



# Agenda and Reports

26 July 2018



18 July 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 26 July 2018 at 9.30 am**, to transact the business set out in the agenda overleaf.

**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 Claire Hawkes on 01296 382343.

### **WEBCASTING NOTICE**

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## AGENDA

## Page No

- 1 MINUTES** **7 - 12**  
To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17 May 2018.
- 2 PETITIONS**
- 3 COMMUNICATIONS**
  - a To receive any apologies for absence
  - b To receive any communications the Chairman wishes to present to the Council
- 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
To disclose any Personal or Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
- 5 TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT** **13 - 26**
- 6 ANNUAL PAY POLICY STATEMENT** **27 - 34**
- 7 CABINET MEMBERS' REPORTS** **35 - 68**  
To note the written report of Cabinet Members, and any written questions and 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.  
  
A Leader of the Council  
B Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation  
C Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health  
D Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment  
E Cabinet Member for Resources  
F Cabinet Member for Children's Services  
G Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing  
H Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
- 8 SELECT COMMITTEE UPDATE** **69 - 72**
- 9 NOTICES OF MOTION**
- 10 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS - INFORMATION ONLY** **73 - 74**
- 11 CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS TAKEN - INFORMATION ONLY** **75 - 80**
- 12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
The next meeting of Council will be on 20 September at 09:30 in the Oculus, Aylesbury.



## **BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting of the Buckinghamshire County Council convened and held on Thursday 17 May 2018 in Oculus, commencing at 11.55 am and concluding at 12.40 pm.

### **PRESENT**

Mrs P Birchley in the Chair;

Mr M Appleyard, Mr R Bagge, Mr W Bendyshe-Brown, Ms J Blake, Mr S Bowles, Mr N Brown, Mr T Butcher, Mr D Carroll, Mr W Chapple OBE, Mr J Chilver, Mr C Clare, Mrs A Cranmer, Mrs I Darby, Mr D Dhillon, Mr C Ditta, Mr M Farrow, Mrs B Gibbs, Ms N Glover, Mr C Harriss, 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, Mr W Whyte, Ms A Wight and Mr G Williams

### **DIGNITARIES AND OTHERS PRESENT**

Sir H Aubrey-Fletcher

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs L Clarke OBE, Mr A Collingwood, Mr C Etholen, Ms K Wood, Mrs C Aston, Mrs M Aston, Mr M Colston, Mrs A Davies, Mr P Lawrence, Mr D Polhill, Mr K Ross MBE DL and Ms R Farwell

### **1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Mrs P Birchley provided Council with a brief overview of her work over the past year, and highlighted the positive work around her focus on supporting mental health charities.

Mrs Birchley thanked Council, the Chief Executive and the Civic and Ceremonial Team for the support received during her year as Chairman.

Mrs Birchley called for nominations for Chairman.

Mrs N Glover was nominated by Mr S Lambert and seconded by Mr D Dhillon.

### **RESOLVED**

**That Mrs N Glover be elected as Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.**

Mrs Glover read and signed the Declaration and Acceptance of Office, and presented Mrs Birchley with a commemorative photo book of her year in office together with a past Chairman's badge.

Mrs Glover thanked Council for her appointment and pledged her commitment to

representing Buckinghamshire over the coming year.

**Mrs Glover in the Chair.**

## **2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman invited nominations for Vice-Chairman. Mr R Reed nominated Mr B Roberts as Vice Chairman and this was seconded by Mr B Chapple.

### **RESOLVED**

That Mr B Roberts be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

Mr Roberts read and signed the Declaration and Acceptance of Office.

Mrs Glover voiced her personal thanks to the outgoing chairman for all her work and highlighted the charities she had chosen to support for the ensuing year, which were the Thames Valley Air Ambulance and SSAFA (Armed Forces charity).

## **3 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2018 were agreed as a correct record subject to the amendment that Mr M Farrow was present at the last meeting; the minutes had him as not present.

## **4 COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman announced two awards to be presented and invited the respective Cabinet Members to present the awards.

### Award to Transport for Bucks

The first award was presented to Transport for Bucks who were successful in meeting the international standards for Asset Management in how our highway assets have been managed efficiently and effectively.

The Chairman invited Mr M Shaw to present the award to Mr S Dando and Mr M Averill.

### Award to Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch and Mr Geoff Pegg

The second award announced by the Chairman was to celebrate the work of Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch Association and recognise the contribution of Mr G Pegg. The award provided national recognition of their work and commitment to training volunteers to help raise awareness of scams and prevent them.

Dr. Stan Jones, Chairman of the High Wycombe and District Neighbourhood Watch Association received the award on behalf of Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch.

## **5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**



There were none.

## **6 REPORT OF THE LEADER - ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS TO CABINET**

Mr Tett congratulated Mrs Glover on her election as Chairman of the Council and thanked Mrs P Birchley, the outgoing Chairman, for all her outstanding work on behalf of Buckinghamshire and the pleasure he has had in working with her. In particular her donations at Halton House and to the charities she has supported.

Mr Tett referred Members to the Annual Report 2017/18. He highlighted the outstanding year the County Council had had in light of the pressures the Council has faced. Mr Tett thanked the Councillors for their achievements over the last 12 months.

**The Leader announced the reappointment of his Cabinet as follows:**

Portfolio	Name
Deputy Leader and Transportation	Mark Shaw
Health and Wellbeing	Lin Hazell
Resources	John Chilver
Communities	Noel Brown
Education	Mike Appleyard
Children's	Warren Whyte
Environment	Bill Chapple OBE

**The Leader also reconfirmed appointments to Deputy Cabinet Member positions:**

Portfolio	Name
Transportation	Paul Irwin
Health and Wellbeing	Wendy Mallen
Resources	Arif Hussein
Communities	Jean Teesdale
Education	Anne Wight
Children's	Gareth Williams
Environment	Clive Harriss

### **RESOLVED**

**Council noted the report of the Leader.**

## **7 SELECT COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

Council considered and agreed the report of the Chief Executive.

### **RESOLVED**

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

## **8 REPORT ON COMMITTEE PROPORTIONALITY, SUBSTITUTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Council considered the report and recommendations

### **RESOLVED**

- 1. Council CONFIRMED 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. Council AGREED 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. Council AGREED 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.**

## **9 REPORT ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES 2017-18**

Mr M Shaw thanked all Members who had participated in the varied roles of outside bodies and referred Members to the report in Appendix 1 to see the names and responsibilities for these.

Mr Shaw confirmed that he would be making appointments to the various positions over the coming months.

Mr B Bendyshe-Brown provided an overview of his work with the Chiltern Conservation Board and the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel and referred Members to the report in their packs for further information.

A Member asked about the extent to which the Conservation Board was consulted on around the work taking place at Wendover Woods. Mr Bendyshe-Brown said he would supply a response after the meeting.

## **10 ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT**

Mr B Bendyshe-Brown presented his annual report to Council and highlighted the following successful and upcoming events:

- Remembrance Day in November 2017
- Armed Forces Day at the Aylesbury Rugby Club in June 2017
- A reception was held on 22 Feb with the business community where local businesses were awarded the Queens Award for Enterprise.
- Upcoming there would be the commemorative events with RAF and the 100

years of cessation of the First World War on 11 November. The programme was being worked up and Mr Bendyshe-Brown would advise Members of details in due course.

Mr Bendyshe-Brown gave his best wishes to Clive Parker who would be leaving this year and thanked him and Joe Bradshaw for their help and support.

#### **11 NOTICES OF MOTION**

There were no Notices of Motion.

#### **12 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS - INFORMATION ONLY**

Information was noted.

#### **13 DECISIONS REPORT - INFORMATION ONLY**

The report was noted.

#### **14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the County Council will take place on 26 July 2018.

**CHAIRMAN**



# County Council



## Treasury Management Annual Report

Thursday 26 July 2018

Report from Cabinet Member for Resources

### Purpose of this Report

1. The Council is required to report to members on the previous year's treasury management activity. It was agreed at County Council that an annual treasury management report, reporting on treasury management activity in the previous financial year and the Prudential Indicators would be reported to the Regulatory and Audit Committee followed by a report to County Council.

