



Agenda and Reports

21 September 2017

12 September 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 21 September 2017 at 9.30 am**, to transact the business set out in the agenda overleaf.

Please note: there will be a private briefing for all Members on children's safeguarding and corporate parenting on the rise of Council.

The Chairman has arranged a finger buffet lunch for Members of the Council.

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.

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

AGENDA

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| 2 PETITIONS | |
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| b To receive any communications the Chairman wishes to present to the Council | |
| 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST | |
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| 5 REPORT OF THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AND MILTON KEYNES FIRE AUTHORITY | 13 - 24 |
| To receive the report of the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire & Rescue Authority from Cllr Roger Reed, Chairman and Mr Jason Thelwell, Chief Fire Officer | |
| 6 SELECT COMMITTEE UPDATE | 25 - 28 |
| To receive updates from the Select Committee Chairmen on the work of the Committees | |
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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. | |
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| 9b. Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation | |
| 9c. Cabinet Member for Children's Services | |
| 9d. Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing | |
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On the rise of Council there will be a private briefing for all Members on children's safeguarding and corporate parenting.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Buckinghamshire County Council convened and held on Thursday 13 July 2017 in The Oculus, AVDC, Gatehouse Way, Aylesbury, commencing at 11.37 am and concluding at 12.57 pm.

PRESENT

Mrs P Birchley in the Chair;

Mr M Appleyard, Mr R Bagge, Ms J Blake, Mr N Brown, Mr T Butcher, Mr D Carroll, Mr W Chapple OBE, Mr J Chilver, Mr C Clare, Mr A Collingwood, Mrs I Darby, Mr D Dhillon, Mr C Ditta, Mr C Etholen, Mr M Farrow, Mrs B Gibbs, Ms N Glover, Mr D Hayday, Lin Hazell, Mr M Hussain, Mr N Hussain, Mr P Irwin, Mr R Khan, Mr S Lambert, Ms A Macpherson, Mrs W Mallen, Mr D Martin, Mr P Martin, Mr R Reed, Mr B Roberts, Mr D Shakespeare OBE, Mr M Shaw, Mrs L Sullivan, Mr M Tett, Mr A Walters MBE, Ms J Ward, Julia Wassell, Mr D Watson, Mr W Whyte, Ms A Wight and Mr G Williams

DIGNITARIES AND OTHERS PRESENT

Mrs C Aston, Mrs M Clayton, Mr P Lawrence, Mrs G Miscampbell OBE DL and Mr R Pushman

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr W Bendyshe-Brown, Mrs L Clarke OBE, Mr A Hussain, Mrs J Teesdale, Ms K Wood, Sir H Aubrey-Fletcher, Mr P Kara, Mr M Colston and Mr D Polhill

1 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 18th May 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

2 PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

3 COMMUNICATIONS

Apologies were received from Sir H Aubrey-Fletcher, Mr P Kara, Mr D Polhill, Mr B Bendyshe-Brown, Mrs L Clarke OBE, Mr A Hussain, Mrs J Teesdale and Ms K Wood.

The Chairman reflected on the fact that, within the first month of becoming Chairman, the Council had observed a minute's silence on the steps of County Hall on 4 separate occasions because of events in London and Manchester. The Chairman thanked everyone for their support.

The Chairman reported on events since the last Council meeting, highlighting in particular:

- The annual ceremonial pollarding of a tree in Burnham Beaches by the Corporation of London, followed by lunch with the Lord Mayor of London.
- Armed Forces day on 17th June. The Chairman thanked the Civic and Ceremonial Team for their work in organising a successful event.
- The Bucks Business awards hosted by Bucks Business First.
- A visit to the ethnic art fair in Milton Keynes supported by the High Sheriff.
- An annual reception at RAF High Wycombe.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5 TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT

Mr J Chilver, Cabinet Member for Resources, presented the report and highlighted the following:

- The average rate of return on investment was 1 percent, an increase on the previous year's rate of 0.68 percent.
- The investment position had changed with the purchase of the Energy from Waste Plant for £180m and new commercial property worth £40m. VAT of £36m on the Energy from Waste Plant was fully recovered.

Mr Chilver responded to Members' questions as follows:

- The Council was aware of the risks involved in purchasing commercial property and took advice from Carter Jonas, the Council's commercial property investment advisors. There were clear targets and thresholds that were complied with for new acquisitions.
- The maximum total of investments during the last year was around £170m with limits on the exposure to risk on investments.
- A more in depth answer to a question on "value at risk" would be provided after the meeting.

RESOLVED

Council AGREED the Treasury Management Annual Report and Prudential Indicators for 2016/17.

6 ANNUAL PAY POLICY STATEMENT

Mr M Tett, Leader of the Council, presented the report and confirmed that it had been agreed by the cross party Senior Appointments and Bucks Pay Award Committee.

RESOLVED

Council AGREED the Annual Pay Policy Statement.

7 STRATEGIC PLAN REPORT

Mr M Tett, Leader of the Council, presented the report and confirmed the following:

- The Strategic Plan was the main policy document for the County Council along with the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- The Strategic Plan was refreshed each year and Members were encouraged to attend annual workshops so that they could input into the plan and help shape policy.

In response to questions from Members Mr Tett made the following points:

- Although Ofsted inspection ratings across the County were generally very good, there were areas where improvements in ratings needed to be made, for example in Aylesbury and there was already focus on those areas needing improvement.
- The construction of new Children's Homes in the County was welcome in allowing children to be located near to their birth families.
- The Council had a clear priority to protect the most vulnerable in the County as well as provide opportunities for vulnerable residents to advance.
- It was important to plan for the longer term particularly in respect of infrastructure.
- It was more difficult to plan for the longer term financially given the uncertainty around support from central government and so the current four year financial plan was currently the most suitable forward view.
- The numbers of children getting their preferred school place were lower than in some other areas because of the selective education system in Buckinghamshire, whereby some children would not qualify for their first choice of school.
- The corporate underspend during 2016/17 was partly as a result of a one off change to accounting practice around the minimum revenue provision and would not be repeated in future years.

RESOLVED

Council AGREED the Strategic Plan.

8 CABINET MEMBERS' REPORTS

8a: Leader of the Council.

In response to a question from a Member, the Leader of the Council Mr M Tett confirmed that he had contacted the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government asking for a meeting to discuss the growth agenda and funding for infrastructure.

8b: Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation Mr M Shaw confirmed that he had now been appointed Chairman of the East West Rail Consortium and was meeting the Secretary of State for Transport on Monday 17th July for discussions.

In response to Members' questions, Mr Shaw made the following points:

- The condition of roads in the County being used for the Tour of Britain Cycle Race would be fit for cycle racing.
- £300,000 additional budget had been allocated to gulley clearance and £200,000 for general maintenance. The schemes for gulley clearance were now in operation. Members would be consulted individually on general maintenance for their divisions. A figure on the amount of money spent specifically in the Chalfont Local Area Forum area would be provided after the meeting.
- The budget for footways last year was £1.5m and £1m for each subsequent year thereafter and a scheme of plane and patch maintenance was in operation to make footways safe for residents.
- It had been a difficult decision to close the rail crossing between Mandeville and Southcourt which was causing inconvenience to local residents, however after reviewing CCTV footage it was considered too dangerous to leave the crossing open.
- It was acknowledged there were delays in getting bollards repaired due to ageing technology and contractor issues but there was a focus on getting repairs done as soon as possible.
- Mr Shaw apologised for recent problems with the "Report It" website and "App" and a Members' mailbox had been set up during this period to manage enquiries efficiently.
- Local Area Technicians would have information on the repair plans for footways.
- The Jet Patching machine was used extensively across the County's roads but was more effective in rural rather than urban areas and not for use on high stress parts of the road network.
- A written response would be provided on the pay and display consultation.

8c: Cabinet Member for Children's Services.

Mr W Whyte, Cabinet Member for Children's Services asked Members to help publicise the Early Help review consultation that would start shortly.

In response to questions from Members, Mr Whyte made the following points:

- He had been impressed by the pace of improvement in Children's Services and would aim to make sure the pace was maintained.
- Further information about social workers' reasons for leaving would be obtained from service directors.
- The percentage of agency social workers had reduced and there was a continued focus on achieving permanent teams. Children's Services were working with University College Aylesbury Vale in helping develop social workers in house. The recruitment of social workers had not been frozen.
- Opportunities for Members to shadow Children's Services teams would be looked into.
- Members were encouraged to familiarise themselves with the new Corporate Parenting Strategy approved recently by Cabinet.

8d: Cabinet Member for Resources.

In response to questions from Members, Mr J Chilver, Cabinet Member for Resources made the following points:

- The exact figure for the refurbishment of New County Offices would be provided after the meeting.
- The refurbishment of the mezzanine rooms and replacement of both lifts had been completed on time and on budget.
- The conversion of the Old County Offices to residential accommodation was expected to start later in 2017.
- The Council had a new recruitment website which went live last year.
- The cost to the Council of the Apprenticeship Levy was around £500,000.

8e: Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing.

The Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, Lin Hazell made the following points in response to Members' questions:

- She was very supportive of the Community Hub model of providing care support for local residents such as the one being piloted in Marlow.
- The Walled Garden project had been a good experience for those involved and it would be beneficial to develop further, although it was recognised that these projects were complex to set up.
- The Accountable Care System was a new way of streamlining partnership working around adult social care. Members would be kept up to date on developments.
- A written response would be provided on the Aylesbury Wellbeing Project.

8f: Cabinet Member for Education and Skills.

Mr M Appleyard, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, clarified that the good grading for alternative education providers mentioned in the report was in respect of the Pace Centres and the Jigsaw School.

Responding to questions from Members, Mr Appleyard made the following points:

- The Council, through the Bucks Learning Trust (BLT), was working hard to improve the Ofsted ratings of secondary schools in Aylesbury and this was a continuing priority. There was an aim to develop and expand Teaching Schools, where those schools rated as outstanding would work with other schools that may be struggling.
- The Council was linking closely with the Local Enterprise Partnership Skills Board after recognising an increase in students having been to university coming back to live in Buckinghamshire.
- The University of Buckingham had received a gold award for technical excellence.
- It was recognised that the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers and looked after children and their peers was an issue and remained a priority.

8g: Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment.

In response to a Member question on air pollution, Mr B Chapple, Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment explained that air pollution in the County was taken very seriously and that as work on the infrastructure plan progressed, the aim would be to take cars out of town centres. More information about the location of pollution sensors would be provided after the meeting.

8h: Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health.

Mr N Brown, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health explained that as a result of a number of successful responses to scams, Trading Standards was keen to train further Scam Champions, particularly from across the South of the County.

In response to Members' questions, Mr Brown highlighted the following:

- The importance of joint working with partners in dealing with the issues of substance misuse.
- The joint Trading Standards Service was working well, with increased expertise where it was needed. It was stressed the importance of contacting Trading Standards at an early stage when issues arose.

9 NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no Notices of Motion.

10 CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS TAKEN - INFORMATION ONLY

The information was noted.

11 INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS ON EVENTS AND MEMBER SERVICES - INFORMATION ONLY

The information was noted.

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 21st September 2017 at 9.30am in The Oculus, AVDC, Gatehouse Way, Aylesbury.

CHAIRMAN

County Council



Annual Report of the Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire and Rescue Service 2017

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Executive Summary

Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service continues to show sustained improvement by managing down the number of fire calls and changing how it works to provide a wider range of services to the local community. The good financial performance of the Authority continues, with savings made across the whole of the Service. The council tax level for Buckinghamshire compared to other combined fire services remains the lowest in the country.

The Service continues to push forward with providing more services, without passing the cost onto the taxpayer, and this last year started to provide emergency medical response to the communities of Buckinghamshire. So far the Service has attended nearly 3000 medical emergencies since March 2014, saving countless lives.

In short, over the last 4 years, the Fire Authority has provided more lifesaving services to the community and has not removed one fire engine, closed one fire station or made one firefighter compulsory redundant whilst ensuring that the council tax for taxpayers remains the lowest in the country.

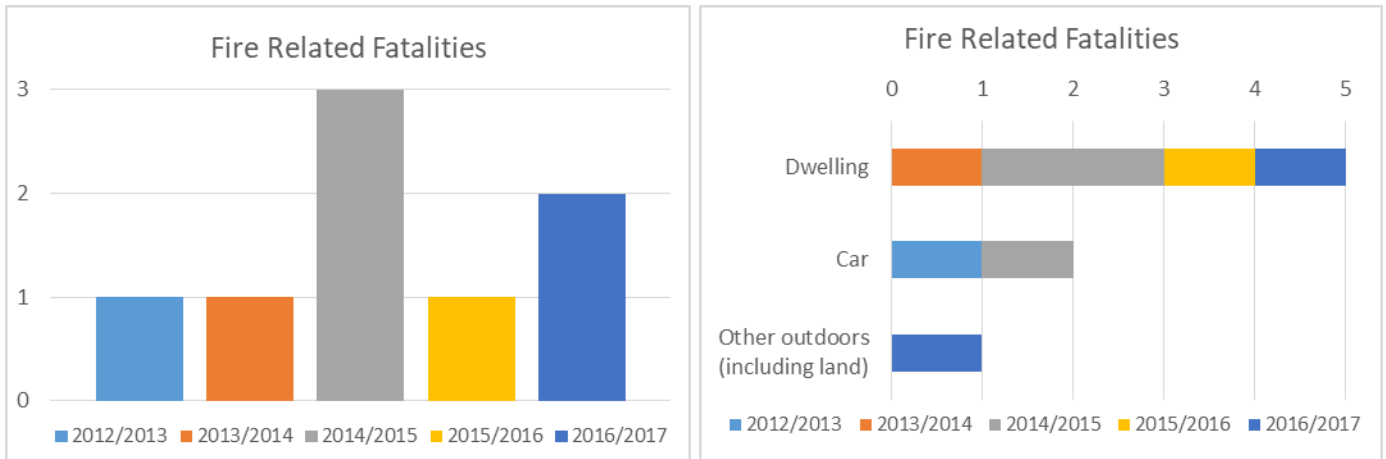
Performance Trends (Buckinghamshire only)

Total Incidents (excluding co-responder)

