healthy choices and behaviours.
- Ensuring seamless care through further integration of health and social care services centred around the person in need with learning disability, and by regularly reviewing our services.
- Improving outcomes for everyone, particularly those with poorer health such as those living in deprived areas and those from certain ethnic groups, through a range of measures including prevention

and management of cardiovascular disease and by understanding what drives high hospitalisation rates for conditions which are usually managed in the community and through self-care.

- Carrying out targeted interventions to tackle inequalities in the uptake of lifestyle services in the most deprived parts of Buckinghamshire.

We will seek to delay or prevent the development of long term conditions in older people, including dementia by helping people to live healthily by:

- Supporting the care of frail older people by developing multi-speciality provider teams based in community hubs and by redesigning community hospital care and reducing the need for acute hospitalisation.
- Increasing independence, mobility and years of active life for those aged 75 and over using digital aids, equipment and adaptations and making tools for self-management available and easily accessible.

- Seeking to identify and diagnose dementia at an early stage and supporting people, their families, carers and communities to help them manage their condition.
- Delivering preventative services in the community, including floating support, and helping older people to stay in touch with family and friends through the use of new technologies such as Face Time and Skype and other appropriate social media.

3: Promote good mental health and wellbeing for everyone



Why is this a priority?

Having good mental health is fundamental to our physical health and overall wellbeing and pivotal to relationships, successful employment and realising our full potential. Poor mental health is common; one in four people in the UK will experience poor mental health in the course of a year.

Half of all mental health problems start by the age of 14, rising to 75 per cent by age 24. Mental health and wellbeing support for children and families is key, including early support for women during pregnancy and the first few months after birth, improved links with schools and better experiences for people as they move between children's and adult services.

The focus for 2016 – 2021

We will seek to promote good mental health and wellbeing by:

- Improving maternal mental health by building effective screening for mental health issues in pregnancy and maternity pathways and ensuring rapid access to effective intervention for all women who require it.
- Improving infant, children and young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing through targeted support and by ensuring access to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and early intervention services.
- Promoting adult wellbeing and resilience in all partner workplaces as part of wider workplace health initiatives
- Promoting good mental health and emotional wellbeing by working with partners to identify and work with groups who are vulnerable to poor mental health.
- Working with partners to improve the physical health of people with mental illness and/or learning disability.
- Reviewing existing services for people with mental health and substance misuse problems to improve their outcomes.
- Implementing plans to reduce the risk of suicide and minimise self-harm.

4: Protect residents from harm



Why is this a priority?

Protecting our residents from harm and ensuring all residents are safe is everybody's business. The Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board and the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board are committed to ensuring adults, children and young people feel safe and are protected from harm. It is a priority for the Health and Wellbeing Board to ensure consideration is given to safeguarding for both children and adults in everything we do.

The focus for 2016-2021

The Health and Wellbeing Board's focus on protecting residents from harm will be informed by the joint protocol with the Adults and Children's Safeguarding Boards and the Safer and Stronger Bucks Partnership Board, including joint work on common areas of interest. Based on this, we will seek to protect residents from harm by:

- Reducing child maltreatment by offering both universal and targeted services to address the underlying factors associated with child maltreatment and responding rapidly to address problems early.
- Supporting the implementation of the Buckinghamshire's Children's Strategy and Child Safeguarding Board priorities
- Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) by protecting those at risk and ensuring an appropriate multi-agency response through the delivery of the CSE Strategy and action plan.

- Keeping strategic oversight of the Buckinghamshire Female Genital Mutilation Strategy.
- Ensuring the robust safeguarding of adults through effective joint working with the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Adult Board.
- Improving joint working between agencies, including support for people experiencing domestic violence and those experiencing mental health and substance misuse.

5: Support communities to enable people to achieve their potential and ensure Buckinghamshire is a great place to live



Why is this a priority?

We know that having good friends and living in friendly communities is good for our physical and mental health whatever our age. We want to enable people in our communities to support each other in times of need.

We also know that the physical environment, where we live, our communities and social networks have a strong influence on our overall health and wellbeing. As our population ages we want to ensure that homes and neighbourhoods are designed to support people to lead fulfilling lives and stay independent for longer.

The focus for 2016 – 2021

We seek to support communities in helping to improve people's health and wellbeing by:

- Supporting the provision and maintenance of infrastructure and flexible community facilities to enable healthy lifestyles and environments, such as safe green spaces, play areas, cycle and walking routes, safer roads and high quality housing.
- Working with communities to support thriving community life, including targeted work with the voluntary sector.
- Supporting people who need assistance with their health and care needs and connect them with local organisations and activities in their communities.
- Ensuring more people are living independently for longer by creating the best environments possible by encouraging the development of high quality accommodation and premises for people with care and support needs and the provision of lifetime homes and appropriate housing for older people in Buckinghamshire.

- Working in partnership to deliver effective infrastructure for health and social care which is flexible enough to meet changing needs and support new and innovative models of care.



How will we measure success?

The Health and Wellbeing Board meets six times a year and will focus its meetings on delivering the aims of the strategy. A summary of actions and the next steps will be produced following every meeting and an annual report produced to show the impact that the Board and its partners have made over the year to improving the county's health and wellbeing.

The Health and Wellbeing Board will also develop a set of performance indicators to monitor progress throughout each year to see if the strategy is making a difference in Buckinghamshire.

For more information on the Health and Wellbeing Board, visit the [County Council website](#).

For general enquiries:

Email hwb@buckscc.gov.uk

Phone 01296 382043 @buckshwb

Or write to: Bucks Public Health team, Room G3,
Buckinghamshire County Council, Aylesbury, HP20 1UA

County Council



Cabinet Member Reports

8a. REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Modernising local government in Buckinghamshire

The case for public sector reform in order to meet the challenges of the 21st century has been put forward by both the Districts and County. Both the County Council and District colleagues are agreed that no change is the highest risk strategy as the current configuration of local government within Buckinghamshire is no longer fit for purpose or sustainable.

In developing the County Council's initial proposals, we engaged with a series of stakeholder groups, including work carried out by IPSOS Mori with residents, to inform our thinking. An options appraisal demonstrated that a one unitary model would be simpler, cheaper and puts local leadership at its heart. Following Council's decision on the 22nd September to support a new single, countywide unitary council, we submitted our proposal to the Department for Communities (DCLG) and anticipate a decision on the future of local government in Buckinghamshire after the May elections.

DCLG has encouraged the County Council to continue seeking the views of local people and organisations including businesses, parish and town councils about local government reform. Their views and feedback were invaluable in producing our business case for a single unitary council but since submitting our proposal the Districts have also submitted proposals to government for two separate unitary councils and as such there are now two different options for reform.

During April residents have been encouraged to give their views through a short engagement questionnaire, a telephone survey and a series of face to face group discussions all of which will be analysed by ORS, an independent social research company.

Financial update

The early draft outturn indicates an overspend of £1.7m on our service expenditure headings. This represents a very early estimate and there are still a significant number of issues to be resolved, so this figure is likely to change. However, across the Council this pressure is being mitigated through underspends in Corporate costs, delivering an underspend at the bottom line. Balancing our budgets continues to be our biggest focal point. The Chief Executive has a strong framework in place and I am pleased to see robust planning and scrutiny of every aspect of our budgets. We need to continue to be creative and innovative as well as ensuring extremely tight controls on our action plans.

