



Agenda and Reports

17 May 2018

9 May 2018

To: All Members of Buckinghamshire County Council

SUMMONS

You are requested to attend the meeting of Buckinghamshire County Council to be held in **Oculus, on Thursday 17 May 2018 at 9.30 am**, to transact the business set out in the agenda overleaf.

Please note that the Council's Annual Debate 'Harnessing Technology: a smarter future for Bucks' will hear the very latest from four speakers and will take place from 9.30am. This will be followed by the formal Council meeting at 11.45am.

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 Sara Turnbull on 01296 382343.

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AGENDA

Page No

- 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**
To elect the Chairman of County Council for 2018-19.
- 2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**
To appoint the Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the year 2018-19.
- 3 MINUTES** **7 - 16**
To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26th April 2018.
- 4 COMMUNICATIONS**
 - a To receive any apologies for absence
 - b To receive any communications the Chairman wishes to present to the Council
- 5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To disclose any Personal or Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
- 6 REPORT OF THE LEADER - ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS TO CABINET** **To Follow**
To receive an oral report from the Leader, including notification of the Leader's appointments to Cabinet for the forthcoming year.
- 7 SELECT COMMITTEE STRUCTURE** **17 - 20**
To consider and agree the proposed structure and remit of the Select Committees for the year 2018-19.
- 8 REPORT ON COMMITTEE PROPORTIONALITY, SUBSTITUTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS** **21 - 26**
To consider the report and recommendations in relation to Committee proportionality and appointments.
- 9 REPORT ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES 2017-18** **27 - 40**
To receive an overview of the work of Council appointees on Outside Bodies during 2017-18.

This also includes:
 - Council Appointee's Annual Report on the work of the Chiltern Conservation Board
 - Council Appointee's Annual Report on the work of the Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel
- 10 ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT** **41 - 44**
To note the Annual Report from the Armed Forces Covenant.

11 NOTICES OF MOTION

12 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS - INFORMATION ONLY 45 - 46

13 DECISIONS REPORT - INFORMATION ONLY 47 - 50

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 26th July 2018 at 9.30am

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Buckinghamshire County Council convened and held on Thursday 26 April 2018 in Oculus, commencing at 9.30 am and concluding at 11.42 am.

PRESENT

Mrs P Birchley in the Chair;

Mr M Appleyard, Mr R Bagge, Mr W Bendyshe-Brown, Mr S Bowles, 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, Mrs B Gibbs, Ms N Glover, Mr D Hayday, Lin Hazell, Mr A Hussain, 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, Mrs J Teesdale, Mr M Tett, Ms J Ward, Julia Wassell, Mr D Watson, Ms A Wight, Mr G Williams and Ms K Wood

DIGNITARIES AND OTHERS PRESENT

Sir H Aubrey-Fletcher, Mrs M Aston, Mrs A Davies and Mrs G Miscampbell OBE DL

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Ms J Blake, Mrs L Clarke OBE, Mrs A Cranmer, Mr C Harriss, Mr W Whyte, Mr P Lawrence, Mr R Pushman and Ms R Farwell

1 PRESENTATION OF MEMBER DEVELOPMENT CHARTER MARK CERTIFICATE

Mrs Birchley announced that the County Council had been successful in the Re-Accreditation of the national Member Development Charter Mark, which demonstrated the strong commitment by the County Council to member development and a programme of work to assist them in their roles. Mrs Birchley in particular thanked those Members that sat and continued to do so on the Member Development Working Group and to officers in Democratic Services for their work.

Mrs Birchley introduced Councillor Rory Love, Chairman of South East Employers to present the certificate.

Cllr Love addressed Members and highlighted the following:

- It was the third time in presenting the Charter Mark award to the County Council.
- The Charter Mark was in recognition of the value placed on member development and that this was even more important now with the rise in challenges of delivering services with fewer resources and changes in the local government agenda.
- Cllr Love highlighted that the Charter Mark assessment team were impressed

with the importance and profile of member development at the council and to the degree it had been embedded. It was clear to assessors those Members of the working group all had a shared vision and that the programme had a clear link to strategic priorities. It was also noted that the programme of member development had a high degree of innovation within the best use of the budget.

- There had been a high level of engagement in the process and submission of evidence which included all Member Briefings and an in-depth induction programme.

In summary Cllr Love stated that the County Council should be proud of their achievement and that he looked forward to the development of the programme and the council sharing its success with other local authorities.

Cllr Love presented the certificate to Mr S Lambert and Mr M Shaw, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Member Development Working Group.

2 MINUTES

It was noted that page 8 referred to January 2017 when it should have read January 2018 and that the draft minutes of 22 February would be updated accordingly.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2018 were AGREED as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 PETITIONS

No petitions were received.

4 COMMUNICATIONS

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Blake, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Cranmer, Mr Harriss, Mr Whyte, Ms R Farwell, Mr Lawrence and Mr Pushman.

Mrs Birchley welcomed the Lord Lieutenant and thanked him for attending.

The Chairman confirmed that written questions and responses to Cabinet Members had been published online.

Mrs Birchley gave the following update of her recent activities as Chairman since the last meeting in February:

Lady Justice Macur had overseen the moving of Aylesbury Crown Court to their new premises on Walton Street. Mrs Birchley paid thanks on behalf of the County Council to Judge Francis Sheridan for his enormous efforts in keeping one of the busiest Crown courts in England and Wales active in Aylesbury.

The 12 March celebrated Commonwealth Day with the flag being raised and a lunch held, attended by those in Buckinghamshire that were born or lived abroad in Commonwealth countries.

On the 25 April the Chairman hosted a charity event at Dorney Wood with guest speaker Mr Chris Salmon, Director for Markets at the Bank of England who spoke

about how they had managed good mental health amongst their staff who worked in stressful international markets.

Further updates from the Chairman would be appended to the minutes.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

6 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE THAMES VALLEY LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

Mr M Tett introduced the item and paid credit to Mr D Carroll and the Transport, Economy and Environment Select Committee for proposing regular updates to Full Council on the work of the Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

Mr Tett introduced Mr R Harrington Chief Executive of the Buckinghamshire LEP who presented a presentation on the current work of the LEP, which would be appended to the minutes.