### Background

2. In line with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice for Treasury Management and the Council's Financial Regulations (A3.2), the previous year's treasury management activity is reported to the Council.
3. The Code of Practice defines Treasury Management as:  
*The management of the organisation's investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.*
4. CIPFA recently published revised editions of the Treasury Management and Prudential Codes. The required changes from the 2017 Code will be incorporated into Treasury Management Strategies and monitoring reports for 2019/20.
5. The 2017 Prudential Code introduces the requirement for a Capital Strategy which provides a high-level overview of the long-term context of capital expenditure and investment decisions and their associated risks and rewards along with an overview of how risk is managed for future financial sustainability. Where this strategy is produced and approved by full Council, the determination of the Treasury



Management Strategy can be delegated to a committee. The Code also expands on the process and governance issues of capital expenditure and investment decisions.

### Treasury Management Strategy

6. The Council approved the 2017/18 treasury management strategy at its meeting on 16 February 2017. The general policy objective for this Council is the prudent investment of its treasury balances. The Council's investment priorities are the security of capital and liquidity of its investments. The Council will aim to achieve the optimum return on its investments commensurate with the proper levels of security and liquidity. The effective management and control of risk are prime objectives of the Council's treasury management activities. The Council paid a single bullet payment of £180m plus £36m VAT in June 2016 in respect of the Energy from Waste (EfW) Plant. This was financed by a combination of borrowing, earmarked reserves and current cash investments, the Council changed from a net positive cash position to a net borrower:

	31 Mar 2016	31 Mar 2017	31 Mar 2018
	£m	£m	£m
<b>Borrowing:</b>			
PWLB*	-80.4	-68.7	-102.1
LOBO#	-82.0	-82.0	-78.0
Temporary Borrowing	0.0	-72.5	-32.0
Accrued Interest	<u>-1.4</u>	<u>-1.1</u>	<u>-1.1</u>
Gross Borrowing	-163.8	-224.3	-213.2
<b>Treasury Cash:</b>			
Money market funds	94.5	11.8	15.3
Term deposits <1 year	55.0	0.0	0.0
Term deposits >1 year	15.0	5.0	0.0
Property fund	<u>5.0</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>5.0</u>
Gross Cash	169.5	21.8	20.3
<b>Net Cash / (Borrowing)</b>	<u><b>5.7</b></u>	<u><b>-202.5</b></u>	<u><b>-192.9</b></u>

\*PWLB Public Works Loans Board. The PWLB is a statutory body, part of HM Treasury, its purpose is to lend money to local authorities. The Council's main objective when borrowing money is to strike an appropriately low risk balance between securing low interest costs and achieving certainty of those costs over the period for which funds are required.

#LOBO Lender Option Borrower Option. LOBOs are long term borrowing instruments which include an option for the lender to periodically revise the interest rate. If the lender decides to revise the interest rate, the borrower then has the option to pay the revised interest rate or repay the loan.

7. The following table summarises interest paid on external debt and interest earned on cash balances:



	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	£m	£m	£m
Interest paid on Loans	8.9	7.7	7.6
Interest Income	0.8	0.4	0.4

8. All treasury management activity undertaken during the period complied with the approved strategy, the CIPFA Code of Practice and the relevant legislative provisions.

### **Borrowing Strategy**

9. The Council's borrowing objectives are:
- To minimise the revenue costs of debt whilst maintaining a balanced loan portfolio.
  - To manage the Council's debt maturity profile, leaving no one future year with a disproportionate level of repayments.
  - To maintain a view on current and possible future interest rate movements and borrow accordingly.
  - To monitor and review the balance between fixed and variable rate loans against the background of interest rate levels and the Prudential Indicators.
  - The strategy for new borrowing in 2017/18 was to borrow short term since short-term interest rates are currently lower than long term interest rates. Arlingclose, the Council's treasury advised that it is likely to be a more cost effective approach to borrow short-term initially. Paragraphs 15 to 18 provide more detail of the Council's borrowing activities in 2017/18.

### **Investment Performance in 2017/18**

10. Internal monitoring procedures of the Treasury Management function included:
- The Treasury Management Group which includes the Cabinet Member for Resources, the Deputy Cabinet Member for Resources, the Director of Finance and Procurement and other key officers meets periodically to review the Council's investments, agreed lending list and investment / borrowing strategies.
  - Periodic internal and external audit scrutiny, no significant findings were reported;
  - Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) benchmarking to monitor performance compared to other local authorities; and
  - Proactive management – acting on Arlingclose's (the Council's treasury advisor) advice and liaising with other Council's treasury functions regarding best practice and new initiatives.
11. During 2017/18 Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) invested cash balances not required on a day-to-day basis in instant access money market funds. The total of these investments at any one time varied between £5m and £45m at interest rates between 0.2% and 0.44%. The Director of Finance and Procurement approves and monitors the institution lending list in line with a predetermined set of criteria (approved by County Council as part of the Treasury Management Strategy) and

investments were made within the agreed list of lenders and associated lending limits and maturity periods.

12. The average rate of return on investments was 1.0%. The interest earned and credited to the Council's revenue account was £360k. Following payment for the Energy from Waste plant, the Council has maintained minimum cash levels for operational purposes. The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) sets monetary policy to meet the 2% inflation target, and in a way that helps to sustain growth and employment. At its meeting ending on 10 May 2018, the MPC voted by a majority of 7-2 to maintain Bank Rate at 0.5%. All MPC members agree that any future increases in Bank Rate are likely to be at a gradual pace and to a limited extent.
13. The principal of sums invested as at 31 March 2018 totalled £20.3m. These investments were placed with 4 institutions in sums of between £5.0m and £6.0m at interest rates of between 0.44% and 4.5%. Of the 4 institutions, 3 are AAA rated money market funds operated by financial institutions and 1 is a UK property fund.

#### **Prudential Indicators**

14. Each year, the Council agrees Prudential Indicators under the Local Government Act 2003 which are affordable, prudent and sustainable. The actual Prudential Indicators for 2017/18 are shown in Appendix 1.

#### **Borrowing in 2017/18**

15. The Council arranged a combination of PWLB long term loans and short term bank loans to meet its borrowing requirements in 2017/18. Loans outstanding totalled £213.2m at 31 March 2018; £102.1m was from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB), £78.0m Lenders Option Borrowers Option (LOBOs) from the money markets, £32.0m temporary borrowing from other local authorities and £1.1m accrued interest. The provisional outturn for interest on external borrowing is £7.7m. £1.732m was repaid to the PWLB as part of scheduled instalments and £10m upon maturity of a loan. The Council also pre-paid a £4m Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO) loan. The Council borrowed £45.1m from the PWLB during 2017/18. The PWLB Certainty Rate allows the authority to borrow at a reduction of 20bps on the Standard Rate.
16. As reported in November 2017, the Council pre-paid a £4m LOBO loan running at 4.11% and was willing to consider other prepayments options as they arose. The eventual prepayment of the £4m loan totalled £6.1m. At the point of prepayment, net interest savings are expected to be at least £0.3m over five financial years.
17. The Council had been offered attractive prepayment terms from the bank and decided to proceed following consideration of the risk/benefits of maintaining the current position against a range of alternative restructuring scenarios. A further prepayment of 3 loans totalling £48m running at 4.28% was made in April 2018. These loans were replaced by £48m of PWLB loans with an average interest rate of



2.34%. The eventual prepayment of the £48m totalled £74m. Savings over the next 25 years are projected to be £10.4m. Savings will be reduced should interest rates rise faster than expected. Additionally, the Council has both reduced its exposure to the uncertain refinancing risk represented by the inherent optionality of the LOBO structure and reduced the overall term of the debt portfolio. Consequently, the debt portfolio and borrowing need can now be managed more flexibly. The Council continues to be aware of the potential to restructure PWLB debt, but there are unlikely to be opportunities in the prevailing interest rate environment.