The latest forecasting position shows the continued challenges within Children's Social Care areas with an increase in placements / costs of placements, agency staff spend and difficulty recruiting permanent staff and increased demand on high needs budgets including client transport (SEND). Despite recruitment drives to attract permanent social workers, rather than rely on agency staffing, the significant national shortage of social workers is keeping turnover rates high.

Since setting out budget the Chancellor has delivered his spring budget. This included the announcement of £2bn of additional grant funding for Adults Social Care over the next 3 years. Our share of this is only £3.49m in 17/18, £3.66m in 18/19 and £2.35m in 19/20. Details of any conditions on the use of this money have not yet been announced, so we are currently unable to commit this to any particular activities. The budget also included funding to support additional Business Rate reliefs. This will be managed by the District councils, will not impact on our Business Rate income levels, and is welcomed as an additional way to support local businesses. Additionally, the statement included additional school maintenance funding, however we are yet to have been notified of our allocations of this. In addition to the announcements above, a Green Paper is expected in the summer which will set out future options for the funding of Adult Social Care.

Health and Wellbeing Board update

The Health and Wellbeing Board agreed the refresh of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy at the last Board meeting on 9 March. This is an overarching strategy for 2016 – 2021 for the county to improve the health and wellbeing of the whole Buckinghamshire population and is aligned with the Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Plan and our partner's health and care future plans, including local NHS plans and the Buckinghamshire Sustainability and Transformation plans.

The strategy proposes to make an impact on five key priority areas over the five years of the strategy.

1. Every child has the best start in life
2. Keep people healthier for longer and reduce the impact of long term conditions
3. Promote good mental health and wellbeing for everyone
4. Protect residents from harm
5. Support communities to enable people to achieve their potential and ensure Buckinghamshire remains a great place to live

Health and Wellbeing Board members are in the process of scheduling themed meetings on each priority area to progress the strategy objectives.

The Board is also focused on its statutory duty to encourage integrated working between health and social care commissioners. At the last meeting lead officers on the Board presented a 'Roadmap to 2020' which is a statement of intent for more integrated working between health and care organisations in Buckinghamshire and sets out the opportunities to better manage demand on services and deliver joint outcomes for the health and wellbeing of Buckinghamshire residents. The Board also looked in detail at the Bucks Health and Care System Plan and is continuing to play a key role in oversight of progress to drive forward transformation of services in Buckinghamshire.

The next meeting will take place on 15 June and the board will be focussing on the 'Give Every Child the Best Start in Life' priority.

High Speed 2 Update

The HS2 Hybrid Act has received Royal Assent and HS2 Ltd are currently mobilising their Early Works Contractors which is Fusion JV (Morgan Sindall Construction and Infrastructure Ltd (previously Morgan Sindall plc), BAM Nuttall Ltd, Ferrovial Agroman (UK) Ltd) within Buckinghamshire. Initial HS2 enabling works will include the construction of slip roads on the M25, the creation of a number of habitat sites for

translocating protected species and continued Ground Investigations works. HS2 Ltd expects to award their Main Works contracts in Summer 2017.

This continues to be significant for the County and we will remain focused on championing the views of residents and the delivery of the mitigations promised.

England's Economic Heartland Strategic Alliance

The England's Economic Heartland Strategic Alliance brings together 9 local authorities and 4 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) that sit at the heart of the corridor of growth from Cambridge through Milton Keynes and Northampton to Oxford. The strategic priority is to maximise economic growth through increasing the productivity of existing businesses and unlocking the creation of new jobs across the Heartland, including the provision of any enabling infrastructure.

The profile of England's Economic Heartland (EEH) continues to grow as does the ambition and support to establish a statutory Sub-national Transport Body. The Department for Transport (DfT) has given £625,000 in match funding to the Strategic Alliance (Buckinghamshire County Council is acting as the accountable body for the Strategic Alliance) to help shape its priorities and address inadequate transport infrastructure across the region. The DfT will be looking to the Strategic Alliance to provide strategic input into the next Road Investment Strategy and Rail Investment Strategy.

EEH held its first Regional Conference on the 9th March where the Andrew Jones MP (Transport Minister) was a key note speaker and praised the Strategic Alliance for its leadership and emphasised the important role that it has to play in turning plans into reality. The conference was a success and explored how the delivery of roads and infrastructure is vital to the Heartland area fulfilling its potential, particularly with respect to unlocking development and opportunities. A particularly strong theme to emerge on the day was the opportunities created by technology and innovation.

A key infrastructure priority for England's Economic Heartland is delivery of East West Rail (EWR). The Strategic Transport Forum at its meeting on 24th March emphasised the importance of delivering the Western Section of EWR at the earliest opportunity including services between Aylesbury and Milton Keynes. Another key infrastructure priority for the Heartland is the Expressway. As part of the work programme agreed with the DfT there is a requirement to work with local partners on the next stage of the study. The Strategic Transport Forum set out its expectations that an inclusive approach, building on the model used with EWR, is the best way forward. This will ensure that local transport and local planning authorities, together with the Local Enterprise Partnerships, work as one alongside Highways England in taking the study forward.

Broadband

Members will recall that the County Council and the Bucks Local Enterprise Partnership funded the first Contract with BT for rollout of High Speed broadband to non-commercial areas of Buckinghamshire. This was completed on time and under budget.

Coverage with Contract 1 is estimated to have reached over 90% of premises in the county. The second Contract, to expand this to nearly 95%, is currently being funded by both the LEP and colleagues in the District Councils. The County Council continues to be involved via its funding of the Programme Management of the project.

Discussions have now commenced for the County Council to further expand the coverage with a third Contract, targeted to increase coverage to approximately 98% of premises in the county. This would be funded by value realised by the high level of take up of services from Contract 1 above that required by BT's Business Case. No timescale is yet available for Contract 3.

**MARTIN TETT
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

8b. DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH & WELLBEING

Health and Social Care Integration

The 2015 Spending Review set out an ambitious plan for health and social care to be integrated across the country by 2020.

A joint report (Buckinghamshire County Council, Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Groups and Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust) was taken to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 9 March 2017, as a statement of intent for more integrated working between health and social care organisations in Buckinghamshire. The full report can be read [here](#) or by visiting the Health and Wellbeing Board's papers on the County Council website.

In order for health and social care to become fully integrated, we must work collaboratively, with pace, to shift investment from reactive services to early intervention and preventative services, looking at the whole life cycle with particular focus on transition points. To support the next phase of development four closely interlinked areas of work have been identified (each underpinned by an action plan which is currently being reviewed by the Transformation Delivery Group), specifically:

Joint Commissioning

Joint commissioning must ensure that we invest in keeping people well and independent, creating the right incentives for providers to achieve these outcomes and stripping out duplication. It means working closely with communities, individuals and carers as partners in supporting people to stay healthy and with a whole life course approach. Commissioning has a key role to play including reshaping the way voluntary sector are funded to ensure a coordinated approach to developing and providing services. Work has already begun in aligning commissioning teams and it is anticipated further work will progress quickly. Outputs include developing a co-commissioning (health and social care) integration team and developing a commissioning vision (aligned with the STP and health and wellbeing strategy) which will use the best of all approaches from health and social care to deliver integrated provision.