Mr Harrington's presentation highlighted the following:

- The productivity of the County
 - 3rd highest productivity of all LEP areas
 - GVA per hour worked, almost 20% above national average
 - Exceptional Business Start Up & survival rates
 - Consistently low unemployment
- Their Business Growth Hub Buckinghamshire Business First
- Their skills hub working closely with the County Council to establish a new skills strategy for the area including launching the Bucks Skills Show
- Highlighted the three Enterprise Zones at Silverstone, Westcott and Woodlands
- Their investment in infrastructure and innovation
- Their support of the England's Economic Heartland programme
- What could be expected for the year ahead

Mr Harrington responded to Members questions as follows:

A Member asked how the LEP were bringing work and employment into urban areas and also the support to those in urban areas with start-up premises. Mr Hussain also mentioned the high housing costs driving residents away. Mr Harrington responded that the Strategic Economic Plan town centre regeneration was very much at the heart of the strategy. Mr Harrington mentioned that he had previously commissioned a number of master plans for Aylesbury and Wycombe and there were conversations with government agencies about deflecting their resources into local communities. Mr Harrington stated that when the LEP started their programme the money was available essentially for roads and skills capital. This had now broadened out to business incubation space. He stated that they had also invested in various spaces to allow businesses access on flexible terms.

A Member asked what Mr Harrington's thoughts were on the entrepreneurial academic and the entrepreneurial local councillor. Mr Harrington responded by saying that he were a big fan of entrepreneurship. He commented that they were working closely with

the University of Buckingham which was the first privately run university in the country and has an entrepreneurial programme where the students start businesses, not just from a purely academic point of view but also a practical one.

Mr Harrington confirmed that he would be attending County Council on a regular basis to update Members.

In response to a question on the Oxfordshire to Cambridge expressway route, Mr Harrington confirmed that the LEP supported the position of the County Council in respect to the Southern option.

Mr Harrington also stated that there were ongoing conversations with Home England regarding infrastructure requirements due to possible growth in the area. If invited to those conversations they could support them and bring more resource that might address some of the issues.

Mr Harrington was thanked for his presentation.

7 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEES

Mrs Birchley introduced the Annual Report of the Select Committees and asked the Chairman of each committee if they had anything to add to the report.

Finance, Performance and Resources

Mr D Watson had nothing further to add.

Transport, Environment and Communities

Mr D Carroll thanked the team for their work. He also thanked Mr S Lambert for chairing the Modern Slavery inquiry.

Health and Adult Social Care

Mr B Roberts thanked the committee for their work and Julia Wassell for leading the item on Mental Health. Mr Roberts also thanked Mrs E Wheaton, Committee and Governance Advisor, for her advice and support to the committee.

In response to a question about how the Committee could focus its activity, Mr Roberts stated that the health service was indeed a complicated area and that this was something that was under ongoing review and discussion with the Committee.

Children's Social Care and Learning

Mr D Dhillon thanked Members of the committee and officers for their support. He also thanked those that had attended various select committees to give evidence including young people. Mr Dhillon stated that a Permanent Exclusion Inquiry was concluding and would be reported on shortly.

RESOLVED: Council NOTED the Annual Report of the Select Committees

8 PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL SPENDING ON HIGHWAYS

Mr Tett introduced the report and highlighted the following points:

- The County Council recognised that the current state of the roads was not of an

- acceptable standard.
- The adverse weather conditions recently experienced had had a huge impact on the state of the roads and the ability to carry out repairs.
 - Mr Tett highlighted that over the last seven years £120m capital funding had been spent on resurfacing roads and that those resurfaced roads stood up better to bad weather.
 - Mr Tett confirmed that a revenue fund had been assembled. This would normally be £2m but had also been supplemented by £1m additional funding from government as a result of lobbying, releasing £1.2m from the Council's reserves and £0.5m devolved funding to Members that Mr Tett strongly urged Members to target on local repairs within their divisions. By prioritising funding in Transport an additional £0.3m had been released, which brought the total fund to £5m.
 - The £5m would be revenue funding which allowed it to be released quickly so that works could start straight away.
 - This funding was in addition to the £15m agreed in February for resurfacing.
 - Mr Tett stated that while this additional funding was welcomed, it would still not be enough to reach the expectations of residents.

Mr Tett proposed the motion which was seconded by Mr M Shaw.

Members raised the following comments and questions:

A Member commented that any extra funding as part of the HS2 programme would be important and that although Members had a budget for their local area this was still a limited amount which made prioritising works difficult. Mention was also made of the importance of the County's footpaths being up to standard.

A Member commended the team for doing a fantastic job over the winter months with the resources available to them. Members were urged to formally go back to Central Government for more funding overall.

A Member highlighted the need for the works to be carried out in a more systematic way and for the works to be supervised in order to ensure that the money was being used in the most efficient way.

A Member raised the issue that while repairs had been carried out, some were less than satisfactory and there was a need for these to be supervised.

Mr Tett responded to Members comments as summarised below:

- Mr Tett urged Members to advise residents to report any potholes - the Council can't take action unless reported.
- The debate with HS2 was ongoing.
- HGVs caused the most damage to the County's roads.
- Even though £5m was a substantial amount it still wasn't enough and that more money was required from capital to spend on resurfacing.
- The programme of works would ensure joined up working so that the money was spent effectively.

The report set out the following recommendation:

Recommendation

It is recommended that £1.234m of funds from the General Fund is combined with the existing service budgets, member devolved budgets, DfT funding, to create a £5m programme of high quality of highway repairs.

Council is asked to:

- 1. Agree that £1.234m of County Council reserves are used to supplement existing funding to provide for predominately plane and patch type repairs.**
- 2. Agree that all County Councillors are encouraged to use the £0.480m devolved member budget to focus additional resource to the carriageway repair budget.**

RESOLVED: Council AGREED the recommendations as set out above.

9 CABINET MEMBERS' REPORTS

Leader

In response to Members questions the following comments were made:

- The leader was asked if the County Council were doing all they could in terms of recycling. Mr Tett confirmed that not only did he Chair the LGA Economy, Environment, Housing & Transport Board but that he also took a personal interest in the issue. He confirmed that they had just received the 25 year Environment Strategy from the Secretary of State for Defra which they had supported. Mr Tett also highlighted the high rate of recycling at the County Council and the ambition to drive that rate up even further.
- Mr Tett responded to a question regarding residents and business owners being unable to access superfast broadband across Aylesbury town centre and the role the County played in Connected Counties. Mr Tett confirmed that Connected Counties and the County Council would only subsidise non-commercial areas which would not include Aylesbury. Mr Tett highlighted that the county had reached 90% coverage for residents and they were working with district colleagues in order to get that to 95%, however reaching 100% had its challenges, in particular in rural areas. Mr Tett also highlighted that they were in discussion with the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) looking at a series of trials of techniques for closing the gap. A lot of focus had also been on fiber and there was a need to move more focus on cellular as more and more people communicated via their mobile phones.
- A Member suggested that those companies working towards 100% recycling could be invited to a summit in the County to share their ideas and progress. Mr Tett supported this suggestion.