2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
3962	4209	3863	3791	4087

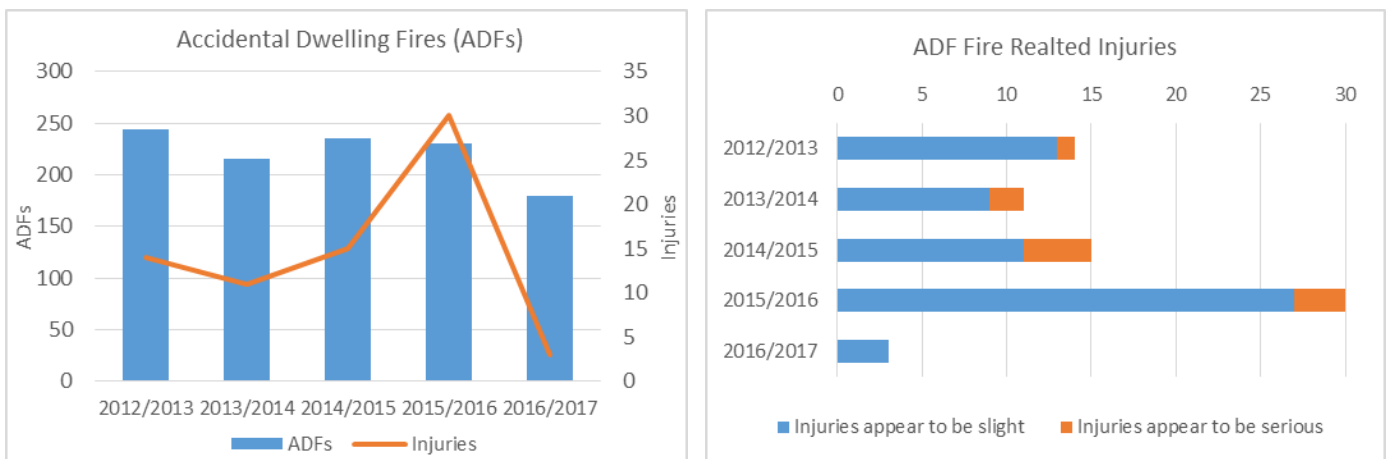
BFRS continue to experience a plateau in the overall trend in incident demand within Bucks, with the number of incidents remaining around the 4,000 figure for the fifth year. BFRS also attended over 1,000 Co-Responder incidents within Bucks during the same period.

Fire Related Fatalities

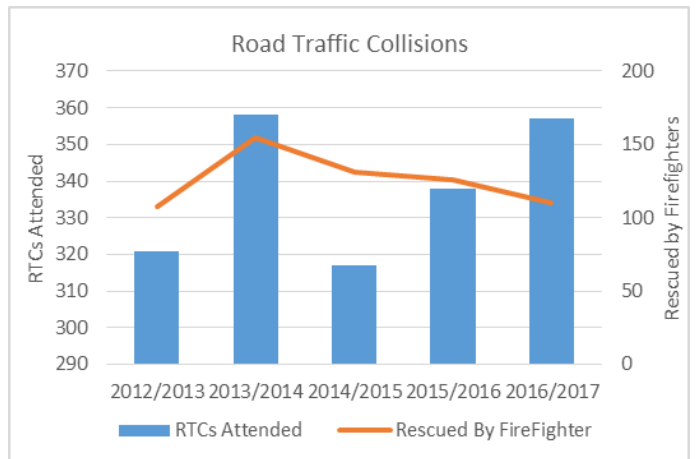
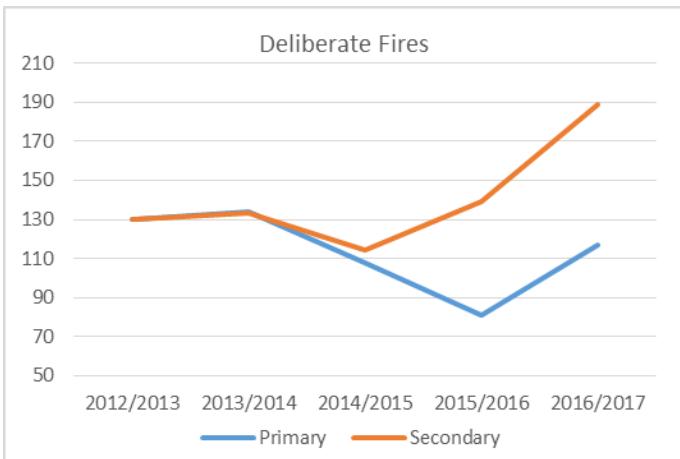


During 2016/17, two **fire related fatalities** were recorded in two separate incidents. Both were suspected to be deceased at the time of arrival of the fire service.

Preventing Incidents that Lead to Harm



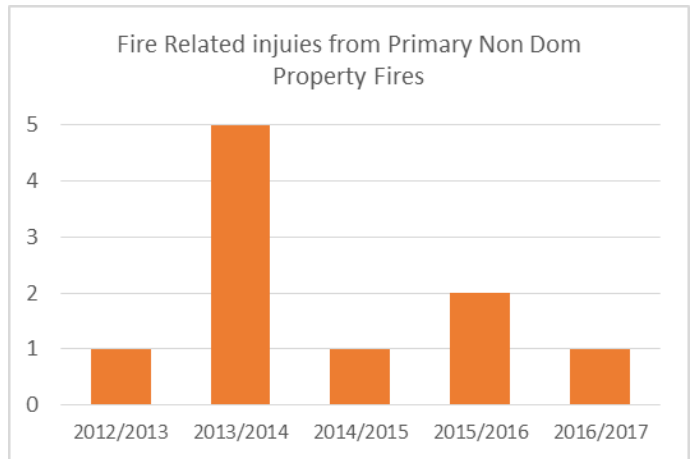
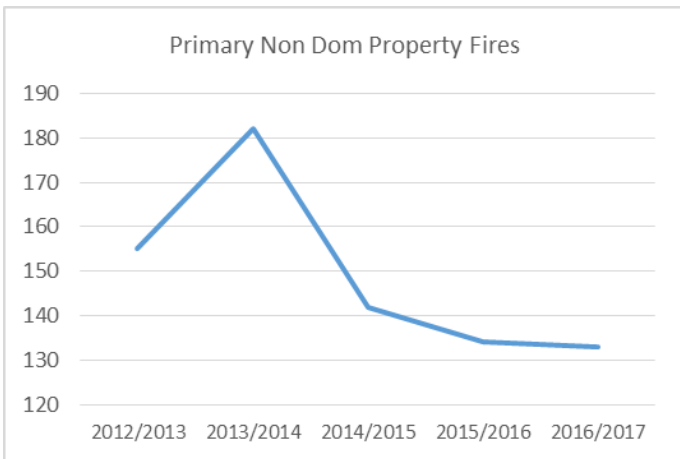
The **Accidental Dwelling Fire** trend has continued this year with the number of incidents reducing. The most dramatic change of the year has seen the Accidental Dwelling Fire related injuries drop from 30 to 3, all of which were injuries that appeared to be slight. This decrease in injuries is in contrast to what we reported last year. There was an increase in minor injuries against a backdrop in falling accidental dwelling fires. This was reflected not just nationally, but also in other European nations who collect fire data. There is still some significant research underway around human behaviour in domestic fires which is starting to explain why this may be the case.



Over the past 10 years, one of our most dramatic trends has been our **Deliberate Fires**. They have reduced by huge numbers and although Bucks did see a rise last year in Primary Deliberate Fires, we are expecting the downward trend to continue again.

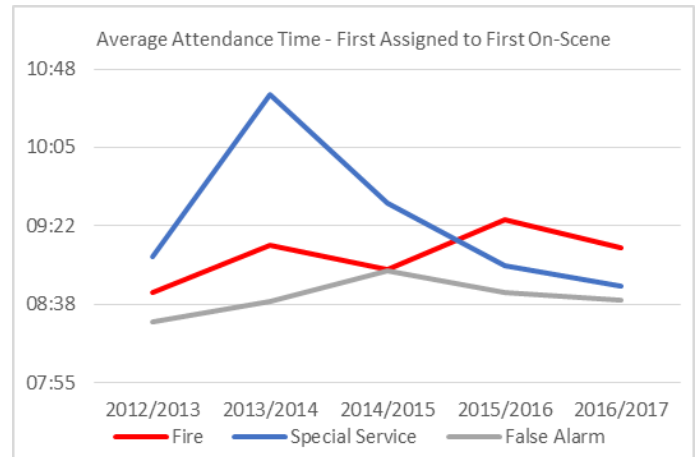
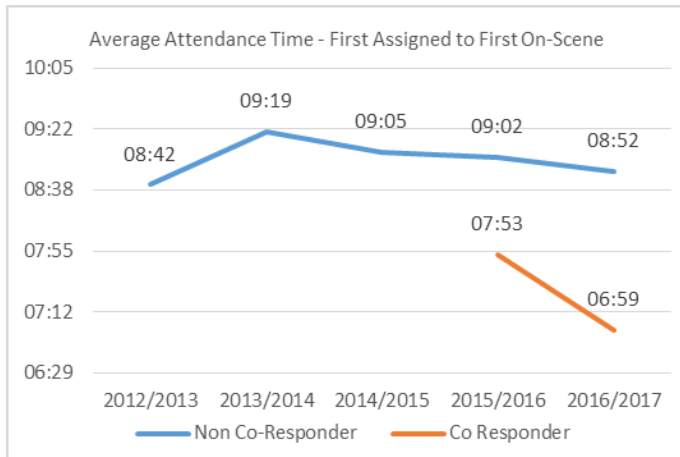
The Service subscribes to a Contract for Service with Thames Valley Police for an Arson Reduction Officer, a resource shared with Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service. This has resulted in more effective and simplified lines of communication with Thames Valley Police and allowed for trends to be identified in a co-ordinated manner. The Arson Reduction Officer has also initiated a Memorandum of Understanding with the local prisons to create a consistent approach to investigating incidents involving suspected arson and supporting the prison officers to prosecute offenders.

Protecting Homes and Businesses from Fire

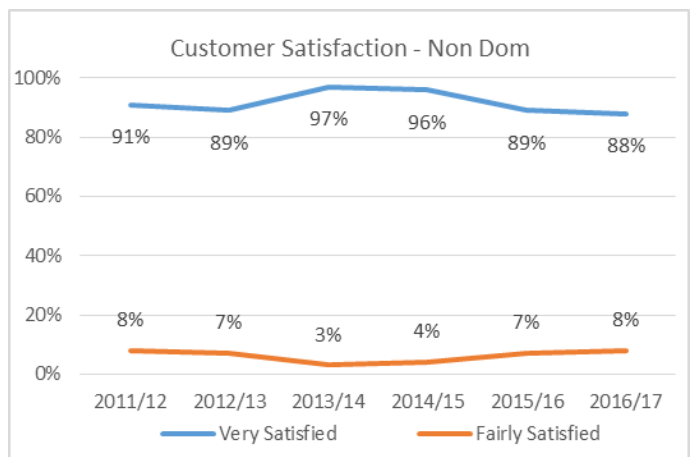
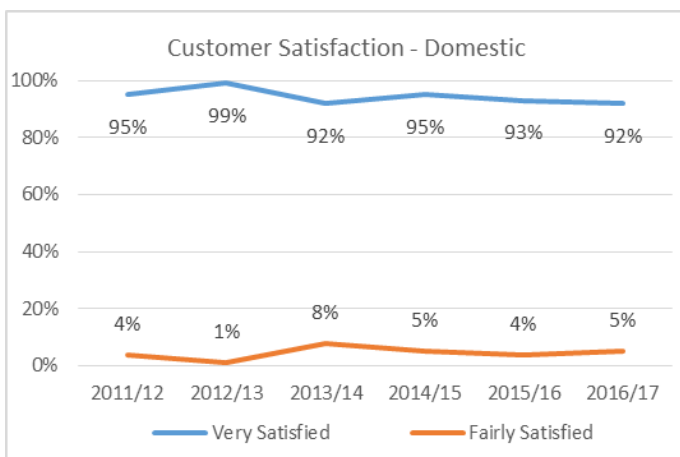


Our **Non Domestic Property** fire figures continue to improve. These figures have been helped by proactive work with the businesses community and strategic targeting. The percentage of unsatisfactory audits demonstrate that BFRS has a robust targeting approach for audits, identifying those commercial premises that present a higher risk.

Responding to Incidents



The **average attendance time** has reduced for the third year running. As reported last year, nationally, attendance times are increasing reflecting the impact of austerity measures on other fire and rescue services and how they have responded to them by often removing appliances and closing stations. This has attracted interest in the national press. However, due to the way we prioritise our resourcing, coupled with the move to new technology making sure the nearest available appliance is mobilised to an incident, we have managed to buck this national trend and improve our performance.



After the Incident questionnaires are sent following incidents at domestic and non – domestic premises (except where serious injury/ fatality or significant damage has occurred). The questionnaires are returned to Opinion Research Services who independently analyse the returns and publish the results. BMKFRS continually remain in the 90+% brackets for customer satisfaction in both domestic and non-domestic.

(Incident Data as @ 04/09/2017)

(Data collected from our Incident Reporting System 'IRS' and Open Research Services)

Workforce Reform

The Authority continues to strive to adopt modern and flexible working arrangements to ensure it best serves the public and maximises the use of all resources.

Our interactive People Strategy sets out our approach and is the foundation for delivering ongoing workforce reform; it illustrates the innovative work we do and is a showcase of

the exceptional work all employees are involved in. The people strategy is available for you all to see and can be viewed here: people.bucksfire.gov.uk

Our workforce continues to be flexible in their approach to contracts, terms and conditions and duties. The Operational apprentices recruited last year have proved invaluable resources. They are truly embedded in the operational workforce. Learning from this positive initiative, we take on a further 12 operational apprentices this September, continuing to support the Government's agenda for more, higher quality, employer led apprenticeships. This is one element of a blended approach the work to replenishing our workforce which looks to maximise skills, experience and diversity for the positive benefit of the public services we provide.

Work is underway to review our On Call Fire Fighter employment proposition to ensure the Authority is well placed to attract, continually develop and retain the right skills and levels of flexibility required for the future. This includes our approach to local community engagement and this initiative is actively supported by District Councils within Buckinghamshire.