Integrated Provision

Locality working and intermediate care are two critical aspects to focus on which will provide maximum outcomes for residents.

Transformation into a place-based-planning locality model with multi-disciplinary teams delivering a seamless pathway of health and social care to a designated General Practice cluster will enable a more coordinated model of care with a common vision and purpose. This will enable pooling of resources and services aligned to deliver improved quality care closer to people's homes, reducing reliance on the acute sector. The locality model will support access to local voluntary and community services in multi-functional community 'hubs', as well as considering the wider infrastructure implications. Each locality team will be expected to identify those most in need, and those whose needs are rising, within its population and to work together to support them.

Intermediate care is the short-term intervention to preserve the independence of people who might otherwise face unnecessarily prolonged hospital stays or inappropriate admission to hospital or residential care. Approximately 15% to 18% of emergency admissions into the hospital are from care homes and the length of stay for these people tends to be higher than for average admissions. In addition, people often enter care homes following a hospital admission, with individuals and their families losing confidence in their ability to regain their independence - yet most people want to be

cared for in their own homes and we know this is best for their wellbeing. This will require good partnerships with the care home sector and the domiciliary care market – with a presumption not to assess people’s long-term care needs while they are in hospital.

Local NHS providers in Buckinghamshire have agreed to form a Primary and Acute Care System (PACS) as a vehicle to transform services to this new model of care firmly based around the patient in localities. Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust (our NHS mental health provider), Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust (our NHS acute – such as hospitals - and community provider) and FedBucks (an organisation supporting 85% of GP practices in Buckinghamshire) are the partners in this alliance – it has prioritised four areas to focus on: urgent care, frail elderly, diabetes and mental health.

Back office - including One Public Estate, communications, business intelligence and workforce development

NHS Improvement has highlighted that better co-ordinated back office systems can result in savings of £350m over the next four years.

Buckinghamshire has already created a shared service for communications and engagement. Work must now focus on commonly agreed communications and campaigns, links to national campaigns and digital opportunities.

One Public Estate (OPE) partnerships across the country have shown the value of working together across the public sector to maximise public buildings and resources enabling service transformation and savings on running costs. Buckinghamshire has six projects as part of a current OPE application for the county.

Integrated business intelligence will:

- Bring together the evidence base and intelligence to inform strategic planning. It will enable integrate systems allowing better data management where health and care professionals fully understand the needs of the population they serve.
- Provide a platform for better analysis prompting early intervention campaigns and encourage everyone to use technology to manage their own wellbeing. Additionally, developing integrated IT systems across health and social care organisations will support patient-centred care and enhance decision-making. A first step along this journey has been linking GP practice systems so that the summary care records can be viewed across organisations. This has improved the visibility of the summary patient record to both health and social care staff.

Buckinghamshire will focus on supporting the development of the workforce to ensure we can continue to recruit and retain the highest quality staff to care for our patients and communities. A workforce group across the STP is developing a plan for support workers, focussing on leadership development and using the apprenticeship levy to its full extent to train and develop new skills in our workforce for the future.

Governance

In Buckinghamshire, the Health and Wellbeing Board will have oversight of progress, monitor key deliverables and system wide projects. Clear accountability will be required to ensure there are no duplications and a streamlined governance framework is in place. It is important that there is full visibility in relation to the decision making process. Developing a streamlined and coherent governance framework will speed up

decision making and create a positive environment within which commissioners collaborate and transformation is driven forward.

A new approach for delivering Direct Payments more efficiently and more effectively...

The Adult Social Care service has developed a '**virtual wallet**' digital platform. This will provide savings on the previous arrangement in the region of 40% per annum after development.

- Each client will have an online account that is credited with their Direct Payment amount every 4 weeks. This account can be managed by either the client, their representative or by the Adults and Family Wellbeing Direct Payments Team.
- Despite it being an online system, if a client doesn't have internet access for whatever reason, they can still manage the direct payment themselves by using our Adults and Family Wellbeing Direct Payments Team telephone support.
- Clients can still choose which providers to use for a direct payment as normal
- As of 1 April 2017 we are transacting £8.7 million of invoices
- Between April & May 2017, we will issue Welcome Packs - for service users /carers, providers & adult social care officers

If you have further questions please send an email to afwdp@buckscc.gov.uk.

**MIKE APPLEYARD
DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH & WELLBEING**

8c. REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

Brexit: Employment Law

In February, the Government issued its White Paper [The United Kingdom's exit from and new partnership with the European Union White Paper](#). This document outlined the approach to Brexit including its approach to employment law.

The Government's general approach to preserving EU law is to ensure that all EU laws which are directly applicable in the UK (such as EU regulations) and all laws which have been made in the UK, in order to implement our obligations as a member of the EU, remain part of domestic law on the day we leave the EU.

In general the Government also believes that the preserved law should continue to be interpreted in the same way as it is at the moment. This approach is in order to ensure a coherent approach which provides continuity. It will be open to Parliament in the future to keep or change these laws.

Once we have left the EU, Parliament (and, where appropriate, the devolved legislatures) will then be able to decide which elements of that law to keep, amend or repeal. The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) is the EU's ultimate arbiter on matters of EU law. The Government intends to bring an end to the jurisdiction of the CJEU in the UK.

The Government has said that as the body of EU law is converted into UK legislation, there will be continued protection of workers' rights. This will give certainty and continuity to employees and employers alike, creating stability in which the UK can grow and thrive.

The Government remains committed to maintaining our status as a global leader on workers' rights and will make sure legal protection for workers keeps pace with the changing labour market. Specifically, an independent review of employment practices in the modern economy is now underway. The review will consider how employment rules need to change in order to keep pace with modern business models, such as: the rapid recent growth in self-employment; the shift in business practice from hiring to contracting; the rising use of non-standard contract forms and the emergence of new business models such as on-demand platforms.

Shared Services

1st April 2017 was a watershed date in the shared service partnership between Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) and London Borough of Harrow (LBH). On that date, 20 human resources (HR) and payroll staff TUPE transferred to become BCC employees, marking the commencement of the second phase of the HR Shared Service. The first phase – shared management, provided by BCC - went live in August 2016, laying the foundation for the successful transition into Phase 2.

For both organisations the key benefit of the arrangement is the projected £670,000 saving in annual HR costs. Other benefits include access for both organisations to a broader pool of expertise and a physical presence for the service within Harrow. The latter is because a branch office is provided by LBH on-site in Harrow Civic Centre. This means that the 20 transferring staff remain in familiar surroundings and customers (including Harrow schools) continue to benefit from the physical presence of staff in Harrow.

The ongoing presence in Harrow also provides a platform for the expansion of the service within the London market, providing an exciting opportunity to generate additional income.