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation

Mr Shaw updated Members that he had addressed TfB workers at a recent conference and thanked in person those that had helped with the winter maintenance. Members stated that residents were also grateful for the updates on social media.

A Member asked if the money had been recovered for the damage to the bridges on the A40 at Denham and at Marlow. Mr Shaw confirmed that they were still waiting on full and final payment from the company responsible.

A Member highlighted the need for footpath maintenance and Mr Shaw stated that

there had been budget put aside for capital works over the next 4 years.

Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health

Mr Brown highlighted the following:

- He thanked the Registration Service for their recent dedication to keep services going during the recent adverse weather. Members of the team had gone over and above in ensuring weddings still took place
- A new Mental Health support service was being created in schools to help support young people
- the success of the Community Organising in East Wycombe. Mr Brown highlighted the importance of Members getting involved.

Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment

Mr Chapple highlighted the following:

- The success of the Country Parks across the county
- Buckinghamshire's zero tolerance approach to fly tipping which was reflected in prosecution figures against the national average
- The consultation on the Minerals and Waste Local Plan had been extended further a further two weeks to finish on 3 May
- An error in the Waste Management figures in the report, which should have read 1,900 tons and not 1,900,000 tons

A Member highlighted the excellent work that the household waste sites do and asked whether they preclude non-residents to dispose. Mr Chapple confirmed that they did see a number of visitors from outside the county. Mr Chapple confirmed there would be a report coming to County Council later in the year regarding household waste recycling sites.

A Member thanked the team for their support to Colne Valley Park and if they could rely on the same support going forward. Mr Chapple stated that he had every faith that the support to Bucks Country Parks would continue.

Cabinet Member for Resources

Mr Chilver highlighted the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) that come into force on 25 May and encouraged Members to attend the training provided for them.

A Member raised a question regarding the Gender Pay Gap and asked what other counties were doing to get to zero. Mr Chilver confirmed that Bucks had a good record.

Responding to a question from a Member asking if any support would be given to parish councils in relation to the new GDPR, Mr Chilver stated that they were currently working on a comprehensive guide for schools and developing online training resources that could be accessed for a small fee.

Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Mrs Teesdale had nothing additional to add to the report and answered Members questions as follows:

A Member asked about the Early Help review. Mrs Teesdale advised that the consultation had been stopped, they were in the processing of reviewing information and a new consultation would be started. There would be a further update once Mr Whyte returned from annual leave.

Mrs Teesdale agreed to send written responses to the following questions from Members:

- How the out of county fostering numbers compared to this time last year.
- A member asked for assurances that delaying the Early Help review wouldn't have an impact on the savings required and if it did, were contingencies in place
- What support are we giving to FAST in Aylesbury and Wycombe as they come under even more pressure
- What was the County Council doing in responding to the recent findings regarding the Windrush community

Julia Wassell asked if she could join the unitary debate meeting with the Commissioner, as Deputy Leader of the Opposition. Mrs Teesdale agreed that this would be fine with her.

Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

Lin Hazell highlighted the following points:

- Reminded Members to attend the all Member Briefing on Dementia taking place on 30 May
- Views were being submitted in response to the recent Green Paper
- Thanked all those involved in the winter response
- Highlighted the great facility at the Hughenden Extra Care Village

A Member raised the issue of accessing support being complicated for elderly residents living independently. Lin Hazell confirmed that processes across the service were being reviewed.

A Member referred back to the emergency extra budget provision given to the portfolio back in January and asked for assurances that the budget was now back on track. Lin Hazell confirmed that a huge amount of work had gone on in the portfolio and they were now forecasting a slight underspend.

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

A Member highlighted that the Ofsted report stated that all non-selective secondary provision in Aylesbury town was recorded at level three or below and wanted assurances that steps were being taken to address this. Mr Appleyard responded by stating that a programme had been initiated called Side by Side to link up good performing schools with those that weren't performing so well. The programme was in the early stages but had been trailed in other areas and been successful. Mr Appleyard stated that he would hope to see some improvement in the annual inspections following this.

A Member congratulated the Early Years team for their achievements in securing provision. Mr Appleyard stated that Buckinghamshire were providing proportionately

more places for early years than other authorities in the country, however this was still a struggle due to poor funding being available for providers from government. He confirmed that they had good working relationships with providers and were able to encourage them to increase their provision.

A Member asked the Cabinet Member to pass on his thanks to the Admissions and Home to School Transport teams for the way in which they had dealt with a number of challenging issues. Mr Appleyard stated that he made it a duty and commitment to visit the team on a regular basis. The team were in a challenging position but provided an excellent service.

10 NOTICES OF MOTION

There were none

11 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS - INFORMATION ONLY

RESOLVED: Council NOTED the report

12 CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS TAKEN - INFORMATION ONLY

RESOLVED: Council NOTED the report

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

17 May, 9.30am at The Oculus, Aylesbury.

CHAIRMAN

County Council



Select Committee Structure

Thursday 17 May 2018

Report from the Chief Executive

Purpose of this Report

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, this report sets out the proposed structure of Select Committees for the forthcoming year. No changes are envisaged to the number of the Council's Select Committees.

The Council will appoint four Select Committees to discharge the Council's statutory overview and scrutiny functions. These shall be known as:

- I. Children's Select Committee;
- II. Transport, Environment and Communities Select Committee;
- III. Finance, Performance and Resources Select Committee;
- IV. Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee.

Each Select Committee is anticipated to meet at least six times a year, in accordance with current practice. Formal meetings of Select Committees will be public meetings (except under specific confidential circumstances as set out in the Local Government Act 1972). Each Select Committee has the power to undertake scrutiny inquiries, to investigate issues and make recommendations to decision-makers for change in relation to areas within their remit. Evidence for these inquiries may be taken at Select Committee meetings or may be taken through additional informal inquiry sessions.

In addition to the general functions of the Select Committees set out in the Council's Constitution, the broad remits of the four Select Committees are set out in the table below. This information is intended as an indicative guide to the remits of the Select Committees, recognising that a number of potential topics could span more than one Select Committee.

Where the lead responsibility for scrutiny is unclear the relevant Chairmen will agree how best to take forward the work, including agreeing one Select Committee to take lead responsibility for approving the set-up of any inquiry and follow-up.