Our Support Services Staff continue to work hard to provide essential support to the frontline and are an important and integral part of the Authority. Again we have several support staff apprentices who are involved in key functions and whilst working are learning new skills, and gaining a recognised qualification. We are proud of all our staff and all they do.

We look to properly reward our staff for their work, recognising them in a variety of ways where they are providing outstanding services and undertaking extra responsibilities. Our approach to reward looks to positively underpin our resilience needs

Well-being support is a high priority, as our staff are often faced with difficult situations in their everyday work.

Work continues to develop staff for the future, especially with leadership and technical skills including new skills as services continue to diversify; to ensure we have the right mix to enable the Authority to optimise the contribution and well-being of our people to deliver our objectives.

We continue to initiate collaborative working arrangements and the sharing of best practice with other Emergency Services and new partners within the Thames Valley and beyond; and continue to provide opportunities for other Fire Authorities and Government officials to view what we do and learn from us and vice versa.

Initiatives

BFRS continues to increase the services that it provides to the community. These range from enhanced rescue capabilities to supporting the wider health agenda. The following section highlights some of these services:

Youth Engagement

Junior Firefit – A High Wycombe Fire Station initiative aimed at improving the health, fitness and self-confidence of young people not previously undertaking regular exercise. The local station staff work with a local school to identify those young people who would most benefit from this approach. The staff are supported by Sport England and LEAP.

Embers – An initiative based at Aylesbury Fire Station following on from a previous course at Buckingham Fire Station. This course is designed to encourage young people to become more physically active. Station staff work with a local school to identify those young people who would benefit from the course. This has supported the attendance, self-confidence as well as the health and wellbeing of the children.

Employability Course – Working with Bucks County Council staff, Aylesbury Fire Station has conducted an employability course for those young people not involved in any form of employment, training or education. This course develops self-confidence and supports the attendees to find employment.

START (strengthening tenancies to achieve respect and trust) – This programme runs in MK with station-based staff providing support to young people who are moving from living in care to living independently. The course comprises practical elements such as cooking and basic DIY, as well as advice on managing on a budget and how to be a good neighbour. This course has been supported by a local supermarket, which has provided food and equipment for the young people.

Now the courses have all been run at the above locations, the intention is to strive to offer these at as many fire stations as possible. We want to provide gateways for young people to access support at fire stations, with pathways to ensure the support and personal improvements are maintained. The longer-term aim is to work with local businesses and educational establishments to identify training, work-placement and even employment opportunities for our young people from across our diverse community.

Wider Health Agenda

Building on our approach of using data to ensure we use our resources to conduct Home Fire Risk Checks in those premises where the occupants are most at risk from fire, this has led us to interact more with people who have complex needs. The result of this is that we have expanded our training to frontline staff so they can best support our communities. We are currently developing a new database which will allow us to target more effectively and share information with partners more efficiently. All of our front-line staff have been subjected to DBS checks and all have undertaken dementia awareness training. Specifically we have become involved in the following initiatives:

Blood donation – We are working with the blood transfusion service to offer our premises to be used for blood donation. This enables our own staff to attend whilst also providing a free venue to the service. We use the opportunity to share fire safety information with attendees.

Falls Prevention – We work with partners to deliver stability classes within our fire stations for those people who are most at risk from falling. The classes help attendees to become stronger and to gain in self-confidence and fitness.

Guided Walks – A number of our staff have become walk leaders, who have identified and risk assessed walks in a number of locations around Bucks. These walks are aimed at those people who would benefit from regular exercise as well as helping to stop them becoming socially isolated.

Use of Premises – We see our buildings as community ‘hubs’ and our partners are now regularly using our fire stations to deliver training sessions to their staff as well as opening up the buildings for community and voluntary groups.

The Grenfell Tower Fire Incident

The tragic fire at Grenfell Tower has challenged the organisation to review how we enforce fire safety legislation to ensure the safety of occupants whilst supporting businesses to thrive. Whilst we already knew of the high-rise premises within our area, we have taken the opportunity to review our operational procedures and the risk critical information available to our staff at any incidents. We have shared information with partners to ensure there is a common operating picture for all agencies. Our operational crews have visited premises with our inspecting officers to ensure statutory compliance whilst giving reassurance and fire safety advice to residents. We have also conducted multi-agency training scenarios at the Fire Service College to ensure a common understanding amongst blue light partners.

We have worked with businesses to help them comply with fire safety legislation, delivering advice and guidance where we can add value. We have also conducted briefing sessions to a range of strategic partners to create a consistent communications message.

As the various investigations progress, this Authority will ensure any recommendations and findings are incorporated appropriately and we will continue to share information across the sector.

Thames Valley Fire Appliance Collaborative Procurement

The three Thames Valley fire and rescue services have worked together to develop and procure a standard fire appliance with exactly the same equipment specification to serve all three Counties. This has effectively given Buckinghamshire residents the buying power of being the fifth largest fire and rescue service in the Country, reducing cost and improving the services we can provide when neighbouring services attend incidents together. Over the life of the contract the three services will purchase over 35 new appliances to refresh the old fleets. In Buckinghamshire, we have also renewed our four wheel drive and bulk water tanker capability this year.

Included within these Thames Valley fire appliances is the next generation of firefighting and rescue equipment, which includes but is not limited to, electronic hydraulic rescue equipment which is more versatile and operates without the need for a noisy generator and hydraulic hoses, improved portable scene lighting and communications equipment, bigger hose for high rise firefighting, bariatric rescue equipment and light weight thermal imaging cameras to assist firefighters when searching.

The other benefit of standardising our equipment across the three counties is that we can reduce stock levels of spare equipment by sharing our requirements. This further reduces the burden on the tax payer.

National collaborative procurement of Personal Protective Equipment

Throughout 2016/17 we have been actively engaged in a national collaborative Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) procurement project for a complete new firefighting uniform. The project has explored ways of providing Firefighters with the next generation of Firefighter PPE which fully considers the work streams of a modern, reformed workforce, delivering a wider range of public services, whilst providing best value for the Authority through collaborative working.

Drone

The use of the Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service drone is increasing, with benefits ranging from the gathering of aerial imagery for risk information and pre-planning purposes, to assisting partner agencies in the search for missing persons. Operationally they have provided significant benefits to the Incident Commander and partner agencies by informing their decision making processes. The use of drone imagery for collapsed structures has assisted fire investigation officers to determine the likely origin and cause of the fire, whilst providing structural engineers with the data they require to make informed decisions about the structural integrity of a building. In terms of building fires, they provide critical information such as the location of previously unseen gas cylinders, or the direction and speed of fire spread in buildings and large open areas. This information influences an Incident Commander's tactical plan, making fire ground operations safer and more efficient.

Cardiac Arrest Response

For every minute that passes, following a cardiac arrest, a patient's chance of survival reduces by 10%. It is therefore critical that a rapid response to a cardiac arrest incident is made. Employees of Buckinghamshire fire & rescue service are proud to save lives every day and an opportunity exists now to support our colleagues in South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS) and mobilise our resources in partnership. This will ensure a resource gets to those cardiac arrest incidents as quickly as possible. By attending such incidents alongside our SCAS colleagues we all contribute further to our vision of, making Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes the safest places to live, work and travel.

Assisting SCAS to effect entry to premises at medical emergencies

The Effecting Entry, Concern for Safety initiative relates to emergency calls where there is concern for the safety or welfare of a patient inside a premises and the ambulance service are unable to gain access. Responsibility for effecting entry in these circumstances rests with the Police but due to a lack of resources, average response times are in the order of 20-25 minutes. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been developed, which details how the three Thames Valley fire and rescue services shall support South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS) by mobilising appliances to gain entry to premises on behalf of Thames Valley Police (TVP).

This initiative aims to reduce the length of time that SCAS crews are on-scene but unable to gain access to a patient. If the trial is successful it should provide a number of positive outcomes:

- Better clinical outcomes for patients
- More efficient use of SCAS resources
- Less damage to patients' homes due to FRS expertise in effecting entry
- Reduced demand for TVP to attend

Costs and Financial Situation

The total of all funding available to an authority, excluding grants for specific purposes is known as its core spending power.

The change in core spending power for BMKFA between 2015/16 and 2019/20 is estimated to be an increase of 1.2%. However, this figure relies upon two key assumptions relating to council tax:

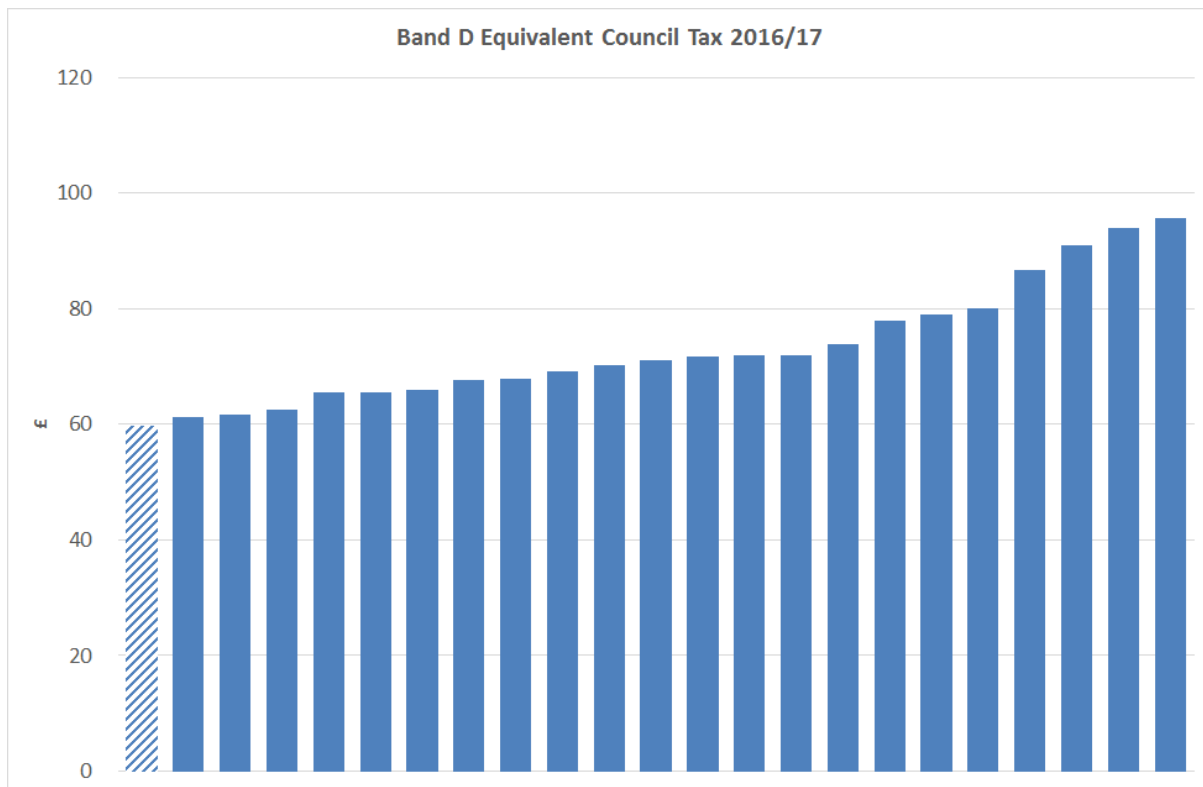
- That the average growth in council tax base between 2013-14 and 2016-17 will continue through until 2019-20
- That authorities will increase their Band D council tax at least in line with the forecast for inflation each year.

This reflects the shift away in recent years from freezing council tax to using council tax to generate additional funding.

Underlying the core spending power figures is a decrease of 57% in revenue support grant that we are due to receive between 2015/16 and 2019/20.

BMKFA had frozen council tax every year from 2011/12 to 2014/15 and even reduced council tax by 1% in 2015/16. However, given shift in Government funding policy BMKFA increased the band D equivalent council tax by 1.98% in both 2016/17 and 2017/18. Our medium term financial plan is based on the assumption that we will also raise council tax by 1.99% for the next three years. This would still represent a real-terms decrease in council tax over ten years of around 15%.

The 2017/18 band D equivalent council tax for BMKFA is £60.88 (which equates to approximately £1.17 per week). The average band D council tax for combined fire authorities for 2016/17 is £74.44. BMKFA charges the lowest band D council tax of all combined fire authorities in the country (see chart below). BMKFA is the striped bar on the far left.



The biggest financial challenge the Authority now faces is in respect of any changes to public sector pay constraint. All planning assumptions are based upon the Governments wish to see public sector pay increases capped at 1% for the current spending review period and the finance settlement up to 2020 has been agreed on that basis.

For the Fire Authority, a 1% increase in the pay bill is broadly equivalent to a 1% increase in Council Tax. If settlements are made above 1% with no increase in either government funding or an ability to raise council tax above the capping threshold, this will have a direct impact upon the service the Authority can provide the consequences of which could be closure of fire stations not just in Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes, but across the UK.

Steps Taken to Reduce Costs

The largest savings that the Authority has made, and that are budgeted for the future, relate to operational staffing. The Authority is developing flexible and resilient resourcing models that better meet the known risk and demand of the service, as well as maintaining the current response standards. This is due to the innovative way the Authority is now crewing appliances.

Rather than having a large standing resource, a smaller regular establishment is complimented by firefighters (on-call and whole time) working bank shifts, and a number of firefighters on local terms and conditions to enable more flexible and mobile working.

Within the savings assumptions are two major projects, which are the construction of a new 'Blue Light Hub' in Milton Keynes and a programme of systems integration that is well on its way to completion. The 'Blue Light Hub' is a joint facility hosting Fire, Thames Valley Police and South Central Ambulance Service in shared premises.

The systems integration project has already replaced our Finance, Payroll and HR system and will consolidate a number of other disparate systems across the Authority, including finance, fleet, assets, premises risk management and rostering. This project is key to realising a large number of the non-operational staff savings that are planned for future years.

Role of Buckinghamshire County Council members on our Fire Authority

Due to changes in the ratio of local government electors between Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) and Milton Keynes Council the Authority saw a reduction in its BCC appointments. There are now 11 Members from Buckinghamshire and 6 Members from Milton Keynes (previously 12 and 5).

Councillor Roger Reed was elected Chairman of the Fire Authority at its AGM in June 2017. He and Councillor David Carroll were appointed to the Thames Valley Fire Control Service Joint Committee which is the governance board for the shared emergency call handling centre for Royal Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire fire and rescue services.