The sharing of posts and services with LBH goes back to 2015, when arrangements were put in place around Organisational Development & Learning and Legal. The partnership entered the next stage of its development in July 2016 when BCC legal staff TUPE transferred to LBH's legal practice, HBPL.

This resulted in an expanded practice of around 150 lawyers with an extensive range of specialisms. HBPL's well-established relationship with a private sector partner adds additional expertise, giving BCC unparalleled access to legal advice and guidance. Whilst the legal staff have transferred to HBPL, a physical presence is maintained on-site in BCC, thanks to the provision to HBPL by BCC of a Branch Office in New County Offices.

The arrangement with HBPL therefore combines the benefit of access to a larger practice with the benefit of a continuing on-site presence. It also involves HBPL's assistance in lowering BCC's overall expenditure on legal services, with an efficiency target of 11% for the first year of the shared service; a figure that is expected to be exceeded.

The successes of the Shared Services Programme have paved the way for the exploration of further opportunities both with LBH and with other partners. Oversight and strategic leadership of the Programme is provided by a Shared Services Joint Governance Board, which consists of representation from myself and my LBH Cabinet Member counterpart, and Directors from LBH and BCC. The focus has remained on 'back office' services, where shared arrangements can be put in place and savings realised with no direct impact to residents.

Contract for Test Administration Services

The Council has been successful in its bid to continue to provide test administration services to the The Buckinghamshire Grammar Schools (TBGS) group. TBGS is a company set up by the thirteen grammar schools in Buckinghamshire in order to manage and administer secondary transfer testing.

The new contract, which will commence in 2018, is worth £815K over 5 years with the option to extend for a further 2 years.

The Council is delighted to be able to continue to work with TBGS for admissions and hopes the relationship can be further developed through the provision of other complementary support services in the future.

Schools Recruitment Strategy

The Schools Recruitment & Retention project is nearing the end of the first year of a two year program of work with strong results so far. The central deliverable of the project was the development of a dedicated Schools Careers Website. The website went live in Jan 2017 and the results are encouraging:

- The number of page views for the schools recruitment pages doubled from 2,578 to 5,000 in February 2017.
- 'Meet the Teacher' videos had 100,000 views in the first month.
- There are clear examples of schools gaining more applicants for their vacancies

- There is positive feedback from schools regarding having access to details of the employee discounts/benefits available to them.
- More websites are picking up our schools adverts and re-advertising them for us for free.

Additional benefits of the work linked to this project include:

- Improved perception and awareness of the support that the Council is giving to schools in Buckinghamshire.
- The formation of key relationships improving partnership working. For example, joint working with Bucks Adult Learning, Resourcing & Training on apprenticeships.
- Greater awareness of recruitment support available from BCC to schools.

JOHN CHILVER
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

8d. CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORTATION

EWR

The East West Rail (EWR) Consortium has had some success in lobbying for completion of the Western Section (Bicester to Bedford and Milton Keynes to Aylesbury and beyond via Princes Risborough) at the earliest opportunity. The Chancellor brought forward £100m in the Autumn Statement for early work to help accelerate delivery. Transport Secretary Chris Grayling then appointed Rob Brighouse as Chairman of a new East West Rail organisation separate from Network Rail. He has been tasked with securing funding and leading delivery of the railway between Oxford and Cambridge, Milton Keynes and Aylesbury. This represents a significant boost to the prospects of EWR within an overall national railway infrastructure delivery programme that continues to be very tight in terms of funding and capacity. Phil Verster, MD of the ScotRail Alliance, will become the managing director of the new East West Rail organisation in the Spring. The EWR Consortium has had a constructive initial meeting with Rob Brighouse and Sir Peter Hendy (Chairman Network Rail), as Rob Brighouse develops his thinking on the new organisation. A definitive target date for delivery of EWR remains work in progress.

Work is ongoing to coordinate design and construction with HS2, where the existing East West Rail track bed needs to be moved to accommodate HS2. This is critical to delivering EWR at the earliest opportunity, and to minimise disruption and maximise efficiency in construction. This is mainly in the Calvert area but also impacts south of Marsh Lane Crossing. The Consortium continues to press the need for Network Rail and HS2 Ltd to communicate with all stakeholders clearly and appropriately.

A second round of public consultation for the EWR Transport & Works Act Order will take place in May 2017 (dates to be confirmed) following local elections. The preliminary designs have been revised as a result of valuable feedback from public consultation in Autumn 2015. Consultation material will include a draft Environmental Statement that reflects the Department for Transport decision to open the line with diesel train services and remove electrification from the project scope.

Road Safety

2016 decrease in road casualties - Following 4 consecutive years of an increase in the number of people killed or seriously injured on the roads in Buckinghamshire, provisional casualty figures for 2016 have seen a reduction. Whilst this is good news, one year's data should not be considered in isolation and we will need to wait until 2017's full year's casualty data is available before we can see if the downward trend continues.

Safety Engineering Schemes - The Network Safety Team installed 10 engineering schemes in 2016/17 at sites and routes across the county where there has been a high incidence of personal injury collisions. Transport for Bucks (TfB) will monitor the sites to determine the measures introduced are effective.

Mobile phone legislation – Network Safety promoted the new legislation (6 penalty points and £200 fine) through social media and publicity campaigns to coincide with national advertising and local Police enforcement from Thames Valley Police (TVP). The campaign will be ongoing throughout the year and link in with activities with partners such as DfT and TVP.

Approved Driving Instructor's Ecodriver 'Train the Trainer' course - Network Safety organised Ecodriver training that was delivered by the Energy Savings Trust (EST) to

local Approved Driving Instructors (ADIs) in March. Four ADIs are now trained to deliver ecodriving assessments in-house and to local businesses, the first drives are planned for May 2017. The assessments aim to train drivers to drive in a more energy efficient way, hopefully reducing collisions and improving safety whilst saving fuel. Another course is planned for June 2017.

Managing Work Related Road Safety (WRRS) - Working in partnership with Road Safety GB, Network Safety hosted a pilot 2 day WRRS course aimed at fleet managers, road safety, HR & Health & Safety professionals. The outcome was a greater understanding of management systems and how to implement them to reduce the risk.

Motorcyclists' assessment days - Two motorcycle assessment days have been arranged during June and July in partnership with the IAM. This will consist of a classroom workshop followed by practical on road assessments. The aim is to reduce the number of motorcycle collisions and injuries on Buckinghamshire's roads.

Capital Maintenance Programme (CMP)

Carriageway Resurfacing

The 2016/17 programme of work is now complete with 415 individual Capital road and footway surfacing schemes undertaken. Quality has been good and public comments have reflected this, although tempered by a number of comments regarding work that we cannot unfortunately afford to complete within limited annual budgets. The majority of work since February has been on high profile town centre footway/pedestrian area improvements in Aylesbury and Chesham.

The draft 2017/18 surfacing programme has been prepared and information sent to Members, with the majority of design activates now complete. An excellent start has been made, with work taking place in early April on significant surfacing schemes in Speen and Princes Risborough.

The following summarises the position with the completed 2016/17 overall programme:

Conventional resurfacing - 32 schemes on the final programme with all 32 complete by first week in February.

Surface dressing – 30 schemes successfully completed, including all lining as studding, by September 2016.