18. Following the EfW payment the Council has managed its cashflow requirements through undertaking temporary borrowing. During 2017/18 there were 32 occasions when the Council borrowed temporarily from other local authorities for short term cash flow purposes. The amounts ranged from £1m to £10m at interest rates from 0.25% to 0.9%.

## **Recommendation**

### **Council is asked to:**

- 1. Agree the Treasury Management Annual Report and the actual Prudential Indicators for 2017/18.**

## **CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES**

Appendix 1 – Prudential Indicators for 2017/18





## Appendix 1

### PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS FOR 2017/18

#### 1 Background

**1.1.** The prudential framework for local authority capital investment was introduced through the Local Government Act 2003 and the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and accounting) Regulations 2003. The key objectives of the Prudential Code are to ensure that the capital investment plans of local authorities are affordable, prudent and sustainable. A further objective is to ensure that treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with good professional practice.

**1.2.** Local Authorities are required to have regard to the Prudential Code when carrying out their duties under Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2003. To demonstrate compliance the Code sets prudential indicators designed to support and record local decision making.

**1.3.** The purpose of this report is to report the outturn position for the indicators approved by Council last year for 2017/18. The report describes the purpose of each of the indicators. Monitoring of the Prudential Indicators takes place throughout the year and a mid-year and annual report are reported to Regulatory & Audit Committee and Council.

#### 2 Capital Expenditure Indicators

##### 2.1. Capital Expenditure

This indicator is required to inform the Council of capital spending plans. It is the duty of a local authority to determine and keep under review the amount that it can afford to allocate to capital expenditure.

Gross capital expenditure for 2017/18 is summarised below:

*Table 2.1 Capital Expenditure*

Indicator	Unit	Actual 2017/18	Original Approved 2017/18
Estimates of capital expenditure	£000	108,217	82,680

Capital expenditure for 2017/18 has been updated to reflect the revised budget (inclusive of carry forwards) as reported to Cabinet in January 2018. The original forecast was based on 2017/18 approved budget during the year carry forward from 2016/17 was added and Cabinet approvals for new commercial acquisitions giving an approved budget of £132.14. The actual outturn shows a £23.9m (18.1%) underspend on the revised capital expenditure budget for the year. The main reasons for this are delays in delivering school places (£7.6m), the cancelled project at Orchard House (£5.1m), delay in A355

improvements (£2.2m), a review of the need for a third lift at NCO (£1.7m), High Wycombe town centre strategy (£1.5), (£1m) Waste Transfer Station and a variety of smaller items (£4m).

## 2.2. Capital Financing Requirement

The Capital Financing Requirement measures the Council's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes. This is essentially the Council's outstanding debt, necessary to finance the Council's capital expenditure. The actual debt is dependent on the type and maturity of the borrowing undertaken as well as seeking the optimal cashflow situation (see 6.3 and 6.4). The end of year Capital Financing Requirement for the Council for 2017/18, net of repayments, is:

Table 2.2 Capital Financing Requirement

Indicator	Unit	Actual 2017/18	Original Approved 2017/18
Estimates of capital financing requirement (CFR)	£000	395,587	359,424

The actual capital financing requirement is higher than the original approved due to Cabinet approvals for borrowing to finance in-year commercial acquisitions.

Authorities can finance schemes in a variety of ways these include;

- The application of useable capital receipts
- A direct charge to revenue
- Application of a capital grant
- Contributions received from another party
- Borrowing

It is only the latter method that increases the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) of the Council.

## 3 Affordability Indicators

### 3.1 Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

#### Purpose of the Indicator

This indicator measures the proportion of the revenue budget that is being allocated to finance capital expenditure. For the General Fund this is the ratio of financing costs of borrowing against net expenditure financed by government grant and local taxpayers.

Estimates of the ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream for the current and future years are:

Table 3.1 Ratio of Financing Cost to Net Revenue Stream

Indicator	Unit	Actual 2017/18	Approved 2017/18
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Estimates of ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream	%	4.7%	4.9%
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There are no significant variations to this indicator since it was agreed by Council in February 2017.

### **3.2 Estimates of Incremental Impact of New Capital Investment Decisions on Council Tax**

This is a key affordability indicator that demonstrates the incremental effect of planned capital expenditure and hence any increased or decreased borrowing, on Council Tax.

*Table 3.2. Incremental impact of new Capital investment on Council Tax*

Indicator	Unit	Actual 2017/18	Approved 2017/18
Estimates of the incremental impact of capital investment decisions on Council Tax	£	-£9.27	-£9.25
	%	-0.76%	-0.76%

The forecast impact on Council Tax has only changed very marginally as a consequence of delays in the delivery of the capital programme.

## **4 Financial Prudence Indicator**

### **4.1. Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement ('CFR')**

This indicator records the extent that gross external borrowing is less than the capital financing requirement (2.2 above).

This is a key indicator of the Council's prudence in managing its capital expenditure and is designed to ensure that, over the medium term, external borrowing is only for capital purposes. The Council should ensure that gross debt does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current and next three financial years. The values are measured at the end of the financial year.

Where gross debt is greater than the capital financing requirement the reasons for this should be clearly stated in the annual treasury management strategy.

*Table 4.1 Gross Debt and the CFR*

Indicator	Unit	Actual 2017/18	Approved 2017/18
Gross Borrowing	£000	213,200	340,000

Capital Financing Requirement	£000	<b>395,587</b>	359,424
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The actual external borrowing as at 31 March 2018 was £213.2m which includes £1.1m accrued interest. During 2017/18 £11.7m of PWLB debt was been repaid and £45.1m new borrowing from the PWLB was taken out. The Council pre-paid a £4m LOBO loan and in 2017/18 and made a further prepayment of £48m in April 2018. Temporary borrowing amounts have ranged from £30m to £70m depending on cash flow requirements. The mix of temporary and fixed rate borrowing will continue to be reviewed in line with advice from our Treasury advisors.

## 5 Treasury and External Debt Indicators

### 5.1 Authorised Limit for External Debt

The authorised limit for external debt is required to separately identify external borrowing (gross of investments) and other long term liabilities such as covenant repayments and finance lease obligations. The limit provides a maximum figure that the Council could borrow at any given point during each financial year.

*Table 5.1 Authorised limit for external debt*

Indicator	Unit	Actual 2017/18	Approved 2017/18
Authorised limit (for borrowing) *	£000	<b>350,000</b>	350,000
Authorised limit (for other long term liabilities) *	£000	<b>9,000</b>	9,000
Authorised limit (for total external debt) *	£000	<b>359,000</b>	359,000

\* These limits can only be changed with the approval of the full Council

The authorised limits are consistent with approved capital investment plans and the Council's Treasury Management Policy and Practice documents, but allow sufficient headroom for unanticipated cash movements. The limit will be reviewed on an on-going basis during the year. If the authorised limit is liable to be breached at any time, the Director of Finance and Procurement will either take measures to ensure the limit is not breached, or seek approval from the Council to raise the authorised limit.

## 5.2 Operational Boundary for External Debt

This is a key management tool for in-year monitoring and is lower than the Authorised Limit as it is based on an estimate of the most likely level of external borrowing at any point in the year. In comparison, the authorised limit is the maximum allowable level of borrowing.

*Table 5.2 Operational Boundary for External Debt*

Indicator	Unit	Actual 2017/18	Approved 2017/18
Operational boundary (for borrowing)	£000	<b>320,000</b>	320,000
Operational boundary (for other long term liabilities)	£000	<b>7,500</b>	7,500
Operational boundary (for total external debt)	£000	<b>327,500</b>	327,500

This indicator is consistent with the Council's plans for capital expenditure and financing and with its Treasury Management Policy and Practice document. It will be reviewed on an on-going basis, the operational boundary allows the Council to borrow up to invest in new assets which will generate an income stream in excess of any borrowing costs.

## 5.3 Actual External Debt

This is a factual indicator showing actual external debt for the previous financial year.