Table 1: Select Committee remits

<p>Finance, Performance and Resources Select Committee (FPR)</p> <p>The role of the Finance, Performance and Resources Select Committee is to hold decision-makers to account for improving outcomes and services for Buckinghamshire.</p> <p>It shall have the power to scrutinise all issues in relation to the Council’s strategic performance, financial management and corporate issues. This will include all areas under the remit of the Council’s Assistant Chief Executive’s Service (ACES) and Resources Business Unit. This includes, but not exclusively, responsibility for scrutinising issues in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Plan• ACES responsibilities — including Council Communications, Business Intelligence.• Resources responsibilities - including the Council’s Technology Strategy, HR, procurement and Legal services and the strategic commissioning of Council resources.• The overall effectiveness of the scrutiny function• Strategic alliances and partnerships with others externally—nationally, regionally and locally. <p><i>By convention the Chairmen of the other Select Committees are invited to participate in the annual budget scrutiny inquiry, whereby the Executive’s draft budget is automatically referred for scrutiny as part of the annual budget setting process.</i></p>
<p>Transport, Environment and Communities Select Committee (TEC)</p> <p>The role of the Transport, Environment and Communities Select Committee is to hold decision-makers to account for improving outcomes and services for Buckinghamshire.</p> <p>It shall have the power to scrutinise all issues in relation to the remit of the Transport, Economy, and Environment Business Unit. In addition it will also have within its remit all areas relating to communities issues/services (currently structurally under the Communities, Health and Adult Social Care Business Unit). This includes, but not exclusively, responsibility for scrutinising issues in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategic business planning• Growth & Strategy and Highways• Regeneration & Infrastructure• Environment Services (including country parks and waste management) <p>Communities issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Localism strategy & Voluntary and community sector engagement• Libraries• Resilience (emergency planning)• Crime and disorder and crime and disorder reduction partnerships (community safety partnerships)*• Museums; Registrars & Coroners.

- Impact of Welfare Benefits Reforms.
- Local Emergency Support

** In accordance with the BCC Constitution, this Committee shall act as the designated Crime and Disorder Committee and will hold the countywide Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership to account for the decisions it takes and may take part in joint reviews with District Councils of District Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships.*

Children’s Select Committee

The role of the Children’s Select Committee is to hold decision-makers to account for improving outcomes and services for Buckinghamshire.

The Children’s Select Committee shall have the power to scrutinise all issues in relation to the remit of the Children’s Services Business Unit. This will include, but not exclusively, responsibility for scrutinising issues in relation to:

- Nurseries and early years education
- Schools and further education
- The Bucks Learning Trust
- Quality standards and performance in education
- Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- Learning and skills
- Adult learning
- Children and family services
- Early intervention
- Child protection, safeguarding and prevention
- Children in care (looked after children)
- Children’s psychology
- Children's partnerships
- Youth provision
- The Youth Offending Service

** In accordance with the BCC Constitution, this Committee shall act as the designated Committee responsible for the scrutiny of Education matters.*

Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASC)

The role of the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee is to hold decision-makers to account for improving outcomes and services for Buckinghamshire.

It shall have the power to scrutinise all issues in relation to Health and Adult Social Care. This will include, but not exclusively, responsibility for scrutinising issues in relation to:

- Public health and wellbeing
- NHS services
- Health and social care commissioning
- GPs and medical centres
- Dental Practices
- Health and social care performance

- Private health services
- Family wellbeing
- Adult social services
- Older people
- Adult safeguarding
- Physical and sensory services
- Learning disabilities
- Drugs and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT services)

** In accordance with the BCC Constitution, this Committee shall act as the designated Committee responsible for the scrutiny of health matters holding external health partners to account.*

Recommendation

That Council agrees the proposed structure & remit for Select Committees for the municipal year 2018/19 in order to discharge the Council's statutory overview and scrutiny functions.

**RACHAEL SHIMMIN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

County Council



Report on Committee Proportionality, Appointments and Substitutions

Thursday 17 May 2018

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 2018/19.

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 each year 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. There are two political groups comprising 41 (The Conservative Group) and 8 (The Liberal Democrats, 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.

Substitution Arrangements

The Council has agreed substitution arrangements to Council Committees in accordance with legal requirements arising from s102 of the Local Government Act 1972. These substitution arrangements are as follows:

- Substitutions must be made at least the day before the meeting concerned in writing to the relevant clerk of the Council Committee (under delegated powers of the Monitoring Officer). No requests for substitutions at the meeting on the day will be allowed.
- Substitution requests must be in writing by email from the Group Leader (or the Group Leader's nominated member for handling substitutions for example the Deputy Leader). There is no requirement for a hardcopy signature or any additional forms.
- All County Councillors are potential substitutes onto Council Committees.
- By convention Select Committees do not normally require substitute members. This is because Select Committees are not decision-making bodies and work by consensus to scrutinise and support policy development on a cross-party basis.
- Other points to note on substitutions are: Cabinet is legally not allowed to have substitutions but deputies can attend and speak (but not vote) at Cabinet Meetings; and the Development Control Committee is the only statutory committee where there is an additional requirement for Members to have attended training before substituting.

Recommendations

Council is asked to:

- 1. Confirm 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.**
- 2. Agree the appointments to Council Committees in accordance with the rules on political proportionality, in line with the proposals put forward by each of the political group leaders for the municipal year 2018/19.**
- 3. Agree to delegate to the Monitoring Officer powers to vary the membership of a Committee at any point on a permanent or casual basis upon the written nomination of a Group Leader.**

**SARAH ASHMEAD
MONITORING OFFICER**

Appendix 1 – Background Calculations on Political Balance

Appendix 2 – List of Committee Appointments (*paper to be tabled at the Council meeting*)

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



Report on work of Outside Bodies 17/18

Thursday 17 May 2018

Report of the Deputy Leader

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the work of Council appointees on outside bodies in 17/18.

In April 2016 the Council's Regulatory and Audit Committee agreed a new protocol on outside bodies. This protocol is published online and provides guidance to Members on expectations about their roles, details of the annual appointment process and reporting process to Council. For further details on the protocol see here:

<https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/documents/s84972/Outside%20Bodies%20Procedure.pdf>

Outside Bodies Overview

The Council makes appointments to outside bodies that have organisational objectives that the Council supports and where there are areas of mutual interest. The purpose of the appointments is to assist these organisations and support effective communications with the Council.