Micro-surfacing – Preparatory patching and subsequent overlay of microsurfacing completed on 112 individual streets within the county by November 2016.

Targeted Patching - 15 large patching schemes were completed between April and early August.

High Friction Surfacing – 4 priority schemes were completed in May 2016, in line with annual programme.

Plane and Patch - all work complete by end November 2017, with the exception of 1 scheme which was in close proximity to Marlow Bridge. This scheme is now to take place in April 2017.

DfT Pothole fund – 30 individual schemes completed following the award of £546,000 of DfT monies to be spent in-year on pothole prevention. In 2017/18, this funding rises to £852,000.

Other Capital Programmes

Drainage –30 priority schemes are on the 2017/18 programme, with 4 programmed to complete by the end of April 2017. Priorities continue to be identified through Members, Local Area Technicians or third party notifications where lack of highway drainage provision is identified to be a primary contributor to road safety concerns or to problems of water ingress to property.

Footways – design is now ongoing on areas of deteriorated footway surfacing. The majority of 2017/18 budget will be targeted at plane and patch type work which, it is anticipated, will enable a significant impact to be made in Members' areas in 2017.

Safety Fencing – following a full budget spend in 2016/17, a programme of safety fencing improvements is in place for 2017/18 with a budget of £250,000. Programmes of work have been defined and designs progressed to upgrade or replace existing sections of safety fencing which have been identified through survey to be deteriorated or sub-standard. The work will progress during the Summer of 2017.

Structures Maintenance – The programme in 2016/17 was heavily affected by the closure of Marlow Bridge for assessment, following overweight and overwidth vehicle incident. Resources and budget was required to be diverted to this work, which progressed well to ensure re-opening prior to Christmas period.

Other priority schemes have progressed, although a number have required to be deferred due to the budget and resource pressures experienced through Marlow Bridge. These will now progress in 2017/18.

In addition, funding has been made available to undertake an analysis/investigation of the weight and width restriction on Marlow Bridge, with a view to reinforcing the restrictions to ensure that vehicle movements remain well regulated.

Rolling Programme

We remain grateful to Members who have supported our work this year, with good levels of commitment to a rolling 4-year programme of Capital work. Most importantly this has allowed us to demonstrate to DfT that we have an effective asset strategy, meeting the DfT criteria which will protect funding for future years through:

- Facilitating a more steady design period, looking more than 1 year ahead and enabling investigative work to inform more cost effective solutions.
- Removing ineffective peaks and troughs from annual programmes.
- Allowing greater flexibility within the programme to move schemes around where conflict with other works may arise.

MARK SHAW
CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORTATION

8e. CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

Natural Environment Partnership (NEP) Update

Biodiversity Accounting

The NEP continues to work to improve the natural environment through partnership-working and coordinated activities. In particular, the NEP is working together with its partners across Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes to put together a system of biodiversity accounting appropriate for our county. Having a standardised method for measuring the impact of developments on biodiversity would provide greater certainty in the planning system for planners and developers alike, and has the potential to ensure that development in Buckinghamshire results in a positive net gain for biodiversity, rather than a loss, along with the multiple benefits that gains in biodiversity can provide to our growing populations. The Biodiversity Accounting Working Group has so far spoken in detail to practitioners already operating the scheme elsewhere, including at Warwickshire CC, and with both strategic planners and development control planners across the county for feedback. We are continuing to work up the details, work with planners and look at all available options for the detailed methodology and how best we can operate a scheme in Buckinghamshire.

Other NEP activity

The NEP recently issued its press release on its State of the Environment Report) and is involved in some media activity around that. It is also continuing its Advocacy role on green infrastructure and biodiversity provisions in Local Plans. The NEP has secured a spot to speak at the next BTV LEP Board meeting on best practice on incorporating biodiversity into development. Core funding has been secured for the NEP for the next 3 years and we are currently putting together a strategic work programme for that period, to focus efforts on specific priorities including biodiversity, green infrastructure and health. Upcoming project-specific work in the immediate future includes:

- i) Creating an up to date volunteers directory to provide easy access to conservation volunteering opportunities across the county and create a forum of voluntary organisations and support their work;
- ii) Next round of Bucks Buzzing project to encourage different sectors across Bucks to create environments to support pollinators;
- iii) State of the Environment Report – review of indicators and tracking information by our Task Groups; next report due in 2018.
- iv) One of our Partners, the Open University, has bid for Higher Education Innovation Funding to develop its knowledge exchange methods – and to allow the NEP to engage with local communities. If successful, OU academics will organise and run engagement events related to the NEP indicators being used, and explore how local communities across the county perceive the value of the environment and whether the indicators are sufficient and match their priorities. We may also have the opportunity to “road test” the Green Infrastructure vision and principles document at the local level.

Heritage Lottery Fund bids update

BCC has supported the successful HLF bids for projects in the Chiltern AONB and Colne Valley Park. Both have gained Stage 1 funding and have appointed staff to develop full stage 2 bids. Colne Valley Park has received £107k towards developing a £1.7 million “Landscape on the Edge” project. Ewa Prokop in in post as Programme Manager Chilterns Conservation Board has received funding towards a £2.8 million “Chalk, Cherries and Chairs” project. Staff have been appointed and will be starting shortly. BCC is fully engaged in the respective steering committees and provides

additional staff support such as helping to interview candidates for the development posts and providing specialist expertise.

Waste Management

We have recently re-invested in behaviour change and communications programme. This focusses on waste prevention activities crosscutting all our major waste management service and contracts. Buckinghamshire performs well, recycling or composting more than 56% of its waste compared other county councils, with the national average of 44%. However, in 2016/17 there was still over 100,000 tonnes of waste thrown away from resident's homes. Whilst the Greatmoor Energy from Waste (EfW) facility offers significant savings when compared with landfilling this waste, there are key material streams that could be diverted for re-use, recycling or even reduced altogether.

Through the Household Recycling Centres (HRC) in Bucks, and all district councils we collect, paper, card, plastics, cans, glass and food for recycling. The behaviour change work that has already started and planned to continue into 2017/18, will look to encourage residents to make better use these services to reduce, re-use and recycle more. Key highlights of the upcoming work are:

- Focus on encouraging re-use, reducing food waste, producing a consistent countywide message across Bucks.
- BCC is actively supporting the Waste Partnership's DCLG funded project, which will be rolling out a large food recycling campaign in the coming months. It will involve direct engagement with 200,000 homes with direct communication, leaflet, bin sticker and free roll of liners delivered to each home and digital and app communications. This will help customers make better use of their existing food recycling services offered at the doorsteps, it is based on similar successful drives across the UK. Close working between HRC & EfW education officers to coordinate their outreach visits to schools and site visits to HRCs and Greatmoor.
- Supporting national campaigns such as Recycle Week & Love Food Hate Waste relaunch.

The above work areas will all follow a more targeted approach using a variety of new and traditional media. We are using all the national insight best practice work free professionally designed artwork and in-depth analysis on target audiences and the messages that work for them. This allows BCC to target the right messages to the right people, which make the reinvestment as cost effective as possible. Digital channels are key in delivering messages to residents, recently the Waste Team have seen the benefits, reaching 200,000 people during a fortnight promoting a food sharing app. BCC Comms team are supporting the Waste team with the key messages and the wider promotional activity.