The actual external borrowing as at 31 March 2018 was £213.2m which includes £102.1m from the PWLB, £78.0m Lenders Option Borrowers Option (LOBO) loans, £32.0m temporary borrowing from other local authorities and £1.1m accrued interest. During 2017/18 £11.7m of PWLB debt was repaid. £45.1m new borrowing from the PWLB has been taken out. The Council pre-paid a £4m LOBO loan in 2017/18 and made a further prepayment of £48m in April 2018. Temporary borrowing amounts have ranged from £30m to £70m depending on cash flow requirements. The mix of temporary and fixed rate borrowing will continue to be reviewed in line with advice from our Treasury advisors.

## 6 Treasury Management Indicators

The prudential code links with the existing CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services.

The Treasury Management indicators consist of five elements that are intended to demonstrate good professional practice is being followed with regard to Treasury Management. The proposed values and parameters provide sufficient flexibility in undertaking operational Treasury Management.

## 6.1 Security Average Credit Rating

The Council is asked to adopt a voluntary measure of its exposure to credit risk by monitoring the weighted average rating of its investment portfolio.

Table 6.1 Security Average Credit Rating

Security Average Credit Rating	Actual 2017/18	Approved 2017/18
Portfolio Average Credit Rating	AA-	A+ or above

For the purpose of this indicator, local authorities which are unrated are assumed to hold an AA rating.

## 6.2 Has the Council adopted the CIPFA Treasury Management Code?

The Council has adopted the Code. In line with the Code the Treasury Strategy is reported to Regulatory and Audit Committee and Council.

Table 6.2 The CIPFA Treasury Management Code

Indicator	Unit	Actual 2017/18	Approved 2017/18
Adoption of the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services	N/A	Yes	Yes

## 6.3 Upper Limit of Fixed Rate Borrowing

This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to interest rate risk and the rate is set for the whole financial year. The upper limits on fixed interest rate exposures expressed as an amount will be:

Table 6.3 Upper Limit of Fixed Rate Borrowing

Indicator	Unit	Limit 2017/18	Approved Limit 2017/18
Fixed interest rate exposure - upper limit *	£000	285,000	350,000

\* Any breach of these limits will be reported to the full Council

## 6.4 Upper Limit of Variable Rate Borrowing

This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to interest rate risk. Here instruments that mature during the year are classed as variable, this includes the Council's Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO) loans. For LOBO loans, on specified call dates, the lender has the option to increase the interest rate paid on the loan. If the lender exercises this option, then the borrower can agree to pay the revised interest rate or repay the loan



immediately. The upper limits on variable interest rate exposures expressed as an amount will be:

*Table 6.4 Upper Limit of Variable Rate Borrowing*

Indicator	Unit	Limit 2017/18	Approved Limit 2017/18
Variable interest rate exposure - upper limit *	£000	225,000	225,000

\* Any breach of these limits will be reported to the full Council

Arlingclose, the Council's treasury advisor, advised that with short-term interest rates much lower than long-term rates, it was likely to be more cost effective in the short-term to borrow short-term loans instead of long-term loans. Instruments that mature during the year are classed as variable.

## **6.5 Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing**

This Indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to refinancing risk. The upper and lower limits on the maturity structure of the fixed borrowing will be:

*Table 6.5.1 Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing*

Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing	Limit 2017/18		Approved Limit 2017/18	
	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Under 12 months	80%	0%	80%	0%
12 months and within 24 months	50%	0%	50%	0%
24 months and within 5 years	55%	0%	55%	0%
5 years and within 10 years	80%	0%	80%	0%
10 years and above	100%	20%	100%	20%

These parameters control the extent to which the Council will have large concentrations of fixed rate debt needing to be replaced at times of uncertainty over interest rates. The maturity date of borrowing is the earliest date on which the lender can demand repayment.

## **6.6 Total Principal Sums Invested for Periods Longer than 364 Days**

The purpose of this indicator is to control the council's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of its investments.

*Table 6.6 Total Principal Sums Invested for Periods Longer than 364 Days*

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Actual 31 March 2018</b>	<b>Approved Limit 2017/18</b>
Total principal sums invested for periods longer than 364 days	£m	<b>£0m</b>	£10m

Cash balances are anticipated to continue to be low due to financing the EfW project.

## **7 Conclusion**

In approving, and subsequently monitoring, the above prudential indicators the Council is fulfilling its duty to ensure that spending plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable.



## COUNTY COUNCIL

### **Annual Pay Policy Statement: 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019**

#### **Report from Martin Tett, Chairman of Senior Appointments and Bucks Pay Award Committee**

#### **Purpose**

This Pay Policy Statement is provided in accordance with Section 38(1) of the Localism Act 2011 and will be updated annually.

This pay policy statement sets out Buckinghamshire County Council's policies relating to the pay of its corporate service workforce for the year 2018-19, in particular:

- a) The remuneration of its Chief Officers
- b) The remuneration of its "lowest paid employees" (not Schools employees)

#### **Recommendation**

**Council is asked to AGREE the Council's Annual Pay Policy Statement 2018/19, as recommended by the Senior Appointments and Bucks Pay Award Committee.**

#### **Definitions**

For the purpose of this pay policy statement the following definitions will apply:  
"Pay" in addition to salary includes charges, fees, allowances, benefits in kind, increases in or enhancements to pension entitlements and termination payments.

"Chief Officer" refers to the following roles within Buckinghamshire County Council:

**Table 1- Chief Officers**

<b>Definition under the Localism Act 2011</b>	<b>Post Held at Buckinghamshire County Council</b>
The Head of Paid Service	Chief Executive
The Monitoring Officer	Executive Director (Resources) and Monitoring Officer
Statutory Chief Officers	Director of Finance & Assets Executive Director (Children's Services) Executive Director (Communities Health & Adult Social Care) Director of Public Health
Non-Statutory Officers	Executive Director (Resources) Executive Director (Transport, Economy & Environment)

“Lowest paid employees” refers to those staff employed within grade Range 1A of the Council’s pay framework. The framework excludes staff governed by National consultation groups. The above definition for the “lowest paid employees” has been adopted because Range 1A is the lowest grade on the Council’s pay framework. The Council employs Apprentices paid on separate, national pay rates.

The pay multiple between the highest paid employee, the Chief Executive at £200,000 and the median salary of the rest of the workforce at £28,159, is 7:1.

“Employee who is not a Chief Officer” refers to all staff not covered under the “Chief Officer” group above. This includes the “lowest paid employees” i.e. staff on Range 1A and excludes staff governed by National consultation groups.

### **Remuneration levels**

Full County Council has delegated responsibility to the Senior Appointment and Bucks Pay Award Committee for the approval of remuneration packages in excess of £100,000 (to include salary, bonus, fees allowances and benefits in kind) offered in respect of a new appointment; and for severance payments in excess of £100,000.

The general approach is that remuneration at all levels needs to be adequate to secure and retain high-quality employees dedicated to fulfilling the council’s business objectives and delivering services to the public. This has to be balanced by ensuring remuneration is not, nor is seen to be, unnecessarily excessive. Each council has responsibility for balancing these factors and each council faces its own unique challenges and opportunities in doing so and each council retains flexibility to cope with various circumstances that may arise to necessitate the use of market supplements or other such mechanisms for individual categories of posts where appropriate.

It is essential for good governance that decisions on pay and reward packages for Chief Executives and Chief Officers are made in an open and accountable way and that there is a verified and accountable process for recommending the levels of top salaries. With the exception of any groups where pay is governed by National consultation groups, pay for the “lowest paid employees” and “all other employees’ including Chief Officers”, after consultation with Trade Unions and employees, is determined by the Senior Appointments and Bucks Pay Award Committee (SABPAC). SABPAC comprises elected Councillors from the main political parties and has responsibility for local terms and conditions of employment for staff within the council’s pay framework.

The lowest paid full-time equivalent employee in the period 2018/19 will be paid £15,107 per annum full time equivalent (FTE). The definition of lowest paid employee is a fully competent employee undertaking a defined role paid on Salary Range 1A, and excludes apprentices who are undertaking approved training. The highest paid employee is the Chief Executive who will be paid in the period 2018/19 a salary of £200,000.