As outlined in the Council's Constitution, appointments to outside bodies are made by the Council's executive by the Leader. Currently, these appointments are delegated to the Deputy Leader. The Deputy Leader makes appointments annually normally in May/June.

The Council makes appointments to sit on outside bodies based on merit. Appointees are not expected to 'represent' the County Council but are rather appointed based on an expectation that they will apply their skills and experience in the best interests of the group to which they are appointed to.

Whilst each outside body is unique, the following role description is applicable to all appointees of the Council on outside bodies:

- To champion the interests of the people of Buckinghamshire on the outside body.
- To attend, generally, all meetings of the outside body as required.
- To understand, underpinned by appropriate experience or knowledge, the purpose and work of the outside body.
- To annually report on the work of the outside body to all Members of Council, as well as throughout the year as required to Committees and Members.



- To understand the procedure for dealing with conflicts between their own interests, those of the Council and those of the outside body.
- To have an appropriate understanding of any regulatory framework that affects the outside body, operating within the rules of the outside body at all times.
- To have or gain the skills needed to properly fulfil his or her role in the outside body.
- To behave ethically and follow the Council's Member Code of Conduct.
- To inform Democratic Services if they wish to resign from their role on the outside body.

Feedback 2017/18

Full details about outside bodies are published on the Council's website. See here: <https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/mgListOutsideBodies.aspx?bcr=1>. Appendix 1 sets out the list of appointees to Council outside bodies in 2017/18.

Members on outside bodies were invited to complete a short annual feedback survey to gain an overview of experiences and report back to Council.

Key survey findings are:

- 20 Members sat on 55 outside bodies in 2017/18.
- In total Members attended 186 meetings of outside bodies in 2017/18.
- In total Members dedicated over 1000 hours of service to support the work of outside bodies in 2017/18.
- 91% of respondents felt that their contribution was valuable to support the work of outside bodies.

In response to a question on what Members most valued or enjoyed about being on an outside body, comments included:

- *Enjoyed networking and understanding the different ways to tackle issues*
- *The ability to bring my business expertise to the trust and seeing the trust move forward in a positive way*
- *Improving collaboration between the bodies and BCC. Assisting with improving the effectiveness of the bodies.*
- *Ability to influence key strategic decisions affecting Buckinghamshire*
- *Learning about some of the wider work we do at BCC and also taking that information back to residents at parish council meetings. It is also a good chance to have a deep dive into one area as much of our work as members is more in the "all-rounder" vein.*

Recommendation

- 1. Council is asked to NOTE this report.**

**MARK SHAW
DEPUTY LEADER**

County Council Appointees on Outside Bodies 2017/18

Community Engagement Portfolio Area

Name of Organisation	Existing Appointee for 2017/18
Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils (BMKALC)	Noel Brown
Buckinghamshire County Show Management Committee	Bill Chapple OBE
Bucks County Museum Trust	Bill Chapple OBE Noel Brown
Buckinghamshire Scout Council	David Watson
Chiltern Open Air Museum Advisory Council	David Martin Tim Butcher
Healthy Communities Partnership	Noel Brown
Joint Trading Standards Committee	Noel Brown Anne Wight
Milton's Cottage Trust	Tim Butcher
National Paralympic Heritage Trust	Anne Wight
Safer and Stronger Bucks Partnership Board	Noel Brown
SE Reserve Forces & Cadets Association	Bill Bendyshe-Brown
Stoke Mandeville Stadium Management Committee	Steve Bowles

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HWBIDCo (High Wycombe)	Lesley Clarke OBE
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Health & Wellbeing Portfolio

Oxford Health Trust Board	Lin Hazell
SECASC (South East Councils Adult Social Care)	Lin Hazell
Accountable Care System Partnership Board and Executive	Lin Hazell
Sustainability and Transformation Partnership	Liz Hazell

Education and Skills Portfolio

Adventure Learning Trust	Steve Bowles Barbara Gibbs
South East Councils for Education	Mike Appleyard
Bucks University Technical College (UTC) Governing Body	Mike Appleyard
SACRE	David Watson
William Harding's Charity	Bill Chapple OBE

Children's Services Portfolio

South East Regional DCS and Lead Members	Warren Whyte
Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board	Warren Whyte

Deputy Leader Portfolio

Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel	Bill Bendyshe-Brown
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Leader Portfolio

Aylesbury Vale Advantage Legacy	Clive Harriss
Bucks Advantage	Clive Harriss
Bucks Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)	Martin Tett Mark Shaw
LGA Economy, Environment, Housing & Transport	Martin Tett
South East Strategic Leaders	Martin Tett
Aylesbury Vale Enterprise Zone Strategic Board	Clive Harriss
England's Economic Heartland Strategic Alliance	Martin Tett Mark Shaw

Resources Portfolio

South East Employers	John Chilver
iESE Ltd Board (Improvement and Efficiency South East)	John Chilver Steve Bowles
LHC Joint Committee	John Chilver David Martin
Chiltern and South Bucks – Joint Strategic Partnership	Gareth Williams

Planning & Environment Portfolio

Buckinghamshire Historic Buildings Trust	Bill Chapple OBE Clive Harriss
Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum	Bill Chapple OBE Clive Harriss
Bucks Local Access Forum	Bill Chapple OBE Clive Harriss
Aylesbury Town Centre Partnership	Bill Chapple OBE
Chilterns Conservation Board	Bill Bendyshe-Brown
Colne Valley Park CIC	David Martin
Groundwork South Local Area Board for Thames Valley	David Martin

River Thames Alliance	Clive Harriss
Regional Flood and Coastal Committee – Anglian Region	Warren Whyte
Regional Flood and Coastal Committee – Thames Region	Bill Chapple OBE
Natural Environment Partnership Board	Clive Harriss
Aylesbury Vale Garden Town Initiative	Bill Chapple OBE Steve Bowles
Waste Partnership for Bucks	Bill Chapple

Transportation Portfolio

East West Rail Western Section Delivery Board	Mark Shaw
Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group	Mark Shaw
London-Luton Airport Consultative Committee	Netta Glover Anne Wight
PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee	Mark Shaw
Buckinghamshire Local Transport Body	Mark Shaw Martin Tett
Strategic Transport Forum for England's Economic Heartland	Mark Shaw Martin Tett

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE CHILTERN CONSERVATION BOARD

2017/18

BACKGROUND

The Chilterns is a beautiful area of rolling chalk hills, woodlands, streams and quiet valleys with brick and flint cottages. In 1965 it was designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), in recognition that it is one of the finest landscapes in the country. The Chilterns Conservation Board is the public body with responsibility for protecting and enhancing the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It was established by Parliamentary Order in 2004, following national legislation to improve the protection and management of AONBs: to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Chilterns AONB; and to increase the understanding and enjoyment of the AONB's special qualities. In addition, the Conservation Board has a secondary duty to foster the social and economic well-being of local communities, where that is compatible with its primary duties.