Getting Tougher on Waste Crime

The Planning and Enforcement team within Transport, Economy, Environment (TEE) has gone from strength to strength in tackling waste crime in the County in order to reduce the menace and blight of illegal and unauthorised waste dumping.

During 2016/2017 the team has:

- Submitted a record **90 investigation files** against illegal dumping offences for consideration of prosecution
- Secured an outstanding **65 prosecutions for illegal dumping offences**

- Achieved total fines and costs awarded against dumpers of over **£133,000**
- Successfully defended **two** planning inquiries against unauthorised waste sites
- Issued **three** enforcement notices and **three** stop notices
- Seen **four** unauthorised sites fully restored

The most recent case involved John O'Callaghan who has been fined **£31,000** for breaking planning enforcement notices stopping him importing waste on land at Aston Clinton. This is believed to be the highest financial penalty imposed for a Buckinghamshire County Council planning enforcement breach. The above highlights the determination of the enforcement officers to vigorously investigate and take action against flagrant breaches of the law to help protect the residents and environment of Buckinghamshire

Performance of Planning team reaches 100%

The Planning Development Management Team has demonstrated outstanding performance levels in the past two quarters, with 100% of planning applications being determined within statutory time periods or otherwise agreed extensions of time.

This is well above the national target of 60% and is a result the Council's investment in hard working team members who are committed to improving standards and performance. It is therefore expected that the Council will exceed the national target for the speed of decision making in the next designation round in January 2018.

Updating of Definitive Map Statement of Priorities

The Statement of Priorities is the framework to which the Definitive Map function operates. It sets out the order in which the various Definitive Map applications will be dealt with which in turn assists Officers with structuring and prioritising their workloads. It seeks to order the applications in as fair a way as possible for applicants. The Statement, prior to review, stated that applications would be dealt with in chronological Order unless there was a threat to the application which needed it to be escalated i.e. development.

Following review, certain criteria will be placed against the application which will prioritise it i.e. if evidence submitted is that of user/witness evidence; there is a threat of development; and if evidence in support is shared with another application in the list and it would therefore be efficient to investigate the applications concurrently. If these criteria are not met, then the application will be dealt with in chronological order of receipt.

**WARREN WHYTE
CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT**

8f. CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PUBLIC HEALTH

New Public Health Nursing Services Contract April 1st 2017

The new Healthy Child Programme (0-19 years) Public Health Nursing Services contract will commence on 1st April 2017. After a competitive tender, the contract was awarded to Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust (BHT) following the key decision in August 2016 by the cabinet member. The contract is for 5 years with a possible 2 year extension. It covers the provision of Public Health Nursing Services comprising Health Visiting, School Nursing and the Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) programme for children, young people and their families. The new contract allows for more integrated provision of these services with more efficient use of the workforce. Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust was also the previous provider of the service and has good local knowledge and established partnerships.

The Healthy Child Programme provides a universal health service for children and their families. It aims to support parents, promote child development, improve child health and wellbeing, and ensure that vulnerable families are identified at the earliest possible opportunity. There is also additional support for families who need more help. There are five mandated health reviews offered to all children and families under 5 years and the mandated delivery of the National Child Measurement Programme (obesity surveillance) for children in reception year and year 6. The single integrated contract offers the benefits of a more seamless service between the health visitor and school nursing teams. The service is developing peer support and advice and will be innovating with a digital approach to improve access and information for children and families.

For further information about the services commissioned, please contact April Brett, Public Health Principal (abrett@buckscc.gov.uk, Tel: 01296 387553)

Active Bucks

The Active Bucks programme is designed to encourage more Buckinghamshire residents to increase their levels of regular physical activity, particularly targeting those who are inactive where the greatest health gains can be achieved.

Following feedback from over 3,500 Bucks residents, a wide range of activities has been commissioned and promoted across the 19 Local Area Forum areas. Activities are a combination of traditional/structured approaches – such as Beginners Jogging and Nordic Walking, and activities that get residents active as a key by-product – such as Bush Craft and Quidditch.

Between May 2016 and February 2017, over 2,500 Bucks residents took part in Active Bucks commissioned activities. The programme is successfully engaging inactive people. Among the residents participating, 75% were not achieving recommended activity guidelines at the point they registered, and 35% of these residents were inactive. Over 70% of the activity programmes commissioned were sustained beyond our 6-month funding period. In addition, 31 Bucks residents have been recruited to become Community Champions who help promote and/or deliver local activities.

Over 2,500 weekly activities in Bucks, including Active Bucks-commissioned activities, are accessible via www.activebucks.co.uk where users can filter activities by distance, day/time and activity type. In addition, residents can register to download an activity voucher that allows free access to the first session of each activity. As of the end of February 2017, the website has had over 31,000 visits and over 2,000 vouchers

downloaded. We are only able to monitor the uptake of Active Bucks activities so the total number of people becoming active will be higher than the Active Bucks totals.

The Active Bucks programme will continue up until the end of September 2017. A range of new activities for children, young people and adults has been commissioned and all will have started by the end of March 2017.

MARGARET ASTON
CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH

8g. CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Troubled Families visit – January 2017

On 24th January, Families First were subject to a 'spot check' by the Troubled Families unit at the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). The check involved a review of 21 families, where we had submitted a claim for Troubled Families 'payment by results' funding to ensure our claims were correct and the evidence of improvement for the child and their family was accurate. I am pleased to say that they confirmed that all of the claims in the sample were valid.

The visit confirmed the hard and dedicated work that has been going on in order to improve outcomes for complex families. It was clear that key workers knew and understood the various needs of the families involved and were working with partners to ensure the correct level of support.

I would like to thank everyone who was directly involved in the 'spot check' as well as all staff and partners who have worked so hard over the last few years on the Families First programme in Buckinghamshire. It is great to get external validation of the impact we are having in improving outcomes for children and families in Buckinghamshire.

Children's Safeguarding service Away Day – Thursday 23 March

A Children's Safeguarding Service Away Day was held, to review the recent changes to the service and the impact on children and to hear the voice of parents. Two judges from Family Drugs and Alcohol Court explained how the service operated and its success in engaging troubled families through its motivational and relationship building approach.

A parent whose child is a survivor of child sexual exploitation gave a very moving talk about impact that this form of abuse has had on his whole family, and what workers could do differently to support families.

In the afternoon, two parents who had been involved with the Reconnect service shared their experiences and how this has supported enabled them to form positive attachments to their children.

It was a very successful day with the event being very well attended. It was a valuable opportunity for colleagues to get together to learn from each other, partners and most importantly from families who had been supported by the service so that children remain at the centre of our focus.

OFSTED Monitoring Visit 11th/12th April 2017

We have had our third OFSTED monitoring visit which took place on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th April, and was undertaken by a team of three inspectors. The inspection focused on services for Looked after Children, Fostering and Adoption and Corporate Parenting. We received informal feedback at the end of the second day and we should receive a letter from OFSTED on 16th May 2017, the contents of which will be made public via the website:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/local-authorities/buckinghamshire>.