### **Pay Framework**

The council's corporate service pay framework is determined locally and is called Bucks Pay. Grades are determined by recognising what people do – their jobs and responsibilities – and paying them accordingly using HAY job evaluation. Job evaluation is a consistent process used for determining the relative worth of jobs. Whilst the process is not a science, it is based on the systematic analysis of the different factors found within all jobs. This followed a national requirement for all Local Authorities and other public sector employers to review their pay and grading frameworks to ensure fair and consistent practice for different groups of workers with the same employer.

Corporate service employees are paid on Buckinghamshire County Council's Contribution Based Pay (CBP) scales hereafter called 'Bucks Pay-CBP'. CBP does not apply to those on national pay and conditions.

Chief Officers and other Senior Managers, who are service directors and assistant service directors, are paid on either the Bucks Pay Senior Manager-CBP scale or Executive Contract grade.

CBP is a progressive approach to reward and talent management that links an individual's contribution to their pay and is not purely based on 'time served'. CBP does not have automatic incremental pay rises and is linked to the council's performance management framework called 'Delivering Successful Performance (DSP)', which assesses 'what' has been achieved and 'how' it was achieved, giving an overall annual rating which is then linked to pay.

CBP has 12 ranges for employees who are not Chief Officers and 5 ranges for Chief Officers and Senior Managers.

The council operates an Executive Contract grade which applies to new appointments; Chief Executive, Executive Directors and some Service Director Posts. The size of the job is determined by Job Evaluation (Hay). However the individual salary offered to an appointee is decided by SABPAC dependant on salary benchmarking, market influences and the individual skills and experience of candidates. Executive contracts may be appointed at a salary between £90,000 and £250,000.

CBP pay scales for all corporate service employees', Chief Officers, and Senior Managers are shown in the tables below.

The pay year commences on 1 July each year and pay awards for employees within Bucks Pay - CBP consist of a pay range uplift percentage increase, reviewed annually and, if applicable, a consolidated and/or a non-consolidated performance award. The amount of this is dependent upon individuals' performance and where they are graded. The exact amount of the pay range uplift given to each employee is dependent upon an individual's position within a pay range and their annual DSP rating. There are three levels in each pay range, entry point, competent point, and advanced point and employees' salary may be at any place between entry and advanced point in a range.

Pay awards will be considered annually after consultation with the Trades Unions and employees. Any pay award is determined by SABPAC who consider inflation and any significant considerations from elsewhere in the public sector. SABPAC will undertake a pay review each year for the Bucks Pay-CBP pay scale and Executive bands separately and may make a different pay award for each.

For the year 2018/19 Bucks Pay-CBP ranges – see table 2, and Senior Manager-CBP ranges - see table 3, received a 2% pay range uplift. As previously mentioned in para 4.7, the exact amount of the pay range uplift given to each employee is dependent upon their position within a pay range and their annual DSP rating.

The performance percentage awarded to employees on Bucks Pay-CBP, and Senior Manager-CBP who achieve an exceeding DSP rating, is 75% of the difference between the competent point and the advanced point of each grade. Those achieving an outstanding DSP rating received 150% of the difference.

**Table 2 – Bucks Pay-CBP pay scale 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019**

<b>Range</b>	<b>Entry Point</b>	<b>Competent Point</b>	<b>Advance Point</b>
<b>R1B CBP</b>	17,188	18,134	19,077
<b>R2 CBP</b>	20,121	21,228	22,334
<b>R3 CBP</b>	22,131	23,348	24,565
<b>R4 CBP</b>	24,133	25,460	26,787
<b>R5 CBP</b>	26,691	28,159	29,626
<b>R6 CBP</b>	30,062	31,717	33,368
<b>R7 CBP</b>	34,322	36,210	38,097
<b>R8 CBP</b>	39,232	41,390	43,547
<b>R9 CBP</b>	44,935	47,407	49,878
<b>R10 CBP</b>	51,720	54,565	57,409
<b>R11 CBP</b>	58,517	61,736	64,954
<b>R12 CBP</b>	64,829	68,395	71,960

**Table 3 - Senior Manager-CBP pay scale 1 July 2018 – 30 June 2019**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Entry</b>	<b>Competent</b>	<b>Advanced</b>
SM1 CBP	73,280	77,311	81,341
SM2 CBP	81,504	85,988	90,469
SM3A CBP	89,797	94,737	99,674
SM3B CBP	99,991	105,489	110,987
SM5 CBP	143,033	150,899	158,765

### **Charges, fees or allowances**

Any allowance or other payments will only be made to staff in connection with their role or the patterns of hours they work and must be in accordance with



the Council's policy. No specific fees or allowances are made to senior managers or Chief Officers. The Council offers childcare vouchers, annual leave purchase and bicycle purchase through salary sacrifice schemes to all employees. The Council has negotiated various discounts with local suppliers, including gym memberships and local restaurants, which are available to all employees through the schools website and intranet. The Council reimburses mileage and travel expenses, and subsistence and other expenses such as overnight stay and meals when working out of Buckinghamshire.

The Council does not award additional fees to Chief Officers for any local election duties they may undertake.

Market Premiums, Recruitment and/or Retention allowances may be paid to certain 'Hard to Fill' posts, e.g. Children's Social Workers, in accordance with the Council schemes.

### **Severance Payments**

In the event that a Chief Officer ceases to hold office and is eligible for a severance or redundancy payment, such payment is determined in accordance with the Council's redundancy policy and procedure that applies to all employees. In exceptional circumstances and in the best interest of the Council a termination payment may be made to an employee. Any such payment requires signed approval by the appropriate Executive Director, the Director of Finance & Assets (Section 151 officer) the Monitoring Officer, and may be referred to the Cabinet Member for Resources or in cases where the payment exceeds £100,000 it must go to SABPAC for approval.

If the Council employs a Chief Officer already in receipt of a Local Government Pension Scheme pension, the Council will apply the normal pension abatement rules that apply to all employees.

If the Council re-employs any employee, including Chief Officers and senior managers, in receipt of a severance or redundancy payment from the Council within five weeks of termination of prior employment, re-employment is subject to repayment of the severance or redundancy payment. Anyone returning to

the Council or any other public sector body within 12 months will be subject to the 'Public Sector Exit Payment Regulations' when they come into effect

### **Transparency**

In accordance with Chapter 8 of the Localism Act 2011, the Council will prepare a Pay Policy Statement each year in accordance with the Localism Act and related guidance under section 40 provided by the Secretary of State. The annual Pay Policy Statement may be amended from time to time. The Pay Policy Statements and amendments will be approved by Full Council.

The Council's annual Pay Policy Statement and any amendments will be published on its website along with details of remuneration of the Council's Chief Officers: <http://www.bucksc.gov.uk/about-your-council/council-structure/senior-management/>

Publication of the Pay Policy Statement, any amendments and details of remuneration will be in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011.

**MARTIN TETT**

**CHAIRMAN**

**SENIOR APPOINTMENTS AND BUCKS PAY AWARD COMMITTEE**



# County Council

## Cabinet Member Reports

### 7A REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

#### Remembering those who served

This month I joined the Chairman in raising the flag for Armed Forces Day. At the same time, we unveiled a plaque to those staff of Buckinghamshire County Council who served and died in The Great War 1914-1918. Subsequently I accompanied the Chairman and other members to Ypres in Belgium to lay a wreath at the cemetery of Lance Corporal Arthur Ormerod who worked in our Weights and Measures Department and who was killed in the war. Arthur Ormerod was chosen to represent all those staff who died and to whom we owe so much.

#### Local Government Reorganisation

We would like to thank all residents and organisations for making their views known to the Secretary of State during the period of representations following his minded-to decision to replace all five existing councils with a new unitary council for the whole of Buckinghamshire.

All councils across Buckinghamshire agree that the current configuration of local government in Buckinghamshire is no longer fit for purpose or affordable, and that change is essential.

County Council policy is that one new unitary authority is the best option for Buckinghamshire, simplifying the current local government structure, saving many millions of pounds to invest in frontline services and enabling services to be provided for residents at a truly joined up and local level.