BCC Members were prominent in the appointments made by the Fire Authority to five of the six Lead Member roles. Councillors Teesdale, Lambert, Glover, Carroll and Reed lead on Community Protection; People and Equality and Diversity; Health and Safety and Corporate Risk; Property and Resource Management; and Collaboration and Transformation respectively.

Fire Authority Members for 2017/18 from Buckinghamshire County Council are: Councillors Carroll, Glover, A Hussain, N Hussain, Irwin, Lambert, Reed, Sullivan, Teesdale and Watson and from Milton Keynes Council: Brunning, Exon, Marland, McCall, McDonald and Wilson.

It should also be noted that Councillor Alan Walters MBE was a Member of the Fire Authority this year and everyone at Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service was saddened to hear the news of his death.

The Service continues to receive tremendous support from the Lord Lieutenant's and High Sheriff's offices and we are pleased to have good working relationships with all strategic stakeholders.

The Service is also grateful for the assistance provided to it by Mr Steve Taylor from the BCC Member Services team.

**JASON THELWELL, CHIEF FIRE OFFICER
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE & MILTON KEYNES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**



County Council

Select Committee Report

Report of the Chairmen of the Council's Select Committees

The following provides a brief overview of the work currently being undertaken by Select Committees. More detail on the work of the Committees can be found on the Council's website at www.buckscc.gov.uk/about-your-council/scrutiny. Select Committees are open to the public and are webcast live via the Council's website.

The latest Select Committee work programme and Inquiry work programme are also considered at each Cabinet meeting, and papers are available at:

<https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=124>.

Joint Inquiry: 'Is The Council Ready for Growth?'

The Select Committees undertook an innovative approach to their first Inquiry following the Council elections in 2017. For the first time, a joint Inquiry was undertaken by all four Select Committees, with evidence sessions being held during the first meeting of each Committee.

The report of the Committees' Inquiry 'Is the Council Ready for Growth?' identifies a number of recommendations for improvement and will be presented to Cabinet on the 25th September.

Finance, Performance & Resources

Following the May elections, the Finance, Performance and Resources Select Committee has a new membership and a new Chairman, David Watson. After attending valuable scrutiny induction training sessions, the Committee held its first meeting on 4th July, launching the evidence gathering for a cross-Select Committee Inquiry 'Is the County Council ready for Growth?' The meeting was very interesting and productive and the Committee investigated three themes around Growth – Data, Governance and Finance.

In addition, over the summer a Cabinet Member decision on the Bucks Sports and Social Club was called-in and the FPR Select Committee held a special meeting on 12th September to consider the Call-in.

Looking forward, the Committee's September agenda includes items on Performance Management, ICT and Digital and a 6 month update on Budget Scrutiny 2017 recommendations.

Health & Adult Social Care

At its September meeting, the Select Committee heard from representatives at the South Central Ambulance Service and Members will be visiting the control centre in Bicester to see the service in action in early October. The Select Committee also heard from representatives from Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust on the current status of the Community hub pilot and Members examined the key performance indicators. Members also received a briefing on the Accountable Care System

(ACS) as Buckinghamshire has recently been announced as an ACS in the first wave.

At its November meeting, the Committee will be discussing and agreeing the scoping document for its next Inquiry which is likely to be looking in more detail at childhood obesity. The evidence gathering will take place early in the New Year.

Committee Members continue to attend various health related events, including open days, annual report launches, board meetings and Annual General Meetings.

Children's Social Care & Learning

There were a number of new Members welcomed onto the Committee following the May election and at their first meeting they focused on the growth agenda within Buckinghamshire to look at what the impact might be on Children's Services.

The Committee has continued to focus on the Ofsted improvement work within Children's Social Care including reviewing the latest Ofsted monitoring letters and the improvement programme in place to address issues.

The Committee has also been scrutinising progress of implementing the recommendations made in its Voice of the Child and Young Person Inquiry to make sure children and young people can get their views heard easily. The Committee really valued the help that two young people gave them in helping with this review at their September meeting.

High levels of permanent exclusions from school remain an issue for the Council and the Committee looked at this at its last meeting. After questioning the Cabinet Member and Senior Officers, the Committee is keen to undertake an in depth review to understand more. Members of the Committee have also had an opportunity to feed into the new Education Strategy that is being developed and will be reviewing it in more detail once all the consultation responses have been received and analysed.

Some Members of the Committee have also been out and about meeting children and young people at the Child Looked After and Care Leavers Annual Celebration Event that took place in August. Over the next few months Members will also be shadowing various Children's Services teams to understand more about the valuable work that they do.

Transport, Environment & Communities

The TEC Select Committee is currently examining the Council's role, duty and responsibilities in relation to Modern Slavery, the Committee's next inquiry topic (being developed).

Future Committee items include: the impact of the National Infrastructure Commission Report in Bucks, energy schemes, the Prevent Duty, and monitoring the progress of recent inquiry recommendations (Economic Development and Sustainable School Travel).

Select Committee Inquiry Work Programme, September 2017

Inquiry Title	Inquiry Chairman	Lead Officer	Sept 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18
Finance, Performance, Resources (FPR)								
Growth In Buckinghamshire	Joint Inquiry	Kelly Sutherland	■					
Budget Scrutiny	David Watson	Kelly Sutherland			■		■	■
Children's Social Care & Learning (CSC&L)								
Growth In Buckinghamshire	Joint Inquiry	Kevin Wright	■					
Exclusions/Transitions^	Dev Dhillon	Kevin Wright		■	■	■	■	■
Health, Adult Social Care (HASC)								
Growth in Buckinghamshire	Joint Inquiry	Liz Wheaton	■					
Childhood Obesity	Brian Roberts	Liz Wheaton			■	■	■	■
Transport, Environment & Communities (TEC)								
Growth In Buckinghamshire	Joint Inquiry	Kama Wager	■					
Modern Slavery^	David Carroll	Kama Wager	■	■	■	■	■	■

Key: Scoping Evidence Gathering Committee Approval Cabinet/NHS

**DAVID WATSON
BRIAN ROBERTS
DEV DHILLON
DAVID CARROLL**

SELECT COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

County Council



Appointment of Honorary Aldermen

Thursday 21 September 2017

Report of the Monitoring Officer

Purpose of this Report

The report seeks Council approval to the appointment of additional Honorary Aldermen.

Background

In 2010 and 2014, in recognition of their service to Buckinghamshire County Council, the Council appointed a number of former County Councillors to the position of Honorary Aldermen. Nominations for this honour are restricted to past Councillors who have given eminent service to the Council in line with the following criteria:

Honorary Aldermen Criteria

To be eligible to be nominated as an Honorary Alderman, a person should have served a period of at least 8 years (i.e. two terms) as an Elected Member AND have met at least one of the following:

- Have served at least one term as Chairman of a Standing Committee
- Have served as Chairman of the Council
- Have served as Group Leader for at least four years
- Held a Cabinet position for at least three years with distinction
- Held to have given exceptional service, and where supported by a majority of Members

As Aldermen undertake an ambassadorial role on behalf of the County Council, supporting both the Chairman and the Council, the main place of residence for Aldermen should be in Buckinghamshire.

Current Honorary Aldermen are:

Mrs Cherry Aston
Mr Bruce Allen
Mrs Marion Clayton
Mr Mike Colston
Mrs Pamela Crawford
Mr Kenneth Ross DL

Mrs Gillian Miscampbell OBC DL
Mr David Polhill
Mr Richard Pushman
Mrs Freda Roberts MBE
Mr Trevor Fowler
Mr Peter Lawrence

In accordance with Council delegations and following recent elections, Group Leaders, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council and the Chief Executive have identified three further persons to be considered for the position of Honorary Aldermen.

RECOMMENDATION

Council is asked to AGREE the appointment of the following persons as Honorary Aldermen:

**Mrs Margaret Aston
Mrs Avril Davies
Mrs Valerie Letheren**

**SARAH ASHMEAD
MONITORING OFFICER**

County Council



Report on Committee Proportionality

Thursday 21 September 2017

Report of the Monitoring Officer

Political Proportionality

This report sets out the allocation of Committee seats in line with legal requirements on political proportionality. Appendix 1 sets out the seat allocations by political groups for 2017/18.

The distribution of seats on Committees is governed by Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, which require the allocation to accord with the rules on proportionality. It is incumbent on the County Council to satisfy itself that the rules on proportionality continue to be properly applied.

The Regulations state that seats on Committees must be allocated to each political group in the same proportion to the number of seats held by each of those groups on the County Council (rules of aggregation as well as being in the correct proportions on each Committee individually, in so far as this may be practicable).

The political balance of the Council is 41 Conservatives, 4 Liberal Democrats, 2 East Wycombe Independents, 1 Independent and 1 Labour.

Subsequent to the last proportionality review in May 2017, Cllr Majid Hussain has joined the Liberal Democrat with East Wycombe Independents, Labour and Independent Group. There are two political groups now comprising 41 (The Conservative Group) and 8 (The Liberal Democrat with East Wycombe Independents, Labour and Independent Group) Members.

Following the agreement of all political groups the final allocations proposed are listed below (Appendix 1 sets out the background calculations).

Table 1

Political Group	Seats on Council	% of whole	Seats actual	Seats rounded
Conservative	41	83.7%	62.76	63
Liberal Democrat with East Wycombe Independents, Labour and Independent	8	16.3%	12.24	12
Total	49	100%	75	75



Table 2: Final allocations of Seats

Committee	Size	Conservative	Liberal Democrat with East Wycombe Independents, Labour and Independent
Development Control	8	7	1
Pension Fund	6	5	1
Regulatory & Audit	8	7	1
Rights of Way	8	7	1
Senior Appointments and Bucks Pay Award	7	6	1
Select – Children’s Social Care & Learning	11	9	2
Select – Health & Adult Social Care	11	9 (8)	2 (3)
Select – Finance, Performance & Resources	8	7	1
Select – Transport, Environment & Communities	8	7	1
Total	75	64* (63)	11* (12)

* Conservatives have an over-allocation of one seat which should go to the opposition group

Other Council Committees

There are currently no other Council Committees where proportionality applies. If a new Council Committee is created and proportionality applies, it will be applied on the basis as set out in Appendix 1.

Buckinghamshire Fire Authority

The County Council has 11 places on the Fire Authority which, applying the rules on proportionality, results in the following distribution of seats across the groups.

Table 3: Fire Authority Seats

Committee	Size	Conservative	Liberal Democrat with East Wycombe Independents, Labour and Independent
Fire Authority	11	9	2

Other Member Bodies

It is the current policy of the County Council that notwithstanding that the rules of proportionality do not apply to non-decision making bodies, all member bodies should be appointed on a proportional basis whenever reasonably practicable.

Recommendations

Council is asked to:

Confirm that the political balance in the distribution of seats across Committees be as set out in Tables 1 and 2, to accord with the rules on proportionality.

**SARAH ASHMEAD
MONITORING OFFICER**

Appendix 1 – Background Calculations on the Allocation of Committee Seats

Table 4

Size	Conservative	Liberal Democrat with East Wycombe Independents, Labour and Independent
No of Seats	41	8
1	1	0
2	2	0
3	3	0
4	3	1
5	4	1
6	5	1
7	6	1
8	7	1
9	8	1
10	8	2
11	9	2
12	10	2
13	11	2
14	12	2
15	13	2
16	13	3

Table 5 – Initial calculations before adjustments

Committee	Size	Conservative	Liberal Democrat with East Wycombe Independents, Labour and Independent
Development Control	8	6.69 (7)	1.31 (1)
Pension Fund	6	5.02 (5)	0.98 (1)
Regulatory & Audit	8	6.69 (7)	1.31 (1)
Rights of Way	8	6.69 (7)	1.31 (1)
Senior Appointments	7	5.86 (6)	1.14 (1)
Select – Children's Social Care & Learning	11	9.20 (9)	1.80 (2)
Select – Health, Adult Social Care	11	9.20 (9)	1.80 (2)
Select – Finance, Performance & Resources	8	6.69 (7)	1.31 (1)
Select – Transport, Environment & Communities	8	6.69 (7)	1.31 (1)
Total	75	64*	11*

* The Conservative seat entitlement from Table 1 is 63, therefore one seat should be re-allocated to the opposition group.



County Council

Cabinet Member Reports

9a. REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Brexit Task and Finish Group Update

Brexit negotiations with the European Union are now firmly underway, with three rounds of negotiations concluded. A significant proportion of central government time is being devoted to Brexit (8 of 27 bills on Queen's Speech) and a number of position papers and technical papers have been produced on a wide range of areas, many of which impact local government either directly or indirectly. The LGA is lobbying on behalf of local government with regular meetings taking place with DCLG and DExEU.

The Council is taking early action to recognise the local implications of Brexit and steps to mitigate or maximise emerging opportunities. We are keen to lobby strongly for Buckinghamshire, to ensure our future relationship with Europe and any potential changes to legislation are as beneficial as possible to local businesses, public sector partners and ultimately, our residents. We have set up a task and finish group which coordinates our Brexit preparations and have started collaborating and sharing best practice with other local authorities around the country. It is clear that the Council is being very proactive and leading the way with analysis and planning. There will be an all Member briefing on the 1st November and I urge all Members to attend.

High Speed 2 Update

Appointment of Main Civils Works Contractors

On 17 July, the Government announced the winning Joint Venture contractors for Phase 1 of the project. The two relating to Buckinghamshire are listed below:

- C1: Chiltern Tunnels and Colne Valley Viaduct – Align Joint Venture (Bouygues Travaux Publics, VolkerFitzpatrick, Sir Robert McAlpine)
- C2: North Portal Chiltern Tunnels to Brackley – CEK Joint Venture (Carillion Construction Ltd, Eiffage Genie Civil SA, Kier Infrastructure and Overseas Ltd)

The contracts were subsequently signed on 1 August 2017 and there will now be 16 months of detailed design. HS2 Ltd is currently undertaking an assessment of the detailed programme to relocate the Heathrow Express depot from Old Oak Common in London to Langley. The assumption is early works to assess the condition of the ground and to understand environmental and ecological constraints at the site will commence in the autumn. This will inform the timescales for actually building the facility and it becoming operational.