Qualified Social Workers

The national shortage of Social Workers continues to be a key resourcing challenge. Below are the actions taken since the October 2016 report to address the shortage of social workers:

- Continued expansion of Newly Qualified Social Worker (NQSW) programme – 26 NQSW started since 1st April 2016 with 10 more in the pipeline. Career framework is in place to support Newly Qualified Social Workers.
- Flow of agency Qualified Social Worker (QSW) CV's has been improved via partnership working with social care agency, Liquid.
- New assessment process for Social Workers is improving the rigour in selection decisions and increasing positive candidate feedback making us attractive in the market.
- IR35 legislation regulating the engagement of payroll agency workers has impacted agency Social Workers. QSW agency workers all fall within IR35 legislation. All agency workers have received communications regarding the potential implications and this has resulted in a number of agency workers converting from temporary to permanent. This figure is 16 at time of the report.
- The South East Memorandum of Co-Operation, which commits BCC to implementing consistent pay rates across region and improving the referencing process, has helped to clarify a consistent approach to IR35 across South East authorities.

Since 1st April 2016, there have been 40 new starters in hard to fill QSW roles (excluding agency workers) with 16 more in the pipeline. There have been 31 voluntary leavers since 1st April 2016.

In 2015/16 financial year, there were 63 external new starters in hard to fill Qualified Social Worker roles (excluding agency workers). There were 27 leavers in the equivalent period.

The key agency metrics monitoring social worker recruitment are given below;

Metric	Sept 2015 Data	Feb 2017 Data	Target
% of qualified social workers on an agency contract (includes all agency workers including those covering absence, maternity and permanent requirements)	25%	19.7%	20%
Number of qualified agency social workers in permanent posts in C&F (agency workers covering perm posts only)	57	46	27

**LIN HAZELL
CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

8h. CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Adult Learning Update

Adult Learning has over 500 students studying ESOL students (English for Speakers of Other Languages) each year undertaking a range of qualifications, students join at any time in the year and at all levels from Pre-Entry. Students attending three centres in High Wycombe, Aylesbury and Chesham, have achieved some excellent results in their first set of Speaking and Listening exams this year. The 156 students achieved the following pass rates: 100% at Chesham, 95% at High Wycombe and 92% at Aylesbury. The next major set of exams will be taken in the summer.

Update on Change For Children

Education Workstream

This is a time of unprecedented local and national change impacting the educational landscape. 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 and local authorities have to develop working relationships with a variety of external partners such as the Regional Schools Commissioner.

The purpose of the Education work stream as part of the Change for Children programme is to ensure that the education system in Buckinghamshire provides children and young people the opportunity and support to fulfil their potential, regardless of their gender, ethnicity or socio-economic background. A fundamental element of this work will be to develop an **Education and Skills strategy** that builds upon the successes of our current provision and addresses the challenges that we as the local authority and our key stakeholders, the education community face as a result of the changing environment in which we all operate. The strategy will ensure that there is an ongoing dialogue with all schools and other educational providers, regardless of status across the County so that we realise our vision for all children and young people in Buckinghamshire to fulfil their potential. Without an ongoing dialogue with schools, we risk losing important intelligence on issues that our impacting on children and young people that leads to poor outcomes and sometimes costly interventions funded by the Council. The strategy will bring the Council and the educational community to work even more closely together so as to ensure that **“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.”** (*Buckinghamshire Children’s Strategy 2016*)

Special Educational Needs and Disability/Children with Disabilities workstream

Demand and costs for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) and Children with Disabilities (CWD) services has been growing with increasing complexity of children’s needs, up 63% between 2009 and 2013. The recurrent pattern of overspend confirms a need to review how services are delivered, and that continuing with the current framework of provision is no longer a sustainable position. Our priority will always be to ensure we educate, protect and improve the life chances of children in Buckinghamshire. The SEND/CWD strand of the Change for Children programme aims to address this through focusing on prevention, managing demand and costs. We need to develop a better understanding of the current and future needs of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities in Buckinghamshire and ensure that

children and families receive the most appropriate support at the earliest stage. The Graduated Approach which will be launching in April will go some way to addressing this. The new SEND Strategy 2017- 2020 includes seven improvement priorities which provide the framework for our strengthened commitment to providing quality services for some of the most vulnerable children in Buckinghamshire, with fully developed integration around assessment, commissioning and service delivery.

ZAHIR MOHAMMED
CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND SKILLS



County Council

Notices of Motion

One motion has been received.

The Expansion of Heathrow Airport

Proposer: Martin Tett
Seconder: Mark Shaw

Resolution

This Council notes the Department for Transport's consultation on a National Policy Statement for runway capacity in the south east of England.

As a result of the economic benefits that could be achieved for Buckinghamshire, this Council supports the Government's preferred option of a third runway at Heathrow. This support is conditional upon the provision of appropriate mitigation for areas impacted in the south of the county, particularly the Greater Iver area. With this in mind this Council resolves to enter into discussions with both the Department for Transport and Heathrow Airport Limited to ensure Buckinghamshire benefits from the proposed development.



County Council

Cabinet Member Decisions Taken

Information on decisions taken by Cabinet Members since the last County Council agenda. For an up-to-date list of decisions taken and forthcoming decisions, please refer to the Council's website – www.buckscc.gov.uk/democracy

Cabinet Member for Children's Services

24 Mar 2017

CS01.17 - Contract Extension - Short Breaks for Disabled Children and Young People (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED an Extension of Contract until 30/09/17 and a further six months to 31/03/18 if required

Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health

17 Mar 2017

CE02.17 - Decommissioning Oral Health Improvement and Nutrition Services (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED the decommissioning of the Oral Health Improvement and The Nutrition Contract when the two current contracts come to an end in March 2018

17 Mar 2017

CE03.17 - Integrated Lifestyle Services Recommissioning (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED to commission an Integrated Lifestyle Service for five years; to include the option to extend for a further two years (5+1+1).



Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

7 Feb 2017

ED02.17 - Haddenham St Mary's CE School - Expansion to admit 60 children per year group (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED that as the Local Authority and Governing body have followed the Department of Education statutory guidance, permission is granted for the school to increase in size by one form of entry (i.e. 30 children) from 1 September 2017. The school will then build up over a three year period to its revised capacity of 180.

13 Mar 2017

ED03.17 - Adult Learning Fees 2017-18 (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED the proposed fees and concessions set out in the paper and that they are adopted for the 2017-18 academic year.

17 Mar 2017

ED04.17 - Determined Admission Arrangements 2018 (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED the determined admission arrangements for admission in September 2018. These arrangements include:

- The coordinated scheme for primary and secondary admissions in Buckinghamshire, for admission from September 2018, as set out in Appendix 1.
- The determined admission rules for community and voluntary-controlled primary schools as set out in Appendix 2, including the admission arrangements for schools and linked primary school arrangements, the admission arrangements for nursery classes and schools and a summary of their locations and the Published Admission Number for each school.
- The determined admission rules for community and voluntary-controlled secondary schools as set out in Appendix 3 including proposed Admission Number for each school and sixth form admission arrangements.
- The proposed relevant area for school admission arrangements from September 2019, as set out in Appendix 4.