We await the Secretary of State's final decision following his period of reflections and we remain committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all local residents, developing a prosperous and sustainable future for Buckinghamshire.

#### England's Economic Heartland Strategic Alliance

I previously reported that I was writing to the Secretary of State for Transport setting out the partners' concerns regarding the approach to engagement on the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway. The Secretary of State responded by restating his desire to strengthen the working relationship with Buckinghamshire County Council and the Strategic Alliance, and re-emphasising the critical role that the 'connectivity study' has to play in identifying how communities not 'on' the expressway can still benefit from it. I understand that the Secretary of State remains committed to making an announcement on the preferred corridor for the expressway before the summer recess.

In May the Strategic Alliance received confirmation of an increase in the level of funding from the Department for Transport - £1m for 2018/19. Combined with the contributions that individual partners make, this means that the Strategic Alliance is able to take forward an expanded programme of work. This includes work to put in place the regional evidence base that will shape the development of the overarching Transport

Strategy. The additional funding has enabled the EEH Business Unit to recruit a small number of additional staff essential for delivering the work programme.

The June Strategic Transport Forum considered a request from DfT to put forward candidates for 'early entry' into the Major Road Network programme. This new programme will begin in 2020/21 and offers the opportunity for local authorities to secure additional monies to invest in new roads. The Forum agreed to put forward a proposal to dual the proposed Aylesbury Eastern Link Road. This will now be considered by the DfT.

The Strategic Alliance has now received the report commissioned from Bircham Dyson Bell into how the regulatory frameworks for utilities can act as a barrier to the delivery of wider strategic infrastructure. Their report will be published by the Strategic Alliance in July and will be used by the partners to push Government to use the regulatory frameworks to make it easier for much needed investment in wider infrastructure to come forward in a co-ordinated way.

At the same time the Strategic Alliance is promoting the concept of a National Policy Statement for the Heartland. This would reinforce the national importance of the Heartland and help ensure that national support continues beyond individual electoral cycles.

Also in June Hertfordshire officially joined as partners in the Strategic Alliance, giving further credibility to our partnership as being the forum providing leadership on strategic infrastructure issues.

## **HS2 Update**

Civic Event with HS2 Ltd - A 'round table' meeting was hosted by the Chairman of the Council on the evening of 6 June in Judges Lodgings with the Chief Executive of HS2 Ltd, some of his top team, senior contractors and the Chief Executive, Leader and Cabinet Members of the Council and representatives of the business community in the county.

The purpose of the evening was to establish a constructive, strategic relationship between Bucks and the senior HS2 team, for HS2 to understand the needs of the Bucks business community over the considerable project construction period and to explore opportunities to maximise benefits and minimise impacts. It was a constructive meeting and Councillors very much wanted to see benefits for local young people in terms of possible HS2 apprenticeships and educational opportunities as well as environmental legacies from the project.

Community and Environment Fund (CEF) and the Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF) - Steeple Claydon Methodist Church has been awarded £12,000 from the HS2 CEF for refurbishments. Richings Park Sports Club Ltd has been awarded £39,960 towards a children's play area. £74,000 has been awarded to Wendover Swimming Pool towards refurbishment. £450,000 has been awarded to Wendover Woods to develop recreation. Groundwork, who administers the funds, has published their report on the first year of the HS2 community grants scheme. You can read it [here](#).

High Speed 2 new website - HS2 Ltd has now been given permission by the government to develop its own branded website, separate to the .Gov website, which can be difficult to navigate. The new website is now live: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/>. HS2 Ltd has also developed Commonplace type pages for Buckinghamshire/Oxfordshire with local information and notices. They have also developed some Community

Engagement Plans. Where available, you can find them here: <https://hs2inbucksandoxfordshire.commonplace.is/>

### **Health and Wellbeing Board update (May meeting)**

At the May meeting, the Board considered a detailed analysis report on the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy priority 3, [Promote good health and wellbeing for everyone from the Health and Wellbeing Board Dashboard](#).

The Board discussion centred on the indicators for school pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs and school exclusion rates as well as a focus on adults in contact with secondary mental health services that live in stable and appropriate accommodation. The board welcomed updates from partners on work targeting the indicators and also recognised how the issue of housing is critical to mental health. The board requested a more detailed look at the links between mental health and physical health as a future agenda item. The board will look at the remaining priority areas of the [dashboard](#) at the September meeting as well as a deep dive on NHS Health Checks.

The Board welcomed a [presentation](#) to review the progress of the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Sustainability and Transformation Partnership, as well as a focus on the work being carried out locally as part of the Integrated Care System and the aligned adult social care transformation programme, Better Lives. The Board requested more detail on how the public can understand any potential changes and how they are and can continue to help shape future health and care services in Buckinghamshire at the next meeting.

The Board also agreed its [governance arrangements and draft Terms of Reference for 2018/19](#). The Board confirmed that it would review the Terms of Reference annually given the current complexity of the health and care landscape and to ensure the board continued to meet its duty as the system wide forum with democratic accountability for the health and wellbeing of residents in the county.

### **Brexit**

The Council continues to work closely with BBF and BTVLEP to ensure that Brexit analysis informs the development of local strategies and work streams. The Council continues to work with partners across England's Economic Heartland to develop a coordinated approach and vision for our region post-Brexit, and responding to national consultations and calls for evidence on the potential impact of Brexit and the direction government should take on key issues affecting local government.

**MARTIN TETT  
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

## **7B DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORTATION**

### **Freight Strategy**

I am pleased to announce that Buckinghamshire County Council adopted its Freight Strategy (2018-2036) on 22 June 2018. The Strategy builds the long term policy framework that sets out the Council's position on freight. It achieves this by setting out a range of strategic policies and solutions that will play a part in improving the movement of goods in Buckinghamshire - ensuring the needs of the environment and economy are balanced.

The Freight Strategy (a non-statutory document) was subject to two consultations in its development, receiving over 1650 responses in total. The feedback gave us valuable insight into the views of key stakeholders such as communities, business, and the freight industry and was used to inform the final version of the Freight Strategy. A Freight Strategy Consultation Report has been produced and published on Buckinghamshire's dedicated Freight Webpage, along with the Strategy.

Engagement with elected Members was a key theme throughout the Strategy's development and this approach continued throughout the internal decision making process. This included having the Strategy presented at Transport, Environment and Communities Select Committee on 29 May and giving all Members further opportunity to give final comment on the Strategy before a key decision was taken. We hope the engagement around the development of the Strategy has been well-received.

Whilst the work on the document is now complete, we are moving into its implementation phase. Revenue and capital funding necessary for the delivery of the Strategy has been secured through the Medium Term Financial Plan. Putting the Strategy into action will include the appointment of a dedicated Freight Officer who will be responsible for rolling out a programme of freight focus groups throughout the county. The officer responsible has also been tasked with the implementation of a 'Freight Action Plan' that will involve projects to work with the industry and communities who feel unduly affected by inappropriate HGV movements. The purpose of this work is to quantify the need for targeted intervention locally, supported by cost-benefit analysis.

### **East West Rail**

A Transport and Works Act Order for the Western Section Phase Two (from Bicester to Bedford, and Milton Keynes to Aylesbury), will be submitted at the end of July, seeking powers to build the scheme. There is a six week period for statutory and other comments to be submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT).

A public inquiry is likely to be held early in 2019, with construction work due to commence later in 2019.

A number of enabling works (such as environmental mitigation ponds, set up of construction compounds, clearance of existing track and related activities) will be delivered ahead of the main works commencing.

The Consortium continues to work with the Alliance to ensure that the impact of construction on local communities is minimised wherever possible.

The East West Railway Company is currently considering preferred routes for the Central Section: they will consult on route options in late 2018/early 2019, with a view to confirming a preferred route in spring 2019.