Construction Commissioner's Report

Gareth Epps is the (interim) independent Construction Commissioner whose role is to mediate and monitor the way in which HS2 Ltd manages and responds to construction complaints. The Construction Commissioner will mediate any unresolved construction

related disputes between HS2 Ltd and individuals or bodies, and can be contacted by email (complaints@hs2-cc.org.uk) or by visiting his dedicated website (hs2-cc.org.uk).

The Chilterns Society has set up a website (<http://www.HS2Watch.org.uk>) to record contractor activity and to assist anyone with complaints and also to look out for any problems common to several complaints, which need escalating.

England's Economic Heartland Strategic Alliance

England's Economic Heartland Strategic Alliance brings together nine local authorities and four Local Enterprise Partnerships that sit at the heart of the corridor of growth from Cambridge through Milton Keynes and Northampton to Oxford. Two of the Alliance's core ambitions – the development of an over-arching Transport Strategy for the corridor and the creation of a Sub-national Transport Body (STB) – have taken major steps forward this summer.

The Alliance established the Strategic Transport Forum to provide the forum for a single voice on strategic transport issues. As part of the Forum's work programme, jointly funded by the Strategic Alliance and DfT, consultants WSP have been commissioned to develop an interactive databank that will be used as a key building block on which the Transport Strategy will be developed.

The databank will bring together the information available on future growth (housing and commercial development) and combine it with information of strategic infrastructure investments. Integral to the databank will be an interactive mapping capability that will show how the timing of future growth relates to future infrastructure. This will result in a single overview of baseline information across the Heartland area. It is being designed to enable partners to update and amend the information as it changes over time. The data bank should be completed by February and then used as a key building block in the development of the over-arching Transport Strategy.

In parallel, the Strategic Alliance has begun a wider engagement with stakeholders on the development of a proposal to establish a Sub-national Transport Body. The importance of a having a single voice on issues of strategic importance was highlighted by the National Infrastructure Commission in its Interim Report (published last November). In July, the Department for Transport published its Transport Investment Strategy, which further emphasised the importance of sub-national leadership on issues of strategic importance. The Strategy, which explicitly referenced the work of England's Economic Heartland, sets out how emerging Sub-national Transport Bodies will be at the forefront of 'fundamental change' in the way major infrastructure decisions are made.

The Department's Strategy makes it clear that STBs will be given 'unprecedented access' to Government decision-making on national investment strategies. It also set out the Government's commitment to give 'special recognition' to the 'busiest and most economically important local authority A- roads' by supporting the identification of a Major Roads Network. It goes on to set out that a proportion of the soon to be established National Roads Fund (created by ring-fencing Vehicle Excise Duty from 2020/21) will be allocated for investment in the MRN and there will be a 'key role' for STBs in its management at a regional level.

For Buckinghamshire this is potentially significant in that the Major Road Network is likely to pick up the extent to which the scale of growth set out in emerging Local Plans will increase the pressure on our more significant roads. If that is the case there may be opportunities to make the case for additional investment funding through the

National Roads Fund. As part of the work to develop our proposal to move from the Strategic Transport Forum towards a Sub-national Transport Body an initial engagement with prospective partners and stakeholders is underway.

As part of this work the current governance framework for the Forum is being reviewed in light of experience over the first 12 months of its operation and in particular to ensure that: Linkages with local planning authorities, public transport operators and groups representing users might be strengthened. Initial views will be considered by the Forum at its meeting on 15th September in order to shape the next stage of work.

**MARTIN TETT
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

9b. DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORTATION

East West Rail (EWR)

As Chairman of the East West Rail Consortium's Joint Delivery Board for the Western Section, I had a meeting with Secretary of State for Transport, Chris Grayling, in London on July 17.

We discussed how important East West Rail is in terms of unlocking the region's economic growth potential.

I was delighted that the Secretary of State once again confirmed the Government's commitment to delivering East West Rail.

Our meeting came during the middle of Network Rail's consultation on Phase Two of the Western Section, which took place over July and August. Phase Two includes the Milton Keynes line via Aylesbury, Berryfields (Aylesbury Vale Parkway) and Winslow; and the route from Bicester Village to Bedford via Winslow (Oxford to Bicester was opened last year).

Ten public exhibitions about the proposals took place across the route, including five in Buckinghamshire. They were well attended, attracting a total of 1,787 visitors. The best attended event was in Winslow, with 327 visitors. Members of the public were able to speak to representatives from Network Rail about any issues they may have had. They were able to provide their feedback on the proposals, which Network Rail is now analysing ahead of submitting a Transport and Works Act Order, which subject to due process gives authority to build the line. It is hoped it will be built and running on the Western Section by the 2020s.

Work is also progressing on linking Bedford to Cambridge, due to be completed in the early 2030s.

Road Safety

Drink Drive – Morning After campaign - Transport for Bucks (TfB) has been promoting the 'Morning After' drink drive media campaign throughout the summer. The campaign used social media to coincide with events such as regattas, weddings and festivals. Thames Valley Police has been conducting roadside breath tests at locations throughout Bucks supported by TfB at checks in at Chalkshire Road, Butlers Cross and Marlow.

Eco – Driving – Following two successful training courses for local driving instructors TfB is offering eco-driving assessments to local businesses and drivers to help reduce fuel costs and collision risks.

Driving for work - A presentation has been developed and delivered to 25 drivers at a local company. The presentation is now available to other organisations and links to eco-driving assessments.

Motorcycling - TfB delivered two successful motorcyclist assessment courses in partnership with Thames Vale Advanced Motorcyclists (TVAM) and will aim to deliver 6 rider assessment days during 2018.

Partnership event – A partnership event was held at Tesco Buckingham with Thames Valley Police (TVP) and Bucks Fire to promote safer driving in advance of TVP enforcement on the A421.

A Road Safety **casualty reduction scheme** at A421 Padbury Road, Thornborough has been completed.

Networks Operations

Pay and Display Tariff Changes

Our pay and display charges have not altered for over a decade, even though the RPI index has increased by 65.6 for the same period.

The Parking Governance Board agreed that the tariffs needed to increase and recommended at its March meeting the range of tariff changes for the County.

The implementation required a Key Decision Report which was signed in early June and became effective from the 16th June. Details can be seen on our website at: <https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6757>

The effect of the changes is that overall 60% of the tariff locations remain unchanged, 34% increase, largely to reflect the shift in the town centre in High Wycombe, and 6% of the locations have a lower tariff.

The process for implementing the changes is carried out by Notice of Variation under the provisions of the Road Traffic Regulation Act. These are currently being advertised and are due to come into effect on or after the 4th September 2017.

Strategic Highway Maintenance

Carriageway Resurfacing - The three headline treatments associated with the 2017/18 surfacing programme have been confirmed and are progressing well with resurfacing work commencing in April and preparatory patching associated with the surface dressing and micro-surfacing programmes already completed. With the surface dressing programme expected to be completed by the end of September focus will now turn to the delivery of the micro-surfacing treatment.

Design activities associated with the remaining programmes of work continue, with lists of schemes expected to be announced by the end of September.

The following summarises the position with the 2017/18 overall programme:

Conventional Resurfacing (including National Productivity Fund Schemes) - 41 schemes are on the 2017/18 programme. Resurfacing work has already commenced with 25 schemes already completed. The remaining schemes are programmed to be completed by the end of November 2017.

Surface Dressing – 26 schemes are on the 2017/18 programme. The preparatory patching and headline treatment activities have now been completed with all lining and studding is expected to be completed by the end of September 2017.

Micro-surfacing – 34 schemes (some including multiple roads) are on the 2017/18 programme. Preparatory patching has now been completed and the headline treatment

activity has commenced. The reinstatement of road markings and ironwork adjustments are expected to be completed by the beginning of December 2017.

Plane and Patch - 4 schemes have already been completed ahead of the main programme of works that is due to commence on site in October/November. A full list of schemes to be delivered as part of the 2017/18 programme is expected to be announced by the end of September.

DfT Pothole Fund – In 2017/18, this fund has risen by approximately £300,000 to £852,000 and will be spent in-year on pothole prevention. Multiple potholes have already been repaired across the county following the use of the Jetpatcher, a device which cleans out crevices with a blast of high-pressure air before filling them with a mixture of sand and bitumen. Further schemes to be delivered as part of the 2017/18 programme are expected to be announced by the end of September, with work due to commence on site in October/November.

Joint Sealing – A list of schemes to be delivered as part of the 2017/18 programme are expected to be announced by the end of October, with work due to commence on site early in 2018.

Footway Resurfacing

Footway Structural Repairs – 4 schemes have already been completed ahead of the main programme of works that is due to commence on site in October/November. A full list of schemes to be delivered as part of the 2017/18 programme is expected to be announced by the end of September.

Heathrow

The County Council response to the Government consultations on the draft National Policy Statement and on Airspace Change set out that whilst supporting Heathrow expansion, Buckinghamshire is committed to securing all necessary mitigation from Heathrow and Government.

Our current priorities include seeking to secure funding for the Iver Relief Road, supporting rail connections linking High Wycombe to Old Oak Common and public transport to enable residents from all parts of the county to access jobs and apprenticeships at Heathrow and related businesses that will grow with expansion and improved trade links.

On airspace change, new flightpaths must be designed to minimise or remove impacts on currently unaffected communities and southern Buckinghamshire residents and business must have equal treatment in planning respite periods so they know when they won't be affected by aircraft noise.

Freight Strategy

The Transport Strategy team continues work on producing a new Freight Strategy. A public consultation was held in July which received over 1000 responses. Key issues raised were HGVs using inappropriate rural routes, SatNavs, and road safety.

Particular locations of concern include (but not limited to) Ivinghoe, Iver, Denham Green, Waddesdon and Newton Longville. Also in July the team attended three LAFs, and has begun visiting areas to understand local freight issues further.

Analysis is underway with TfB teams to support the production of a freight route network which will inform asset prioritisation. The team will be at the TfB Stakeholder Conference on September 12th to share work to date with Members and Parishes.

Draft transport Development Management Policy – consultation

The Transport Strategy and Highways Development Management teams are working on a draft Development Management Policy. It is intended to help developers create great places and thriving communities - which contribute to the Council's vision for Bucks. It provides developers with the information they need to prepare successful transport proposals.

To ensure the Policy works well, we are holding a public consultation. You can see the draft Policy and take part at:

<https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=3290>.

The consultation remains open until 25th of September 2017. Responses will inform a final draft of the Policy, which the Council will consider for adoption later in the year.

Parish Council Conference

The annual Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB) conference will be taking place on Tuesday 12th September at the offices of Aylesbury Vale District Council. Parish and Town Councillors and Clerks and District and County Councillors will attend to discuss transportation service priorities.

The delegates will have an opportunity to 'Be a Highway Authority for the day' at the event and inform Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) how they would prioritise work if it was their responsibility.

There will be ample opportunity for the delegates to spend time with TfB staff and other BCC colleagues as they visit the market stalls which will cover everything through Road surfacing, Parking, Street lighting, Flooding, HS2 construction traffic planning and much more. I will be delighted to open the event.

MARK SHAW
DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORTATION

9c. CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Front Line Visits

Over the summer period I have undertaken a large number of site visits and attended team meetings, and I have enjoyed meeting staff in a variety of locations to better understand the wide range of Children's Services that the County Council offers, and to hear about the challenges that face our staff when dealing with some complex and difficult situations.

In addition to the Fostering Awards and Celebrating Achievement events detailed below, I have attended and visited:

- Fostering recruitment drive at the Buckinghamshire County Show
- Met the frontline Children in Need team in High Wycombe
- Visited the CATCH (Children and Teenager Community Help) Service in High Wycombe
- Met with the Children in Care Team based in High Wycombe
- Visited Merryfields in High Wycombe, a short breaks service for children with disabilities
- Attended a fostering panel
- Met with the Youth Service team
- Visited our children's home and met with staff and the children, listening to their thoughts and ideas over an informal lunch
- Observed a child protection conference in Aylesbury
- Visited an Early Help session with parents and children in Aylesbury
- Had a team meeting with the Aylesbury based Children in Care and Aftercare Social Workers and Personal Advisors
- Met with the Child Protection Team and discussed the many challenges that they face with families in crisis or breakdown
- Met two of our children representatives from the SEND Forum and Youth Voice, who also attended a recent Select Committee to share their views on how we hear their voice as Corporate Parents
- Attended a We Do Care focus group
- Attended the South East Lead Members Forum in London to discuss current issues and government policy

I will be continuing my frontline visits into the autumn.

I have also established the new Children's Partnership Board and held two meetings with a range of our partners. This is a great forum to discuss the issues affecting children's health and wellbeing and other outcomes. As Chair of this partnership I am able to represent the partnership and contribute to the Health and Wellbeing Board and ensure children's issues feature at a strategic partnership level.

Celebration Event for Looked After Children

Around 70 of Buckinghamshire's children in care and care leavers had their achievements celebrated at a special awards event on Wednesday 30 August 2017 which was attended by over 200 guests.

The County Council hosted the annual event, now in its seventh year, which is held to recognise and celebrate the personal, academic and sporting achievements of the county's looked after children and young people leaving care.

Children and young people in care, ranging from babies to young adults, were nominated by carers and other professionals in a number of categories including overcoming difficult circumstances, coping admirably with change and for achievements within education, training or sport.

At the event the audience heard an inspiring speech from a Buckinghamshire care leaver and were also treated to a special performance by rapper and motivational speaker Mikel Ameen. Outside there was a host of different activities for the guests to take part in and be entertained by, including wandering entertainment by the Flying Seagull Project, Green Park's outdoor adventure activities and a chill-out zone for teenagers. A prize draw was held for the children and their families with prizes donated by generous local businesses and organisations.

The County Council holds the celebration event every year to recognise and celebrate achievement among the children in its care and its care leavers.



Foster Carer Awards Ceremony

This year's Foster Carer Annual Awards Evening was held on 8th September 2017. This annual awards ceremony is an evening giving the fostering service an opportunity to celebrate foster carer's achievements and thank them for their valued support of children and young people in Buckinghamshire.

The event was attended by over 100 people including foster carers, their guests and other professionals. Certificates and plaques were awarded to recognise foster carer's achievements throughout the year in the categories of; 'long standing service', 'best newcomer', 'above and beyond', 'services to children with disabilities' and 'outstanding service'. Foster carers were nominated by foster carers, social workers, young people and other professionals.