29 Mar 2017

ED06.17 - Increased charges for the Paid For Home to School Transport (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED:

- That the paid for (discretionary) home to school transport scheme continues to operate in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy and Guidance.
- That all prices in the banding structure for Buckinghamshire resident pupils aged 16 years old and over and Out-of-County pupils of all ages using home to school transport will increase by 5% for the 2017/18 academic year as set out in Appendix 1.

- That the prices for paid-for (discretionary) home to school transport for the 2018-19 academic year will be reviewed in 2017/18 to ensure as far as possible that the full costs of providing the paid for services are retrieved.

29 Mar 2017

ED05.17 - Sub-contracting of delivery by Adult Learning (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member:

1. AGREED to the continuation of the tendering exercise as outlined in the report.
2. DELEGATED authority to the Head of Service to approve the award of the contracts in line with the funding limits set out in the report once funding from the SFA has been approved and the outcome of BAL's application to be on the Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers (RoAPT) is known.

Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment

20 Mar 2017

PE01.17 - Country Parks Car Park Tariff Changes (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED a new car park tariff system in all 3 parks and move to seasonal charges across all parks as set out in the report

5 Apr 2017

PE02.17 - Implementation of a new Statement of Priorities for the Definitive Map function (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED:

- a) That the Statement of Priorities is updated and is adopted for the management of Definitive Map Applications and Common Land and Town and/or Village Green Applications.
- b) That the Statement of Priorities is reviewed by the Service Director on an annual basis.

Cabinet Member for Resources

15 Feb 2017

R.01.17 - Disposal of former Highways Depot, Princes Risborough (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member APPROVED the freehold sale of the former Highways Depot, Longwick Road, Princes Risborough.

10 Mar 2017

R02.17 - Mansfield Farm, Iver - Tenancy Surrender (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED:

- that the current tenancy is surrendered and the holding be re-lotted then re-let in parts to maximise income
- that authority is given to the Head of Strategic Assets to agree the final figure for the surrender of the tenancy

Cabinet Member for Transportation

17 Mar 2017

T05.17 - Aylesbury Transport Strategy (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED:

- That the 'Aylesbury Transport Strategy' is adopted as Aylesbury's recognised Transport Strategy.
- That the approval of any minor amendments to the Strategy is delegated to the Director of Growth & Strategy in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation.
- That any decision to review the Strategy before 2033 is delegated to the Cabinet Member for Transportation.

17 Mar 2017

T06.17 - Buckingham Transport Strategy (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED:

- The 'Buckingham Transport Strategy' as Buckingham's recognised Transport Strategy.
- That the approval of any minor amendments to the Strategy is delegated to the Director of Growth & Strategy in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation.
- That any review of the Strategy before 2033 is agreed by the Cabinet Member for Transportation.

17 Mar 2017

T04.17 - Highway Safety Inspection Policy (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED to formally adopt the revised Policy in the recording of highway defects and the subsequent response for full repair. This is to come into effect as of 1st April 2017.

7 Apr 2017

T07.17 - Proposed 40mph Speed Limit, A4155 Henley Road (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member for Transportation AGREED:-

1. The making and introduction of the Traffic Regulation Order comprising of a 40mph speed limit restriction as advertised.
2. That Legal Services can then be instructed to make the Traffic Regulation Order and bring it into operation.
3. That all consultees are informed of the decision.

13 Apr 2017

T08.17 - Proposed 40 mph Speed Limit – Framewood Road, Wexham (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member for Transportation:-

1. APPROVED the Making and introduction of the Traffic Regulation Order comprising speed limit reduction as advertised.
2. AGREED that Legal Services can then be instructed to make the Traffic Regulation Order and bring it into operation.
3. AGREED that all consultees are informed of the decision

Cabinet Member for Transportation and Cabinet Member for Resources

15 Feb 2017

T.03.17 - Allocation of Remaining ALUTS Funds (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Members:

- 1) APPROVED the assignment of remaining ALUTS funding to the projects described in Table 1
- 2) AUTHORISED the Head of Growth and Development Strategy to apply to Aylesbury Vale District Council for these funds to be released and applied to the projects listed in Table 1.
- 3) APPROVED the addition of the sums in Table 1 to the BCC Capital Programme, profiled year-by-year in accordance with a subsequent report to be presented to the Asset Strategy Board.

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

24 Feb 2017

DLHW.01.17 - Community Meals Policy (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member APPROVED the Community Meals Policy

22 Mar 2017

DLHW02.17 - Missenden Garden Centre end of Consultation Report (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member:

1. APPROVED the decision to decommission the Great Missenden Garden Centre and end ongoing liabilities.
2. APPROVED the gifting of all equipment and non-fixed assets (approximately £7,000 in value) to the new charitable organisation.

For further information please contact: Clare Capjon on 01296 387969

County Councillors Induction

The Council has a comprehensive Induction Programme to provide County Councillors with the information and tools they need to carry out their role.

If you are standing for election, please book these dates in your diary now. The sessions are essential for all County Councillors, providing a refresher for those returning to Office.

Key dates for County Councillors	Date
Welcome Day	08 May
How the Council works & Outside Bodies/ Code of Conduct	09 May
Community Leadership Role & 21 st Century Councillor ICT	11 May
Full Council	18 May
Local Area Forum Chairman's training (LAF Chairmen only)	31 May
Safeguarding Adults and Children & Corporate Parenting role of Members	01 June
How Scrutiny works	06 June
Scrutiny Questioning Skills	14 June
County Tour	21 June
Equalities training	27 June
County Tour (re-run)	28 June
Member Networking and Market Stall Event	10 July

Member Services One Year On

01 April 2016 - 31 March 2017

Our Vision:

"We will champion and support all County Councillors (Members) in providing a voice for residents to improve outcomes from Buckinghamshire. We will also drive forward and support good governance across the Council which means that we will promote Council decision-making that is democratically-led, open and accountable"

Some of the things we've achieved this year:



Supporting Members

- 100%** Expenses claims paid on time
- 72%** Scrutiny Recommendations agreed by Cabinet and Partners
- 21** Member briefing and training sessions
- 8** Scrutiny Inquiries completed



Good Governance

- 100%** All Council Committees using ICT system to ensure all reports are cleared by Legal and Finance teams before publication
- 96%** Agenda packs for all meetings published within 5 working days
- 94%** Draft minutes sent for comment within 5 working days
- 188** Meetings of committees, forums and boards supported by Member Services
- 100** Cabinet Member decisions taken and implemented



Supporting the Public

- 18,139** Visits to webcasts of Council committee meetings (approx. 80 per day)
- 617** Twitter followers of @bucksdemocracy
- 32** Petitions received and answered



Supporting Officers

- 102** Officers trained on Working with Councillors, Decision Making and Report Writing
- 4** Member Services officer assigned to each service area to improve working with Councillors and advise on decision making

Key Priorities for the year ahead:



Member Induction, Training and Support



Scrutiny Inquiries



Paperless initiative