The Chilterns AONB is one of 46 AONBs in UK. AONBs belong to the same family as National Parks which is recognised as containing the finest countryside in the UK. The Chilterns AONB covers 833 square kilometres. Its landscapes have been shaped by the activities of farmers and foresters over hundreds of years and many ancient countryside features can still be found. It is also a haven for wildlife such as the spectacular red kite and the endangered water vole. The Chilterns AONB has a resident population of 80,000 and attracts millions of visits every year by people who come to enjoy its landscapes and recreational opportunities.

MEMBERSHIP

The Conservation Board has 27 members, drawn from a wide range of communities across the Chilterns. Each member is independent and does not represent any other organisation. Thirteen members are nominated by the local authorities in the Chilterns, 8 are appointed by the Secretary of State from applications by the public and 6 are elected by parish councils.

The work of the Conservation Board is guided by the Management Plan for the Chilterns AONB, which was produced in 2002 and is regularly reviewed.

(see http://www.chilternsaonb.org/uploads/files/ConservationBoard/ManagementPlan/Management%20Plan%202014-19/chilterns_management_plan_2014-19_final.pdf)

The Plan provides a framework for the actions of the Board, its partner organisations and local communities across the whole Chilterns. Four fifths of the Conservation Board's core funding is supplied by central government and the remaining fifth comes from local authorities. The Board also makes bids to other sources of funding to raise support for individual projects.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Over the past year, the Chilterns Conservation Board has had huge success securing grants for projects and running innovative food and drink and walking festivals. For every £1 received from Local Authorities the CCB has generated a further £9 and is currently working on projects worth £4million to protect or enhance the Chilterns landscape, enable healthy lifestyles, or support the local economy. Project funding is ring-fenced, so the CCB relies on and appreciates the support from Defra and Local Authorities to support its core functions which then enable this exponential benefit to the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

First Food and Drink Festival

Defra funding was secured in 2017 to promote the Chilterns as a food and drink destination and increase tourism to the area. The project included a 7-day food and drink festival, new vineyard and brewery guides, a *Taste of the Chilterns* video and the first print edition of Chilterns Food Magazine. The CCB received fantastic national media coverage for the festival and for the Chilterns.

Chilterns Walking Festival

The CCB secured LEADER funding for a 3-year programme of walking festivals, promoting walks and events throughout the Chilterns. The project aims to attract visitors and increase overnight stays as well as appeal to local audiences of all levels. There will be 6 walking festivals from May 2017 to October 2019, promoting the Chilterns as a superb walking destination.

Chilterns Hillforts

In September 2017, the Heritage Lottery Fund awarded nearly £770k to the CCB to discover more about ancient hillforts and Chilterns history. The whole of the AONB will be surveyed using LIDAR technology to uncover hidden archaeological features using aircraft-mounted lasers. Alongside practical conservation work, education and interpretation there will be lots of opportunity for people to get involved!

Central Chilterns Landscape Project

The CCB received a development grant of £185,000 to develop plans for what will be the biggest conservation and engagement project in the Central Chilterns. The project is being developed with over 30 partners and, if the bid is successful, will bring a total partnership income of around £2.8 million to the area for practical conservation and enhancement, developing a network of stewards and champions and ensuring long-term benefits.

There will be many opportunities for people to have a role in protecting this beautiful area. The name of the Scheme is "Chalk, Cherries and Chairs" to reflect the landscape, land use and industrial heritage of the Chilterns. Following an online survey in December 2017, the team has been on the road, holding public meetings to talk to local people, gain input and feedback. The strength of connection many people have to the Chilterns landscape came across loud and clear. The real challenge now is to design activities for people who haven't yet made that connection. Lots of exciting projects are coming together, from exploring ancient routeways, giving wildlife more space, planting orchards, to helping uncover the mystery of Grim's Ditch or interpreting the landscape through sound and arts.

CCB Management

The CCB owes a huge debt to the Chief Executive, Sue Holden, who has set a strong and robust agenda for taking the CCB forward. This includes visiting local authority Leaders and Chief Executives as well as setting up meetings with government ministers and officers.

BILL BENDYSHE-BROWN

THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CHILTERN CONSERVATION BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Report to Buckinghamshire County Council

Title: Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel update

Date: May 2018

Author: Clare Gray, Police and Crime Panel Scrutiny Officer, Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel



1. Police and Crime Panels are responsible for supporting and scrutinising the Police and Crime Commissioner in each police force area in England and Wales. Panels are scrutiny bodies with a range of statutory functions and have responsibility for scrutinising and supporting the PCC's activities over a range of policy areas. Ensuring the Panel provides effective scrutiny is a challenge given the limited resources available to fund Panels and the limited powers provided for in legislation.
2. Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel is made up of 18 Local Authorities and two independent members and the composition of the Panel can be found via the link below. There are usually Membership changes during May due to elections or appointment changes. The Chairman is Trevor Egleton and Vice-Chairman, Kieron Mallon.
<http://www.southbucks.gov.uk/article/8102/Thames-Valley-Police-and-Crime-Panel>
3. The Thames Valley PCC is Anthony Stansfeld and his Deputy Matthew Barber. His Deputy was appointed in December 2016 on a part time basis. A recent report was submitted asking that that the Deputy PCC be made full time due to an increase in specific responsibilities which has been approved and was considered by the Panel at a confirmation hearing on 20 April 2018. A key document which is used to scrutinise the PCC's performance is the Police and Crime Panel which can be found via the following link. The Panel scrutinise a key area of the Plan at each of their meetings.
<https://www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/>
4. The precept meeting was held in February 2018 where the Panel agreed with the PCC's recommendation of a 7% increase in council tax to prevent cuts to operational policing. However, recent press articles have expressed concern about possible cuts to the Joint Operations Unit, which includes the Dog Unit.
5. The Panel scrutinise the PCC and not the Chief Constable. However, sometimes it is necessary to look at operational issues which relate to strategic issues. One of the key areas that was scrutinised this year related to the change in local policing and the Local Area Commander from Wycombe was invited to the meeting to provide detail on how it had been implemented in his area. The new operating model went live in June 2017. The implementation did not go as

smoothly as hoped as during this time the Force lost about 100 police officers, there was an increase in 999 calls and also the terrorist attacks in London. The model was not quite fit for purpose at the start of the process with problems with the new shift patterns which officers were finding tiring. It was a big change management programme which included a change in culture. However, the Chief Constable reassured Members that whilst it had been a difficult change process, six months into implementation, he said that the model was an improvement and a better way of working. The Panel asked that the PCC continued to keep the new operating model under review and that they be provided with a report at the end of the first year of operation. The Deputy Chief Constable is carrying out a review visiting all police areas and the Panel await a response from these meeting and consultation with staff. Another area of concern that has been raised by the Panel is that the Force has been losing police officers to other Forces because of the cost of living in the Thames Valley. At the end of the year the Force were 98 officers below their year-end target and the Force are now using case investigators to help offset this reduction.