The 'outstanding social worker' award was presented to a newly qualified social worker for providing exemplary support to young people and families. The event concluded with a raffle of donated prizes and a magician who amazed the audience with tricks.

Corporate Parenting Panel Update September 2017

Corporate Parenting Panel are developing relationships with children and young people and are interested in the role of the care service. It is recognised that involvement from a variety of sources who are affected by the corporate actions and decisions is imperative. Going forward, Corporate Parenting Panel will be attended by representative foster carers, care leavers and Personal Advisors who will update the

panel and advise about the role of the Aftercare Services and important issues for young people leaving care. The Care Service currently works with 205 Care Leavers who are aged 18 + and they are required to guide these young people towards independence up to the age of 25. Some of the outcomes for our Care Leavers are:

- Young people 'staying put' in their foster placement has increased from 22 (January 2017) to 27 (July 2017) which means young people are more supported into education and work opportunities
- The number of young people in suitable accommodation is now at 94%,
- 28 young people are in further education and 13 are in higher education, including one completing a Masters
- We have 67 care leavers aged 18+ who are maintaining their own tenancies.

Ofsted fourth monitoring visit - 25th and 26th July 2017

Ofsted's latest monitoring visit letter has been published, setting out the outcome of their fourth monitoring visit to the County Council which took place in July.

During this visit inspectors looked at:

- progress made in increasing the stability of the social care workforce
- the effectiveness of support for care leavers including governance and quality assurance
- the quality of staff and case supervision within the aftercare service
- the effectiveness of key aspects of the local authority's governance arrangements in supporting the improvement of services for care leavers
- how quality assurance arrangements and performance information assist leaders and managers in overseeing and improving services for care leavers.

In summary, Ofsted's findings were that senior and political leaders work together to prioritise vulnerable children in their strategic plans, and have ensured that quality assurance arrangements and performance data provide them with a much clearer view of frontline practice than at the time of the 2014 inspection.

Inspectors noted sustained progress in important areas, such as an increase in permanent staff in almost all teams, however, they reported that sufficient improvements in the experiences of care leavers were not evident, and practice remains inconsistent. In addition, the corporate parenting panel does not meaningfully engage with care leavers which reduces its effectiveness.

I am pleased that Ofsted inspectors recognised that the County Council is making sustained progress and that we are on the right track with the improvements we are making to our safeguarding services. The inspectors have quite rightly noted some aspects of our work where we need to do better and make changes more quickly. We are already working on these issues and the Council fully commits to doing this. The continued hard work of all our social care staff means that we are on an improving path, however, we need to continue to apply all of our collective efforts to achieve our aim of providing an even better service for all of our children.

The Ofsted monitoring visit letter can be read in full at:

https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/local_authority_reports/buckinghamshire/055_Monitoring%20visit%20of%20LA%20children%27s%20services%20as%20pdf.pdf

Parenting Courses

The Family Resilience Service has successfully completed two parenting programmes for parents of teenagers (10-16 year olds).

The course aims to improve family communication through learning how to listen and de-code what pre-teen/teenagers are really saying or needing. As pre-teen/teenagers develop and change, this course helps to increase parents' knowledge of effective behaviour management skills which will help them feel more in control, yet still sensitively respond to their pre-teen/teenagers psychological, physical and emotional needs. The programme also covers key parental concerns such as drugs, drink, sexual health and aggression in young people. This course is mindful of the parents'/carers' needs and emotions as well as the teenagers.

The course has been positively received by parents and feedback received from those who have completed the course includes:

"I liked the humour, the ability to relax, the understanding and the camaraderie...Lots of good ideas...I feel more confident in having strategies now. Things have 'calmed down' as a result."

"I liked sharing experiences. This helped make me realise I am not the only parent struggling to fit all the pieces together. The facilitators were knowledgeable, their fun and energetic delivery of the programme made sharing the more difficult areas of parenting easier.....I listen more...think before I respond"

"My daughter is happier, I'm happier. There are fewer conflicts..... A more general realisation of what's important and what's not. I have enjoyed the course, both as an experience and the results it delivered. Some of my old ways of doing things even seem comical now."

The Family Resilience Service has two facilitators who have nearly completed their training as trainers for the programme and ten Family Workers who are now trained to roll out delivery of the course to parents over the next few months.

Early Help Consultation

The consultation on a new approach to supporting children and families with early help has been extended until 16 October 2017 and further detail has been added following a mid-consultation review. Available online at www.buckscc.gov.uk/earlyhelp, the consultation seeks feedback on a new way of supporting children and families at an earlier stage to prevent them needing more intensive help from social care services in the future. The consultation which launched on 14 July 2017 has received almost 1900 responses to date.

The consultation outlines proposals for a new approach to helping children and families, to ensure small problems don't get bigger and too difficult to manage. From money worries, parenting tips and behavioural issues right through to support with mental health and domestic abuse - the proposal is to work with families to tackle all of their problems at the same time. This will mean changes to existing early help services that the council deliver or commission, bringing them together to create one service with teams of family workers at nine bases within the local community. This will mean they can reach out to families and work with them at home or in the places they are most

comfortable. This could be a local community venue, their school or a coffee shop. Families will be invited to activities or one to one support and these bases will be used to offer group sessions such as parenting courses and partner led sessions (for example, breastfeeding support run by health visitors) for those who need this support. Other group sessions may be run in other community settings such as schools or village halls, depending on the demand. In the proposed new service, there will not be a 'drop in' option at the new early help bases for children and families.

Proposals for change follow a review of current services supporting children and families and best practice taking place across the country. This highlighted that support isn't always reaching children and families who are most in need of help quickly enough, or in the right ways. It also showed there are many families who get support from a number of organisations but this isn't always joined up.

Executive Director for Children's Services

Tolis Vouyioukas will be starting in his role as Executive Director for Children's Services on Monday 2nd October 2017, although he is already involved with some major work programmes. Gladys Rhodes White will work alongside Tolis until December 2017, to ensure a seamless handover.

Qualified Social Workers

The national shortage of social workers continues to be a key resourcing challenge. Updated actions taken since the report in June 2017 to address the shortage of social workers include:

- A refreshed Newly Qualified Social Worker campaign is about to be launched to replace those candidates now transferring to Qualified Social Worker roles. This program has been very successful in developing a talent pipeline for BCC delivering c.40 candidates in 2016/17 with 3 in pipeline.
- A new campaign to target BCC's hardest to fill Social Workers in Child Protection and Court roles has gone live in August. The campaign uses a mixture of digital, social and traditional techniques and will continue over the next 6 to 8 weeks.
- IR35 legislation regulating the engagement of off payroll agency workers continues to have limited impact on agency Social Workers. There has been no increase in pay rates and numbers remain stable.

In Q1 (Apr to Jun) 2017/18, there have been 13 external new starters in hard to fill QSW roles (excluding agency workers) with 8 in pipeline. There have been 5 voluntary leavers in equivalent period.

In 2016/17 financial year, there were 60 external new starters. There were 34 voluntary leavers in equivalent period. Please note that these figures are correct at time of report but can change on a daily basis due to a variety of factors such as candidates being counter offered or employees deciding to enter the contractor market place.

The key agency metrics monitoring social worker recruitment are given overleaf:

Metric	Sept 2015 Data	July 2017 Data	Target
% of qualified social workers on an agency contract (includes all agency workers including those covering absence, maternity and perm requirements)	25%	23%	20%
Number of qualified agency social workers in permanent posts in Children's Services (agency workers covering perm posts only)	57	51	27

This data was reported in July as part of the Workforce Development Improvement Plan.

**WARREN WHYTE
CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

9d. CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH & WELLBEING

Dementia Action Alliance

Buckinghamshire Dementia Action Alliance (DAA) group was established consisting of representatives from health, social care, and emergency services. Action plans were submitted by members outlining actions to work towards becoming more Dementia Friendly. A DFC toolkit was developed for businesses and the wider community to support with the set-up of new alliance groups.

The initial pilot sites were Buckingham, Great Missenden, Stokenchurch and locally-led roll-out sites in Burnham and Denham.

The Dementia Action Alliances support local communities to work together and respond more positively towards those individuals living with dementia or memory impairment. They do this by:

- Increasing public awareness and understanding of dementia and memory impairments and how it affects a person's ability to complete daily activities.
- Better supporting individuals living with dementia and memory impairments to continue accessing services, facilities and activities safely and confidently.
- Enabling people living with dementia and memory impairments to remain independent for longer and exercise more choice and control over their lives.
- Encouraging people with dementia and memory impairments and their carers to seek help and support.

Memory Support Service

In addition, a memory support service, jointly commissioned between the CCG's and BCC, provides pre and post diagnostic support for patients with a memory concern, dementia and carers. The service is county wide and every GP practice has a named worker.

Seeleys Respite Service

Seeleys provides residential respite care for vulnerable adults, principally people with learning disabilities. The service was part of Bucks Care which the Council brought back in-house in December 2016. One of the reasons for doing so was the CQC inspection of Seeley's in November 2016 having rated the provision as 'inadequate'.

Since then an improvement plan has been implemented with significant organisational and management changes and staff training. Throughout this period, the Council has maintained close contact with the CQC.

The CQC re-inspected Seeleys at the end of June and, recognising the progress that has been made, has taken the service out of special measures but also highlighted a number of areas where further improvements are needed. As a result, the improvement plan has been refreshed with a strong emphasis on embedding practice improvement, performance management and robust quality assurance.

Sustainability of the social care "market place" in Buckinghamshire

The 2014 Care Act created a new and substantial responsibility for local authorities – to support the stability of the "care market place" and ensure that it provides a range of quality and choice that meets the needs of our residents, regardless of whether their care is being purchased by the Council or the resident themselves. You will know from everything you hear in the media that this is really challenging.

We are doing a lot in Adult Social Care to address this responsibility and ensure people in Buckinghamshire can be confident that they have a choice of good quality care.

I want to take this opportunity to highlight the work done by the Quality In Care Team (QiCT). Jointly funded by BCC and the NHS, QiCT works with care providers in Bucks to help them provide really good quality of care.

QiCT interventions include management support and up-skilling of care staff. The kinds of issues they help with include poor communication and documentation and a lack of understanding of how to make support more personally tailored to meet the needs of the individual and their family.

This year the Quality in Care Team (QiCT) has:

- Assisted the first 'Outstanding' CQC rated home in Buckinghamshire
- Run 30 workshops in falls assessment to reduce A&E admissions from care homes
- Created a focus on dementia through
 - Dementia workshops
 - Dementia Passport
 - 25% increase in diagnosis of dementia and depression in care homes
- Run 38 wellbeing workshops
- Run the "My Home Life" programme for 25 care home managers
- Created and run 64 study days involving 651 care home staff
- Saved £43,000 in pharmacy costs in 4 care homes
- Dealt with 246 referrals for assistance

In doing this, the team has worked with 66 different organisations and 75 care homes which represent 70% of the county's care home beds (a total of 3,062 beds). It is a massive programme of work. One example of impact is that the 3 Care Homes which took part in the QiCT My Home Life programme and have now received 'Outstanding' in the 'well-led' category of CQC inspection.

We have also established a regular forum for care home providers in Bucks – the first meeting was at the end of July – so that we can have a direct dialogue, share issues and collaboratively work on solutions.

And lastly, one of our home care providers – Simply Together – went into administration in July. Adult Social Care has worked hard to make sure that all of the clients that we provided Home Care to through Simply Together were transferred to one of our other accredited providers. Working with our providers, we sought to minimise any possible disruption with many of our clients continuing to receive their care from the same staff.

**LIN HAZELL
CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH & WELLBEING**

9e. CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Unite Ambassadors Scheme

We are delighted with the news that the Youth Service has been awarded €127,530 (£117,096) from the Erasmus+ Program to create, pilot and publish the Unite Ambassadors Scheme within schools working in partnership with six partners across Europe, including Lauriston School in Buckinghamshire.

Unite Ambassadors aims to build an online scheme to help foster cohesion, social education and inclusion within schools and is led by a trained and accredited team of peer ambassadors, providing a greater understanding and responsiveness to social, ethnic, linguistic and cultural diversity which will be beneficial within education and surrounding communities.

Virtual School Update September 2017

The Virtual School is a multi-disciplinary team based in New County Offices, Aylesbury whose aim is to raise the educational achievement and school attendance of children in care to Buckinghamshire including those who are placed outside of Buckinghamshire.

The Virtual School delivered an excellent Annual Multiagency Conference this year for foster carers, social workers, designated teachers and Buckinghamshire County Council colleagues. There were close to 100 attendees, 67 of whom gave detailed feedback. 66 of that 67 thought Dr Margot Sunderland, the Director of Training at The Centre for Child Mental Health was an excellent and knowledgeable speaker on child development linked to managing behaviour.

Additional training has been delivered to foster carers, newly qualified teachers, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and the Pupil Referral Unit.

Two A level students have recently achieved excellent results of AAC and BBD, enabling them to attend their universities of choice (Birmingham and West of England respectively). Both were supported to attend grammar schools and have benefited from long term support from the Virtual School.

Two older pupils have just graduated from university; one received a 2:1 from Oxford and the other a good degree in mental health nursing. The latter is already employed and is looking forward to a good career after returning to education following a very poor start to adult life.

A young person who came into our care as an unaccompanied asylum seeking child from Eritrea has just graduated from the University of East London with a 2:1 in Sociology and Criminology and is hoping to study for their Masters. This student had to work very hard with the Virtual School to gain their English qualifications to enable them to progress.

Another former pupil has just graduated with a 2:1 in Psychology and has secured a job in Bedford prison service. The young person worked against the odds for their GCSE exams which was sat at the Virtual School classroom in Amersham whilst they were living in a residential unit in Wiltshire. The student recently did an inspirational talk at the celebration event for looked after children.

Adult Learning Update September 2017

Over the summer, Adult Learning has received the results for its English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) provision in both Wycombe and Aylesbury. These are very challenging courses with 200 students in all attending; overall they achieved a fantastic pass rate of 93.5%. This is a great accomplishment for these students and is a significant help to them in progressing their lives.

Ofsted Good News

This summer term was a busy but positive one for school inspections. The inspection results most recently published were carried out in May and all the schools listed maintained their 'Good' Ofsted rating.