The Consortium has prepared a draft prospectus which is intended to promote the Consortium's objectives for delivering enhancements to the existing rail links between Cambridge, Ipswich, Norwich and beyond (the Eastern Section). A working group formed from the local authorities in East Anglia has been established and has been tasked with taking forward the plans outlined in the prospectus. The ambition is to enable delivery of some early improvements to the existing infrastructure in order to provide faster journey times and thereby better connectivity between the main stations within the eastern section.

I was voted in as Chairman of the EWR Consortium at the first meeting of the Consortium Strategic Board on 14 June and will represent Consortium interests at the Programme Board, together with the Vice-chair, Councillor Sue Clark from Central Bedfordshire Council.

### **Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB)**

The main operational achievements and challenges of the TfB business in the Quarter April to early July 2018 are listed below in sections 2 to 4. The main managerial achievements in the same period are summarised in Section 1 as follows:

- The Stakeholder Conference in early July attended by over 130 Parishes and Members was the largest held to date. Representatives from Essex and Kent County Council were also in attendance to learn and take back best practice notes to their own organisations. Feedback was positive and engagement impressive.
- A suggestion has been made by a member of the LEP team to conduct a similar conference, but focused on local businesses. This is being considered with BCC.
- Health and Safety – Figures remain very positive and culture good. Incidents are robustly investigated and addressed.
- Members Working Group continues to paying dividends although a refresh is now needed. Bus tour of north of County on 07 June was considered by all to be a positive, informative and educational day.
- The Members Portal has matured and the Parish Portal is about to go live.
- Fix-my-street is now integrated into Customer processes despite some teething problems. Information available through this portal will increase throughout the year.
- The HMEP Review and Future Highways Research Club (FHRC) value for money toolkit have been completed, the results from which have been dovetailed into the service continuous improvement plan. Consideration is being given for the FHRC to present to the Ringway Jacobs board.

### **Capital Programme**

#### **2018/19 Carriageway & Footway Surfacing Programme Overview**

Following on from the successful completion of the 2107/18 programme of works, a further £18.65m is being invested in carriageway surfacing treatments, £2.78m on Plane & Patch and finally £1.5m on footways.

Work on the four main headline treatments (surface dressing, micro-surfacing, conventional resurfacing and plane and patch) has already commenced with resurfacing work on Stoke Hammond Bypass and footway structural repairs commencing in August and September respectively.

With actual spend across all programmes up to the end of June 2018 exceeding £5m, the following summarises the year to date position against each of the individual programmes of work:

- **Conventional Resurfacing** – TfB has made an excellent start with this year's programme of works, with eight schemes already completed out of a total of 22. To allow resurfacing work along Stoke Hammond Bypass to commence in the summer, progress on this programme of works will be reduced to maximise the use of available resources. Full completion of this programme of works is expected by the end of November.
- **Stoke Hammond Bypass** - £4.5m will be invested in resurfacing the bypass during the summer. Resurfacing work is planned to commence in August and is expected to be completed at the beginning of October. Carriageway closures will be in operation throughout this period.
- **Surface Dressing** – Over 75% of preparatory patching work has already been completed on the 33 schemes to be delivered as part of this year's programme of works. The headline treatment will be completed in August with the reinstatement of road markings and road studs following closely behind in September.
- **Micro-surfacing** – This year's programme contains work on 54 schemes covering over 90 individual streets across the county. Preparatory patching works have commenced, with the headline treatment programmed for completion by the end of September. Work to reinstate road markings and adjust ironwork will continue into November.
- **Plane and Patch/DfT Pothole Fund** – See operations section.
- **Joint Sealing** – In addition to the £200,000 invested during 2017/18, a further £230,000 has been allocated to this treatment during 2018/19. Phase 1 has already been completed, with 9 roads treated.
- **Footway Structural Repairs** – £1.5m will be invested in footway surfacing during 2018/19. 18 countywide priority schemes have been chosen for delivery, with a further 16 schemes with work in September. Work is expected to commence in September.
- **Preparation for 2019/20 Programme** – Feedback from the annual Member engagement meetings back in January and February has been used in preparing an indicative four year programme of both "local" and "strategic" schemes. This indicative programme will be reviewed at the next round of Member engagement meetings being planned for this October to continue the County's rolling four year carriageway surfacing programme.

#### 2018/19 Capital Delivery Programme – Other Budget Headings

Elsewhere actual spend up to the end of June 2018 exceeded £700,000, following further countywide capital investment associated with street lighting, safety fencing, drainage, network safety, parking, bridges and traffic signals. The following summarises the year to date position against each of the individual programmes of work:

- **Street Lighting** – In excess of £2.5m will be invested in this asset during the course of 2018/19, with over 420 structurally defective columns and over 40 illuminated signs and feeder pillars to be replaced. As part of a countywide Salix funded 'Investment to Save' initiative to reduce future energy consumption and reduce maintenance costs, over 3,200 street lights will be replaced with LED lanterns. Work on all phases of work to commences in July/August.
- **Safety Fencing** – £250,000 to be invested on a total of three countywide schemes, with one of these schemes already completed.



- **Drainage** – Investment in drainage schemes has now been increased to £1m, which will allow us to complete over 30 schemes across the county. Excellent progress has been made since April, with 12 schemes already completed.
- **Network Safety** – Over £300,000 will be invested across 11 countywide network safety schemes, with over 70% of these schemes planned for completion during 2018. A further £879,000 from the DfT Safer Roads allocation will enable a number of safety schemes to be carried out along the A40 between West Wycombe and Stokenchurch, with the majority implemented before the end of this year.
- **Parking** – Successful completion of pay and display schemes in Aylesbury, Amersham and High Wycombe.
- **Bridges** – Throughout 2018/19, in excess of £1m will be invested in improvements to various structures across the county including Marlow Suspension Bridge, Marlow Obelisk, subways, a footbridge in Buckingham and a scheduled monument in Thornborough.
- **Traffic Signals** - £434,000 has been allocated for the upgrade of four traffic signal sites across the county and a further £130,000 for the renewal of rising bollards in Aylesbury and High Wycombe. All schemes currently planned for completion during 2018.

Schemes identified for delivery during 2018/19 are now available to view on the Members' Portal.

## **Network Management**

### **Road Safety**

#### **Casualty reduction schemes**

The Network Safety Team implements an annual programme of road safety engineering schemes in order to reduce the number of people injured on Buckinghamshire roads. These locations are identified through collision analysis and investigation to prioritise sites that have the highest incidence of reported injury collisions, both in number and severity. As a result of this analysis, we have identified eight sites to be prioritised within this year's (2018/19) safety scheme budget. These sites will be subject to detailed design and costing before a final programme is known. A scheme from last year's programme has recently been completed in Bourne End.

#### **A4094 Ferry Lane/Hedsor Road, Bourne End**

Collision data revealed collisions occurring due to drivers failing to give way on Hedsor Road when approaching Ferry Lane. In order to highlight the priority at the junction and raise awareness of the bend on the A4094, red surfacing was laid under central hatching and under new SLOW markings on the A4094. The Hedsor Road approach was resurfaced with a buff coloured high friction material to highlight the junction and provide a better surface on which to brake. Yellow backed Give way signing was installed at the junction and an advanced give way warning sign.

#### **Casualty Data**

Provisional collision/casualty data shows that 2017 (Jan to Dec) has seen a 17% reduction in the number of people injured on Buckinghamshire roads. Data for the first quarter of 2018 (Jan to March) appears to indicate this trend continuing with an 11% reduction in all casualties compared to the same period in 2017, eight fewer killed or seriously injured (KSI) casualties and 20 fewer slight casualties than Jan-March 2017.

Road deaths in the first six months of 2018 have also reduced in comparison with the first six months of 2017 (12 in 2017 and 7 in 2018). We are able to report on six months

of fatal collisions as we receive these reports from Thames Valley Police within 48 hours and carry out a site visit with a TVP officer. A notification message is sent upon receipt of the details from TVP to the Cabinet Member and Deputy, together with the Member for the ward in which the collision has occurred.