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/>

6. In relation to HMIC reports for this year Thames Valley Police received an outstanding report for Efficiency, a good report for Effectiveness and Legitimacy and an inadequate report for Crime Data Integrity. The Deputy Chief Constable provided a presentation at the Panel meeting on 20 April 2018 to show what actions the Force were taking in response to the inadequate rating. An officer from the Office of the PCC would be attending Force meetings to be kept informed of the progress being made on the areas for improvement.

<https://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmicfrs/peel-assessments/peel-2017/thames-valley/>

7. In terms of specific scrutiny there was an item on roads policing which resulted in a Thames Valley wide multi agency officer group being set up to work together on roads policing and to develop a framework. The Officer Working Group has met and agreed its terms of reference.

There was a themed item on criminal justice where two representatives from the Criminal Justice Board attended – the Chief Crown Prosecutor for Thames and Chiltern and the National Probation Service. Some recommendations were made in relation to the Crest Report and taking more control over the criminal justice system in terms of having joint outcomes in relation to performance and being more open and transparent. However, whilst PCC's are under a statutory duty to collaborate with local authorities and other criminal justice partners, the mechanisms and practices of partnership working in this area are complex and PCC's have limited powers in which to influence change.

There was also a themed item on modern slavery where a number of recommendations were agreed including further information being provided on repeat victims of modern slavery where they have been referred to the National Referral Mechanism more than once so that victims who are at risk of being re-trafficked are being minimised. Members were asked to ensure that their Council was identifying (through training) and reporting any concerns regarding victims of modern slavery.

Recommendations were also made in relation to unauthorised encampments and a TVP Rural Task and Finish Group was looking into this issue. Protocols and training are now being put in place to ensure that there is a consistent approach by the Force to unauthorised encampments.

8. In the last year the Panel had been looking at how to approach cyber-crime. They held an initial meeting with Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) where it was agreed that it would be helpful to hold a conference on this issue with a number of presenters including the PCC. At this

conference, which was funded by the Panel, the CSP's in the Thames Valley worked together on a cyber-crime strategy, which was led by Bucks CSP and has now received funding from the PCC.

9. The Preventing CSE Sub Committee and Complaints Sub-Committee have also been meeting throughout the year. One of the main outcomes from the Preventing CSE Sub Committee is that a TVP single point of contact (SPOC) is being piloted for a year, and funded by the PCC, in relation to taxi licensing safeguarding. Following a conference organised by the Panel and a further meeting with taxi licensing managers, a minimal set of standards has been developed across the Thames Valley which will enable the SPOC to ensure that standards are being maintained for safeguarding issues.
10. As part of the police integrity reforms being implemented in early 2019 there will be a major overhaul of the police complaints system which includes an enhanced role for the PCC which will also impact on the Panel. The Panel are awaiting further guidance on this issue.
11. The PCC provided an update on fire collaboration to the Panel. He had met with the three fire and rescue services and a decision had been taken not to pursue the transfer of governance responsibility from them to the PCC in the foreseeable future (e.g. at least until after the next PCC elections in 2020). Instead they would continue to explore and develop more collaboration options between the three fire and rescue services, and between them and the police, to deliver operational and financial benefits to the public.
12. For further information the PCC and PCP Annual Report is normally submitted to the June meeting of the Panel. There is also a twitter page which provides useful information on national and local policing issues @thamesvalleypcp.

Bill Bendyshe Brown

Bucks County Council representative on the Police and Crime Panel

County Council



Annual Report of the Buckinghamshire Armed Forces Community Covenant 2017/18

Thursday 17 May 2018

Background

The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served in the armed forces, and their families, are treated fairly. It sets out the relationship between the nation, the government and the armed forces and recognises that the whole nation has a moral obligation to members of the armed forces their families and to veterans, and it establishes how they should expect to be treated. Although it had been proposed by government that the Covenant be enshrined in law, in February 2011 they decided that there was no need to make the Covenant law, proposing instead to cover it in an annual report to parliament. Buckinghamshire has always had strong and proud links with the Armed Forces. It has 2 RAF stations in Halton and Wycombe and a vibrant Reservists population (6 Reservist Regiments). There are 4000 regular military personnel serving at the stations and over 100 reservists'. In addition there are 1,800 Cadets and some 300 Cadet Officers and Adult Volunteers. The Board is conscious of the fact that RAF Halton is due to close in 2020.

Current Situation

In recognition of its commitment to the local armed forces and their families the County Council signed an agreement to honour the Community Covenant in July 2012. We have also had the support of a whole range of organisations, including our District Councils, Milton Keynes Council, military affiliated charities, Public Health including Clinical Commissioning Groups, The Royal British Legion, SSAFA the Armed Forces Charity, the emergency services, together with a number of business, Job Centre Plus, sports, cultural and arts organisations. In total we have more than 20 organisations involved, all of whom are committed to a strong partnership between the Armed Forces and civilian communities in Buckinghamshire. These organisations all come together in a Military Civilian Partnership Board who meet once per quarter. They aim to develop, maintain and deliver an action plan for a more strategic working relationship between partnership organisations, integrate service charities into these plans so that they have a proper forum to help veterans across the county, and to seek funding from MOD to help with local project delivery. The Action Plan has 6 work strands supporting the 4 key objectives of the National Armed Forces Community Covenant: Recognise; Remember; Integrate; and Support.