Well done to the staff, students and Governors of: The Chalfonts Community College, The Misbourne School, Broughton Junior School, Great Marlow School and Robertswood School.

New Headteachers' Programme

Buckinghamshire County Council is working closely with the Buckinghamshire Association of School Leaders (BASL) to support the new Headteachers who will be starting in the county this month.

Those new to headship or new to Buckinghamshire have already received the fully revised Handbook for New Headteachers and received letters of introduction from their School Liaison Officers. In October, the Schools Team is organising an induction day for the new Headteachers where they will have the opportunity to find out more about the role of the Local Authority and the teams within the Council that work with and support schools.

Buckinghamshire County Show

Buckinghamshire County Council Family Information Service (BFIS) and Early Years Commissioning held a joint stall at the recent County Show. Over 100 families made contact and the following enquiries about early years have progressed:

- 73 families including 1 Councillor asking for clarification about 30 hour places for young children as they were hearing different information in the press which was conflicting and they were not sure how to progress. Positive outcomes resulted from all enquiries.
- 1 enquiry for support to set up a group for children aged 0-5 with SEN.
- 4 enquiries from people looking to become a childminders.
- 3 childminders enquiring to offer free 2, 3 & 4 year old education places.
- 14 families enquiring about two year old places.
- Sharing information with the Care Team for looked after children to support children to access a two year old funded place.

Key Stage 2 Results

The Department of Education released provisional 2017 Key Stage 2 results on 31 August. These showed that:

- 63% of Buckinghamshire pupils reached the expected standard in all of reading, writing and mathematics compared to 61% nationally. Buckinghamshire results increased by 6 percentage points from 2016.

- 10% of Buckinghamshire pupils reached the higher standard or were working at greater depth across all of reading, writing and mathematics. This is an increase of 3 percentage points from 2016. Nationally, 9% of pupils achieved this benchmark.
- Results in all individual subjects increased at both the expected and higher standard. Of particular note is the increase in writing teacher assessment results at the expected standard, which increased by 5 percentage points in Buckinghamshire compared to the 2 percentage point increase seen nationally. This brings Buckinghamshire results in line with national averages, having been below national in 2016.

**MIKE APPLEYARD
CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND SKILLS**

9f. CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PUBLIC HEALTH

Arts Council England funding for the Buckinghamshire County Museum Trust

Recently, Arts Council England announced their new National Portfolio for 2018-22. In all, 831 organisations will receive a total of £1.6 billion over four years for 844 projects. The good news for Buckinghamshire is that the County Museum Trust was one of the organisations who successfully applied for some of this funding.

The Museum Trust is one of Buckinghamshire County Council's thriving Alternative Delivery Vehicles, delivering museum services on behalf of the local authority. National Portfolio Organisation status for the Museum Trust means that the Trust has been awarded £400k over four years and this money will enable them to build audiences, reaching out to people who do not currently visit the museum or are aware of its wider offering. The funding will start next year at which point the museum will be able to recruit additional posts to start exciting new projects for residents to engage with.

Trading Standards

A local builder has been jailed for 22 months for Fraud Act offences committed in the Aylesbury area after being investigated by the Trading Standards Service. He has also been banned from being a company director for 10 years. Graham Thorne of Lavelle Building Co took thousands of pounds for building work that he did not undertake. Following conviction, the Court also agreed a timetable for hearings under The Proceeds of Crime Act.

A long running case reached its conclusion in the summer with a national double glazing company, Zenith Staybright Ltd, being fined £80,000 for 10 'unfair commercial practice' offences to which the company had pleaded guilty to in July 2016.

Following a successful bid to host the National Trading Standards Scams Team, work is now underway to move the team from their current hosting arrangements into the service. The National Trading Standards Scams Team is funded from the Department for Business, Enterprise and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) through National Trading Standards to help tackle mass marketing scams and disrupt the operations of perpetrators behind mail scams. It works in partnership with agencies across England and Wales to identify and support victims of mass marketing fraud. The team provides guidance, best practice and establishes a centre of excellence to assist local authorities in supporting local victims and taking local enforcement action.

In addition to the positive reputational impact of being chosen to host a national team, we are confident that the arrangements will also further strengthen our local approach to people targeted by scams.

NOEL BROWN
CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH

9g. CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

Digital and Social Media Advertising Strategies

Proactive advertising & marketing strategies launched in 2016 / 17 continue to be improved in 2017/18. Key successes include the following stats for website performance which compare favourably with benchmarked sites:

- Website visitors have been increasing significantly quarter on quarter. Number of visitors in Q1 2017/18 are up by 42% (67,422 unique visitors) compared to the same period in 2016/17.
- Website indicators remain strong: users are visiting on average 5 pages and spending just under 4 minutes per visit

Continued activity is important to refresh and develop the careers website and maintain its position in the organic Google rankings. This means that BCC careers website is generally listed at the top of google search result for most key search terms typed in by our candidates. This is essentially free advertising and our position in the rankings continues to improve or remain stable;

Search term	Google (organic) ranking Q1 (16/17)	Google (organic) ranking Q2 (16/17)	Google (organic) ranking Q3 (16/17)	Google (organic) ranking Q4 (16/17)	Google (organic) ranking Q1 (17/18)
Buckinghamshire jobs	2 nd	1 st	1 st	1 st	1 st
bucks council jobs	1 st	1 st	1 st	1 st	1 st
teaching jobs bucks	1 st	1 st	1 st	1 st	1 st
Social care jobs bucks	5 th	3 rd	4 th	4 th	3 rd

Supplier and Contract Management

The council spends around £292m on goods, works and services with third parties, which accounts for around 70% of our budget. This makes effective management of our contracts and suppliers crucial to ensuring good quality services and achieving value for money. The council's internal audit team has recently undertaken a review of contract management practice across the organisation, sampling 20 contracts across the organisation and assessing them against 11 themes, including governance, risk management and market development.

The review revealed some areas of very good practice across the council and some areas for improvement. The findings of the review have been organised into an improvement plan which has been approved by the Corporate Management Team and Regulatory & Audit Committee. The plan will be delivered over 12 months, with a 6 month update in February 2018.

Part of the improvement plan is further investment in the behaviours and skills of those involved in contract management. Training of different types will be made available at all levels in the organisation to relevant individuals, from frontline contract managers to Executive Directors and Members.

JOHN CHILVER
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

9h. CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

Environment

Oversees major archaeological investigations and finds

This summer major archaeological excavations have been taking place overseen by the archaeologists in the Council's TEE Environment Team. We advise councils and developers on archaeological matters; where development affects archaeological remains these are either preserved in situ or recorded by excavation. The results feed back into our Historic Environment Record, which contains details of all known heritage features in the county.

The £8.5m (of which the Council is contributing £1.25m) Marlow Flood Alleviation Scheme is currently being constructed. This involves the creation of a large flood storage lake on a site with at least three Bronze Age burial mounds on this site, which will be preserved. Excavations within the lake area have so far discovered an extensive Neolithic and Bronze Age settlement including a burial, a trackway and cooking pits containing 3,000 year-old bone and charred acorns. In addition at a quarry site in Taplow a large Iron Age and Roman ladder settlement has been found (the original ribbon development). This is an extensive Roman settlement and farmsteads with burials, kilns, wells and corn driers.

TVP Police Commissioner praises BCC fly-tipping enforcement

Anthony Stansfeld, Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley has written to all Local Authority Chief Executives in the Thames Valley area praising the excellent work of Buckinghamshire County Council's enforcement team in investigating and prosecuting fly-tipping offenders. He noted that last year following over 60 successful prosecutions the team recouped £59,378 in fines (these go to the Treasury) and £75,422 in costs and urged other authorities investing in a similar resource. He noted that the benefits in tackling this problem and the cost effectiveness of employing such teams are evident from Buckinghamshire's experience. The letter followed a presentation by a representative from BCC Planning and Enforcement Team to the Thames Valley Rural Crime Partnership meeting in July.

Flood Management

£245,000 Flood Defence Equipment given first 'dry run'

Flood defenders turned out on Saturday to test-drive £245,000 worth of emergency equipment designed to protect the vulnerable Willows estate in Aylesbury. The 'dry run' by the 30-strong Willows Flood Deployment Force aimed to test the equipment and train the team.

The day, organised by Buckinghamshire County Council Flood Management Team is a milestone in the recovery from the February 2014 flash floods in Aylesbury, in which 79 properties in the Willows estate suffered from flood damage.

Although the 79 households were offered £5,000 compensation to protect against future flooding, the possibility of future flood damage to more houses should the river burst its bank was seen as too much of a risk. This led the Residents Flood Committee, led by Gary Wade, to pool the money to buy equipment that would protect all 450 households in the estate.

Delivered in January 2016, the equipment includes around half a mile of emergency flood barrier, which works with six pumps that can shift the equivalent of 120 bath tubs of water in a minute.

County Councillor Steve Lambert said: "I am delighted that the first 'dry-run' of the equipment went so well. All of the residents can rest assured knowing that some of the best equipment is in place to protect them".

Bill Chapple OBE, Cabinet Member for Planning and the Environment said: "Since the disaster in 2014, the Willows community has shown an amazing level of community spirit. To pool all the government granted compensation together to protect all 450 households is a real testament to the community of the Willows estate."

The Willows Flood Deployment Force is made up of County, District and Town Councillors, Council officers and members of the 20-strong Bucks and Oxon Response Group who used their four-wheel drive vehicles to move the defences from the County Council's Griffin Lane Depot to the Willows estate.



Bucks and Oxfordshire Response Group, County and District Councillors, Council officers and Residents at the event.



Bucks and Oxfordshire Response Group, County and District Councillors, Council officers and Residents with the pump.

Waste Management

Redevelopment work at High Heavens Waste Complex

Buckinghamshire County Council has the statutory duty to dispose of the waste produced by householders across the County. In 2016-17, that amounted to nearly

250,000 tonnes of waste, not all directly handled by the County Council, but still representing a huge challenge. This figure highlights the need to always look ahead and future proof the service preparing for housing growth, legislation changes whilst continuing to meet and understand what our customers need. We are always looking to ensure our waste infrastructure is resilient and ready for the new challenges ahead.

The High Heavens Waste Complex is in High Wycombe, has been part of the county's waste infrastructure for over 50 years. Most residents will largely be aware of the Household Recycling Centre (HRC) on the complex. During autumn 2017, there are two separate development proposals which will be moving through the planning process at the complex. Both looking to ensure the complex can continue to provide the County with excellent waste management facilities to handle the various waste streams we produce:

- 1st phase - Remediation works
- 2nd phase - Bio-Waste Transfer Station

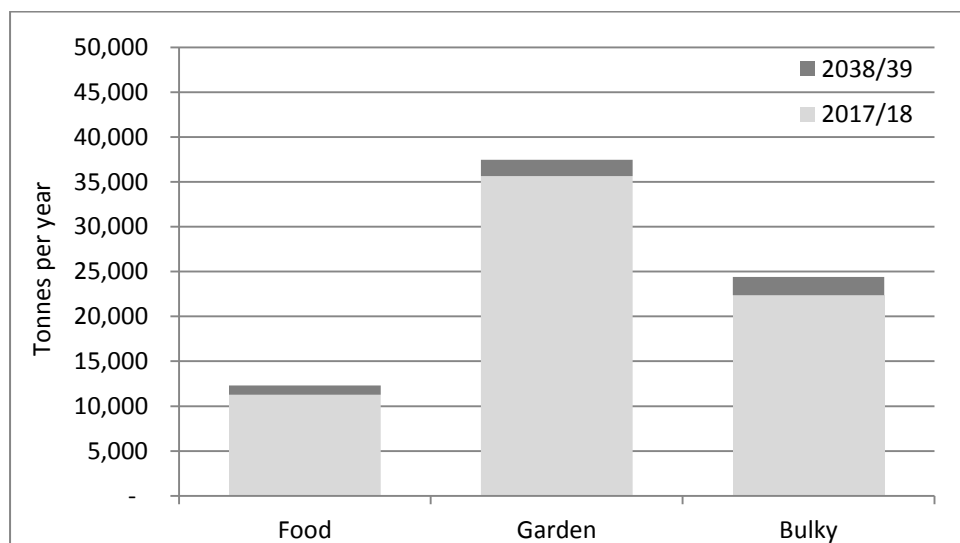
Exhibition events for the 2nd phase will be held at Christ the Servant King, on the corner of Cressex Road and Sycamore Road, HP12 4TJ as follows:

Thursday 28th Sep – 5-9pm,
 Friday 29th Sep – 9am-5pm
 Thursday 5th Oct – 5-9pm
 Friday 6th Oct – 9am-5pm

Key facts:

The County Council is the minerals and waste planning authority and both applications will be managed through the Councils independent democratic development control process.

The overall tonnage currently managed on site is below, with the expected total with population growth the total tonnage expected by 2038/39 included.



Country Parks

Go Ape Nets Kingdom – Black Park Country Park

After a hectic spring spent constructing a brand new £500,000 tree top adventure, Go Ape's first Nets Kingdom opened at Black Park Country Park at the end of July. The

new course comprising of a series of tree top trampoline style nets, walk ways, tree houses and slides opened to great public acclaim on Friday 22nd July. The Nets Kingdom allows families to explore the woodland from huge nets suspended 9 metres up in the canopy of some spectacular trees. Go Ape at Black Park activities now includes Tree Top Adventure, Tree Top Junior, Forest Segways and Forest Bikes attracting over 51,000 visitors during the 2016/17 financial year it is hoped that the new Nets Kingdom will attract a further 15,000 visitors.

Growth

Draft Bucks Minerals and Waste Local Plan

The Council is in the process of reviewing its adopted local plan policies for minerals and waste. This is to ensure we continue to have an up to date plan in line with government guidance. We are doing this by preparing a new comprehensive Minerals and Waste Local Plan. We are now at a key stage where a draft of the proposed new Minerals and Waste Local Plan is being consulted on at <https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=3285>.

The County Council welcomes comments and observations on this Draft Plan for Consultation, the consultation will run from Wednesday 3 August to Wednesday 27 September 2017. Full documentation and the opportunity to respond to the survey can be found on the Council's website. Alternatively, further information on the consultation can be obtained from the Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Team mineralswastepolicy@buckscc.gov.uk

Bucks Strategic Infrastructure Plan

Buckinghamshire County Council is taking a positive approach to planning for growth in Buckinghamshire both in the delivery of services and strategic infrastructure investment. Cabinet recently agreed a report which set out the progress so far on the preparation of a non-statutory Bucks Strategic Infrastructure Plan (BSIP) see <https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?AllId=55463> for more details.