- Health and Wellbeing. Map and identify the needs of Service personnel (serving, veteran, reserve and families) in order to allow their needs to be better understood and, where possible, to be met. Indeed, we have recently submitted letters to the Department for Justice and Department for Work and Pensions expressing concern over resettlement of personnel leaving prison, specifically ex-armed service personnel. An example cited was where a veteran offender on release had been unable to open a bank account, to claim benefits to fund food and accommodation or register with a doctor's surgery. The Board has now asked for a meeting with Dr Philip Lee MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice to discuss these matters further. The Board is also making appropriate representations regarding the Veterans Gateway, a relatively new government scheme putting veterans and their families in touch with the organisations best placed to help with the information, advice and support they need – from healthcare and housing to employability, finances, personal relationships and more. The scheme does not appear to be working properly in Buckinghamshire where the number of referrals is well below what would be expected. Again, this will be taken up with Dr Lee MP.
- Education and Children and Young People. We promote the **Service Pupil Premium** provided by the Department for Education, to State maintained schools, Free schools and Academies in England who have children of Regular Armed Forces personnel among their pupil population to provide additional (mainly pastoral) support.
- Economy and Skills. Facilitate a sustainable pathway for Service leavers into civilian employment. We are working with the Officers Association and MOD's Career Transition Partnership to develop links so that we can, through our Board, help both veterans and those about to retire from the Armed Forces find suitable employment. We also held a Chairman's Reception in 2017 to foster closer working relationships with Buckinghamshire businesses to encourage greater support for release of employees for Reservist duties and to encourage employment of ex-servicemen who are well trained and motivated.
- Environment and Infrastructure. Develop a common understanding of infrastructure needs of the Armed Forces community, and veterans, in order to inform Local Authority planning and provision of new homes and existing housing allocation.
- Safer and Stronger Communities. Promote a common understanding and closer integration between military and civilian communities. The Veterans Gateway is a scheme which, when working properly, should help enormously in this area.
- Recognise and Remember. Support civic events that allow the community to recognise the Armed Forces and vice versa. (See Events below).

Funding

The MoD's Covenant Fund priority for the year ahead include Community Integration, Delivery of Local Services and Families in Stress and provides funding to help in these areas. The Board will continue to lend its support to appropriate bids from Buckinghamshire but, unfortunately, no bids have been successful so far this year. The Board was extremely disappointed to learn that the joint Community Impact Bucks/RAF High Wycombe Volunteering Scheme had again been turned down despite changes to the bid being made in accordance with MOD advice. We are now working to bring the MOD, CIB and RAF together to identify shortfalls to enhance the next bid in the immediate future.

Events

The County Council contributed towards Remembrance Day events held across the County last November at which our Chairman and many members were represented. A successful Armed Forces Day was held at Aylesbury Rugby Club in June 2017. A Chairman's Reception was also held on 22nd February this year for the Business Community in Buckinghamshire to celebrate the success of those who had been awarded the Queen's Award for Enterprise. In addition events are being held this year to commemorate 100 years since the formation of the RAF and to also commemorate 100 years since the end of World War One. A Civic Church Service to commemorate the formation of the RAF was held on 15th April at St Mary's Church, Chesham to which all members were invited. The RAF Regiment Band and RAF Halton's parade was truly inspiring. Planning is also well advanced for November 11th not only to remember those who lost their lives in WW1 but also to celebrate the ending of the First World War. I will fully brief members when these have been finalised. Finally, the centenary of the death of Edward Brooks VC was commemorated at St Mary's Church, Oakley on 28th April 2017.

Way Forward

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

RECOMMENDATION

| **Council is asked to note the Annual Report**

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



County Council



MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

MEMBER BRIEFINGS – INFORMATION EVENTS ON HOT TOPICS

Member briefings normally take place once a month at County Hall in Aylesbury. The Member Development Strategy agreed a shift in approach to increasing the number of online briefings. Further details of these will be available soon. Key upcoming meetings are:

Date	Topic	Time	Venue
Weds 23 May	Child Sexual Exploitation	14:00 -16:00	Mezzanine Room 1, County Hall
Weds 30 May	CHASC Quarterly Update: Dementia	15:00 - 17:00	Mezzanine Room 1, County Hall

Invites to all Member briefings will be sent out electronically from the Democratic Services calendar, please respond accordingly.

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/>

TECHNOLOGY MEMBER SUPPORT

Member Drop-ins take place in G51 every Wednesday morning, 9am - 12.30pm. A member of Technology Services will be available to give hands-on assistance with any ICT issues. Contact details and user guides can be found on [Member Zone](#) and useful pages have been book marked on Corporate iPads.

CONTACT US

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

Kelly Sutherland, Committee and Governance Manager



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

27 Apr 2018

CE03.18 - Review of Mobile Library services (Decision Taken)

Recommendation

The Cabinet Member:

- a) **Agreed to the discontinuation of the service on June 1st 2018 and the removal of all three vehicles to save £113,000 in Year 1 and £180,000 each year thereafter, and**
- b) **Agreed the implementation of alternative service arrangements as set out in this Report and the Appendices as soon as the Cabinet Member decision has been made.**

Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

20 Apr 2018

HW02.18 - Supporting the Care Market: Adult Social Care Proposal for Fee Increases 2018-19 (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member APPROVED the following recommendations:-

- **An allocation of £1.76m to meet contractual obligations for Adult Social Care providers**
- **An allocation of £0.725m to address legislative changes**



- All payments to be backdated to April 1st 2018

4 May 2018

HW04.18 - Future of Supported Living Services 2018 - 2040 (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member:

- I. **APPROVED** the new approach for supporting people with disabilities, moving away from a service model to a more holistic and outcomes based approach, designed to maximise opportunities for independence and enabling fulfilling lives
- II. **APPROVED** the future procurement timetable linked to supported living contracts as set out in paragraph 1.4
- III. **APPROVED** the award of contract decision to be delegated to the Executive Director for CHASC
- IV. **APPROVED** the recommended options for the first wave of contracts expiring in 2018

Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing and Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health

4 May 2018

HW03.18 - Adult Social Care Strategy (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Members:

- | **APPROVED** 'Better Lives', the Adult Social Care Strategy for 2018-2021

Cabinet Member for Resources

10 May 2018

R03.18 - Temporary and Agency Staffing Sourcing Strategy Business Case (Decision taken)

The Cabinet Member AGREED:

| To directly award a contract to Pertemps, for 4 years under the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO) framework on a master vendor basis, in conjunction with other interested parties, phasing out the Translator & Interpreter service over time but retaining the option of interim supply

Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation

4 May 2018

T05.18 - TFB licences and charges (Decision taken)

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation:

- 1 APPROVED the list of revised charges and AGREED new charges as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report**
- 2 APPROVED the change to an annual review of the charges**

For further information please contact: Sara Turnbull on 01296 382343