The decision included agreement on phase 1 spatial principles which are based on the County Council's Strategic Plan outcomes (2017-2020). The BSIP is intended to set out the County Council's position on growth in relation to County Council services and strategic infrastructure investments. The County Council is working with the Districts on the development of the Bucks Strategic Infrastructure Plan and recently held a number of workshops with County Council officers and Members. A further report on the BSIP is expected once more clarity over decision-making for strategic infrastructure investment has been reached.

District Local Plan timescales

Buckinghamshire County Council continues to work with the Districts on their Local Plans, County Council Members and officers continue to meet over the coming weeks and months. However the timetable for all the District Local Plans has been delayed:

- Draft Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) - A joint Aylesbury Vale District Council and Buckinghamshire County Council Members meeting will be held on 20th September to discuss. The timetable for preparing the VALP has been extended to ensure that all essential evidence is in place, before submission in October. The proposed submission plan will be considered by VALP Scrutiny on 26 September, Cabinet on 10 October and Council on 18 October. The plan will then be published for public comment, before being submitted for independent examination in January - two months later than previously publicised. The plan, which will help to accommodate national growth demand, allows for around

27,000 new homes in the Vale by 2033 – around half of this housing requirement is either already completed or has planning permission.

- Draft Wycombe Local Plan – the timetable for the Wycombe Local Plan has also slipped a couple of months. The proposed submission plan will be considered by Wycombe District Council in September 2017 ahead of six weeks consultation in October. The plan is expected to be submitted in March 2018 to the Planning Inspectorate with hearings expected in June / July 2018. Wycombe District Council expects to adopt the Wycombe District Local Plan in early 2019.
- Draft Chiltern and South Bucks Local Plan – the timetable has also slipped. The Councils will be considering a report at their 7th November 2017 Joint Committee which is expected to review the Local Development Scheme (officers anticipate recommending that the Draft Plan consultation stage is revised from October/November 2017 to March/April 2018). More detail is available on their website at:

<http://www.southbucks.gov.uk/planning/localplan2014-2036>

Aylesbury Garden Town

The proposal for an Aylesbury Garden Town was a joint initiative between Aylesbury Vale District Council, Buckinghamshire County Council, South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership and Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership. A project working group has been meeting over the summer to maintain momentum and the first meeting of a Shadow Board is planned in September. Mark Kemp and I are the County Council representatives on the Shadow Board and officers from the Growth, Strategy & Highways team are involved with the project working group. More details to follow in the next update.

**BILL CHAPPLE
CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT**



County Council

Notices of Motion

One motion has been received.

David Bowie Statue, Market Square, Aylesbury

Proposer: Martin Tett
Seconder: Noel Brown

Resolution

This Council recognises the unique cultural contribution made by David Bowie to Aylesbury and agrees to support the concept of a statue to David Bowie in the town.



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 Community Engagement and Public Health

1 Aug 2017

CE05.17 - Falls Service (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED to reduce the Public Health contribution to the falls prevention service by £250K. This is 50% of the current contract value. However, work to develop alternative support for the frail elderly will release significant capacity within the falls service so this saving can be met with limited impact on the existing client base.

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

18 Jul 2017

ED08.17 - Adult Learning - future delivery options (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED to maintain the Buckinghamshire Adult Learning Service within Buckinghamshire County Council as a directly delivered Service

12 Sep 2017

ED09.17 - Proposed St Michael's Catholic School satellite school on former Quarrendon School site in Aylesbury (Decision Taken)

The Cabinet Member:

- AGREED that as the Local Authority, School's Trustees and the Northampton Diocese and Governing Board have followed the statutory guidance as set down by the Department for Education, a satellite school of St Michael's Catholic School, High Wycombe, opens on the former Quarrendon school site in Aylesbury.
- AGREED that as the new permanent satellite school build will not be ready for occupancy in September 2018, if the proposal is agreed, the satellite school will open in the former Berton Hill Day Care Centre site in Aylesbury from 1 September 2018, prior to opening in the permanent new build on the former Quarrendon School site in Aylesbury, in September 2019.



Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

7 Aug 2017

HW01.17 - Annual Fee uplift (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member for Health & Well-Being APPROVED the following recommendations:

- An allocation of £1.333m to meet inflation pressures for Adult Social Care providers
- An allocation of £1.673m to address National Living Wage (NLW) pressures and other pressures generated through changed legal requirements upon our providers such as the Apprenticeship Levy
- The total allocation of £3.006m to be funded from the Health & Wellbeing approved 2017-18 budget
- Adult Social Care to negotiate with providers on the increase to fee rates within this allocate of £3.006m, backdating where appropriate to 1st April 2017, in line with the proposed fee increase framework

Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment

14 Jul 2017

PE08.17 - Buckinghamshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan draft plan consultation (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED:

1. That the Draft Bucks Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2016-2036: Preferred Options Consultation document is accepted and agreed by the Cabinet Member for community and stakeholder consultation for 8 weeks from 2nd August until 27th September 2017.
2. That the Director of Growth, Transport and Development, in consultation with Cabinet member for Planning and Environment, be authorised to make any minor amendments to the document prior to consultation.

Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment and Cabinet Member for Resources

14 Jul 2017

PE07.17 - Disposal & re-letting of Moorcroft Farm House & Moorcroft Farm, Moorcroft Lane, Uxbridge. UB8 3QL (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Members AGREED to the sale of Moorcroft Farmhouse, the re-letting of the cottage and re-letting of the farmland.

Cabinet Member for Resources

28 Jul 2017

R04.17 - Bucks Sports & Social Club (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED Option 2 – Close the whole Bucks Sports and Social Club building and external facilities with effect from 31 October 2017 and that existing bookings up until 31 October 2017 will be honoured.

The Cabinet Member took into account the representations that had been received.

28 Jul 2017

R04.17 - Bucks Sports & Social Club (Call-in Notice)

A call-in request has been submitted for this item from Brian Roberts, supported by Niknam Hussain and Julie Ward.

Brian Roberts writes – “I have called this decision in on the basis of a strong concern about the lack of engagement with key stakeholders and that therefore their views have not been given due consideration in the decision-making process.”

The call-in request will be considered at a meeting of the Finance, Performance and Resources Select Committee at 2pm on Tuesday 12th September 2017.

4 Aug 2017

R05.17 - Sports Ground Safety - Silverstone - Section 101 Agreement re Sports Ground Safety Act (1975) (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member APPROVED the proposed draft Section 101 Agreement with Northamptonshire County Council (Appendix 1)

8 Aug 2017

R06.17 - Unit 5B Knaves Beech Industrial Estate - issue of new lease (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member APPROVED the issue of a new lease of Unit B5

16 Aug 2017

R07.17 - Disposal of 21 West Wycombe Road (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member APPROVED the freehold sale of 21 West Wycombe Road, High Wycombe

16 Aug 2017

R08.17 - Disposal of land at 13/15 West Wycombe Road (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member APPROVED the freehold sale of the land at 13/15 West Wycombe Road, High Wycombe to the preferred bidder

7 Sep 2017

R09.17 - Prisons Grant & War Pensions Disregard Grant (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED that the Social Care in Prisons grant allocation of £83,279 & War Pension Scheme Disregard grant of £60,929 be added to the Adult Social Care budget

Cabinet Member for Resources and Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation

2 Aug 2017

R03a.17 - Winslow Station Car Park (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Members AGREED that Buckinghamshire County Council should retain the land required to construct and operate the proposed car park at the future Winslow East West Rail Station and not pass all the land to Network Rail as part of the local contribution in relation to the East West Rail Scheme

Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation

24 Jul 2017

T13.17 - Proposed 50 mph Speed Limit - Cuddington Road / Aylesbury Road (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member for Transportation APPROVED:-

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

28 Jul 2017

T14.17 - Aylesbury South East Link Road - Project Progression (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member APPROVED progression of the South East Aylesbury Link Road project as a high priority, including further business case work, preliminary design and preparation of a planning application following successful award of £13.5m of Local Growth Funding from Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership

2 Aug 2017

T15.17a - Chesham Town Parking Review (Decision taken)

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation AGREED:

1. To ratify the decision of the Parking Working Group (contained in Appendix 4) to agree the making and introduction of the traffic regulation orders on the following roads once the necessary funding is in place:
 - No Waiting (Day and Time) changes to operating days and hours ('no waiting' times) and No Waiting at Any Time restrictions:
Waterside, Pheasant Rise, Chessmount Rise, Springfield Road, Latimer Road and Hill Farm Road, High Street, The Broadway High street, Wesley Hill, Bellingdon Road, Berkhamstead Road, Fullers Close, Fullers Hill, Eskdale Avenue, Cameron Road, Alexander Street, Severalls Avenue, Chilton Road, Church Street, Park Road, Chartridge Lane, Alma Road, Essex Road, Nutkins Way.

- Permit Holders Only:

Treachers Close, Albert Road, Gladstone Road, Victoria Road, Queens Road, Upper Gladstone Road, Franchise Street, Sunnyside Road, Higham Road, Townsend Road, Germain Street, Stanley Avenue, Webb Close, Upper Meadow and Lindo Close

2. That all objectors are informed of the decision within 14 days of the traffic order being made.

Please note that the original recommendation contained an error whereby Stanley Avenue, Webb Close, Upper Meadow and Lindo Close were incorrectly included in the 'No Waiting' section rather than the 'Permit holders' section. The decision has been re-taken according to the above agreement text.

4 Aug 2017

T16.17 - Highways Development Management - Service Charging (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member for Transportation:

1. AGREED to the Pre-Planning Advice and Planning Performance Agreements charges as outlined in Appendix A of this report with effect from the 1st August 2017
2. AGREED to the Road Space Booking charges as outlined in Appendix A of this report with effect from the 1st August 2017.

8 Aug 2017

T17.17 - Network Hierarchy Review (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED that the revisions to the Maintenance Hierarchy are accepted and adopted as an improved representation of the network. The revised hierarchy is shown in the plan in Appendix B. The hierarchy should also be used to review the precautionary gritting and snow routes and the traffic sensitive network used for the Streetworks Permit scheme

14 Aug 2017

T18.17 - Appointments to Outside Bodies 2017/18 (Decision taken)

The Deputy Leader APPROVED the list of appointments to outside bodies 2017/18 as set out in Appendix 1

22 Aug 2017

T19.17 - Revocation of part of the improvement line SB-RW-06 (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member APPROVED the partial revocation of the improvement line SB-RW-06 as shown in Maps 1 and 2 and 3

For further information please contact: Clare Capjon on 01296 387969

County Council



Events and Information for Members

LOCAL DEMOCRACY WEEK – OCTOBER - WE NEED YOU!

We are asking for Members support for Local Democracy Week, a national event which will take place 9 – 13 October.

This year we have contacted schools with information to promote democracy amongst young people, briefing notes for both [teachers](#) and students have been circulated please see below for details:

[School Teachers Briefing Pack](#)
[Information for Students.](#)

The aim is to educate young people about what local democracy means for them and to encourage them to be more actively engaged (for example, being aware of registering with the Electoral Roll to enable them to vote when they reach age 18).

It would be really helpful if as local Members you could approach schools in your area to arrange a visit to tie in with Local Democracy Week, perhaps to host an assembly/ mock vote or a politics lesson as examples. Member Services are happy to supply a briefing note for any Members who wish to attend a school for this purpose (for more details please email democracy@buckscc.gov.uk).

MEMBER INDUCTION – DATES STILL TO COME

Thanks to all who have attended the Member Inductions programme thus far. Remaining sessions in the programme are as follows:

Date	Title	Time	Venue
Wed 20 Sept	Social Media Skills Aim: For officers to showcase ways in which Members can use social media to communicate with residents, to support the County Council's digital strategy	14.00 - 16.00	Mezz 3
Thurs 5 Oct	Public Service reform and the impact on elected Members - External Facilitator	14.00 – 16.00	LDR
Wed 8 Nov	Role of Members in Commissioning Aim: To understand the Commissioning framework at the County Council and the Member role	14.00 - 16.00	Mezz 2
Wed 22 Nov	Personal Resilience for Members Aim: To provide advice on managing challenging workloads, conflicting priorities and dealing with difficult interactions - External Facilitator	14.00 – 17.00	Mezz 3

If you have any queries or feedback on any aspect of the training then please contact Member Services, please reply to meeting invitations where possible.

MEMBER BRIEFINGS

Member Briefings are a way of Business Units engaging with Members about current and upcoming issues. They typically take place once a month at County Hall in Aylesbury. With digital resources becoming more accessible, we will be trialing a series of online briefings which will be available via the Member Zone for you to view in your own time. Members will receive invitations to those face to face briefings still to be held and notifications when new online videos are available.

Date	Topic	Time	Venue
Wed 5 Oct	Emergency Plan	10.00-12.00	Mezz 1
Mon 23 Oct	Children's Services	14.00 – 16.00	Mezz 2
Wed 1 Nov	Brexit	14.00 – 15.30	Judges Lodgings

OUT AND ABOUT

To continue to provide opportunities for Member Development a programme of "Out and About" visits is being devised. To support this as well as the continued work as part of the Ofsted Improvement programme, Members of the Children's Social Care and Learning Select Committee have been invited to:

- After Care Team Meetings
- Visit the Children's Residential Home in Aylesbury
- Attend We Do Care Council events/focus groups
- The Children's Safeguarding Board
- An Adoption Panel

Some visits have already taken place with more taking place in September, October and November. A number of Members of the Select Committee also attended the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Celebration Event on 30 August.

There will be a further opportunities for Select Committee Members to visit the Catch Team and other social work teams during the Autumn and a further reminder will be going to Members again about those listed above.

Pilot visits to other areas of the organisation, open to all Members, will be advertised in due course. For more details please contact democracy@buckscc.gov.uk

MEMBER ZONE

Please don't forget to check Member Zone for all updates

<https://intranet.buckscc.gov.uk/member-zone/training-and-resources/member-briefings/>

CONTACT US

You can contact Member Services via email: democracy@buckscc.gov.uk or telephone: 01296 382343.