#### Road Safety Education, Training and Publicity:

- Approved Driving Instructor Training course delivered (May & June) to raise the standard of tuition across the county in a bid to reduce the number of young driver KSIs.
- Virtual Reality goggles used at Aylesbury College safety event for young drivers in partnership with TVP and Bucks Fire & Rescue. Also used as part of road safety workshop for staff at the TfB Team Together Day at Amersham, and with TfB graduates.
- Healthy Driver speed reduction campaign promoted at Stakeholder conference on 4 July. Posters and resources developed for Parishes to use to help address community concerns with speeding.
- TiSPOL speed reduction campaign supported with exhibition stand at Buckingham in partnership with TVP and Bucks Fire & Rescue. Healthy driver promoted.
- Five Be a Better Biker motorcycle assessment days running throughout the summer. Delivered by Thames Vale Advanced Motorcyclist at Marlow fire station. Classroom and practical element aiming to improve rider skills and reduce the number of biker KSIs.
- Summer drink drive. Event held at Amersham supermarket (4 June) with TVP and Bucks Fire & Rescue promoting morning after campaign. Roadside checks carried out 29 June. 70 drivers stopped for speeding/mobile phones/seatbelts and all breathalysed – all passed.

#### Critical Junction Project

The Intelligent Transport Systems team is currently implementing a key project combining strategic review, development and resilience of key junctions. This includes reviewing the operation of all key junctions, amending signal timing plans and replacing equipment as required. It involves teams from across TEE as well as TfB. Whilst most key junctions have already had their timing plans reviewed, the first being fully reviewed is Junction 3 of the M40, with the A355 as this is a high speed junction, with considerable potential safety implications in the event of failure.

#### Street Works

The current very high levels of work taking place on the network by both TfB and utility companies mean the team is being kept very busy trying to co-ordinate and manage works. High demand for water in particular is seeing a large number of leaks and emergency works.

A recent review of the Buckinghamshire Permit Scheme has been undertaken and has concluded that the scheme has been implemented well, with potential for further development. The report itself is currently being reviewed internally and is likely to be published later in the summer, together with any agreed recommendations for next steps.

#### Parking

A revised policy and implementation plan for parking the “Parking Delivery Plan” has been considered and adopted by Cabinet. This will now form the framework for delivering a number of practical steps to help with the implementation of future parking schemes.

### **Network Operations**

Although winter is a distant memory, the effects on the network have only recently started to subside.

Urgent defects (Category 1) usually run at around 220 per month. They have run at five times this amount up until June 2018. This has placed considerable pressure on resource and budget, and on related services such as claims for damages.

This position has necessitated a continuation of temporary techniques for repairs:

- Where possible and where resources are available, we are continuing to undertake permanent repairs through the excavation of deteriorated areas and the laying of hot, compacted material to ensure a durable and long lasting solution.
- To supplement this and to ensure the increased numbers of required repairs can be addressed, we are also using proprietary cold lay materials, designed specifically to address such problems. These repairs, although not giving the same visual appearance as a fully excavated and sawn repair, are still designed to give the same durability.
- We have accelerated use of jet-patching (a system of defect repair using material injected into the carriageway at high velocity, forming a semi-permanent repair) to assist in arresting the deterioration of defects into more severe potholes.
- Using the principles outlined in our Highway Inspection Policy we are also focussing our efforts where numbers dictate on repairing priority defects on busy main roads rather than cul-de-sacs. This will ensure that the passage of traffic is as safe as we can make it.

As a result, we have been able to maintain a very high completion rate over this testing period. Defects in June have now returned to normal levels. See also Plane and Patch commentary in Section 2.

Other maintenance activities:

**Plane and Patch/DfT Pothole Fund** – by end June, approximately 62,000sq m of plane and patch has been laid across the county, in all areas, based upon a pro-rata Member split. Works have progressed well through two main supply chain partners, with over 200 individual patches in around 50 different areas programmed. Feedback has been, in the main, positive. The programme has been effective in alleviating the development of many thousands of potential pothole defects. Some highly visible and longstanding areas of concern have been able to be addressed quickly and effectively through this approach. Programme should complete at the end August 2018.

**Grass** – a story of extremes. Following late finish of winter, temperatures rose sharply and weather stayed wet. April and May were, therefore, periods of extremely rapid growth. Programmes (especially urban) suffered and were three weeks behind at end of May. Rural, although remaining on programme, exhibited some very high and rapid growth, especially of verge located weeds such as cow parsley.

In latter June, the weather has remained hot but with minimal rainfall. As a result, growth has slowed and programmes have caught up.

**Gullies** – ahead of programme, assisted by lack of need for reactive attendance in the dry spell. Chesham has seen some very good collaborative work with the Town Council to get vehicles clear of streets in advance of gully emptying.

**Spray Injection Patching (Jetpatching)** – additional machines have been active in the County since April, primarily due to high defect numbers, but also to ensure serviceability and safe passage of various cycle events in the County.

**Trees** – work has continued in earlier months on priority removal/maintenance programme. Work has now been suspended during nesting season, and will recommence in August. Limbs, etc. which have become a nuisance to buses are being addressed as identified.

The **Maintenance Policy** is currently under review, as is our annual requirement. This review is feeding in intelligence gained from the winter period and may result in some minor change. No significant changes are envisaged.

### **Highways Development Management Guidance**

The Transport Strategy and Highways Development Management teams have been working to develop a Highways Development Management Guidance document. The guidance is intended to help developers create great places and thriving communities - which contribute to the Council's vision for Buckinghamshire. It provides developers with the information they need to prepare successful transport proposals through the existing planning process.

The Guidance contains guidance points relating to four sections of the report, namely; Key Principles; Designing for Transport Inside Developments; Managing Developments Transport Impacts; and Delivering Works on the Highway.

The Highways Development Management Guidance was adopted in July 2018 and will be placed on the Buckinghamshire County Council website.

**MARK SHAW**  
**DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORTATION**

## 7C CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH

### Live Well Stay Well

Live Well Stay Well, the new integrated lifestyle service for residents in Buckinghamshire, went live on 1 April 2018. The service offers a single point of contact for residents to access a range of support to

- lose weight
- quit smoking
- get more active
- drink less alcohol
- feel happier, or
- manage their diabetes.



The service also offers outreach NHS health checks and supports families to manage a child's weight, as well as referring residents to support with the emotional challenges of managing a long term condition.

Support is tailored to residents, including online support for all, with more intensive phone or face to face support available for stopping smoking and losing weight. Residents can also be referred or signposted to a range of external services such as physical activity opportunities, diabetes management and alcohol reduction.

Referrals can be made through the website and over 1,600 referrals have already been received in the first two months. The single point of access element of the service has been commissioned in partnership with the Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

Visit [www.livewellstaywellbucks.co.uk](http://www.livewellstaywellbucks.co.uk) to find out more.

### Active Bucks at the International Society for Physical Activity and Health (ISPAH) Congress, October 2018

I am delighted to report that the Public Health team has been invited to speak at the 7<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Society for Physical Activity and Health Congress which will be held in London from 15 to 17 October and is co-hosted by Public Health England and Sport England.

The conference is aimed at policymakers, academics and practitioners from across the world and the Council has been invited to speak about our Active Bucks programme, specifically "*Using 'Stealth' in green spaces to engage inactive residents*".

Stealth activities engage with residents who would not be interested in traditional activities, and where physical activity is not their primary reason for taking part. Our programme included activities such as bushcraft, quidditch and wildlife photography. 1112 individuals took part in 46 activities over an 18 month period, 58% of those activities were sustained beyond the end of the programme.

### Library Tea Parties for Volunteers

As part of the national celebration Volunteers Week 2018 the Council hosted 5 tea parties to thank all of our library volunteers for their valuable contribution to the service.

On Wednesday 6 June I attended the Amersham tea party and met volunteers who help the library service in a number of different roles, including volunteers from our Community Libraries, Home Library Service and those that help at our branch libraries with computer lessons, family history and children's events. I was also able to thank the volunteers at all five events around the County through a pre-recorded video message that was shown at all of the events.

Events were held throughout the week (1 -7 June) at Amersham, Burnham, Hazlemere, Great Missenden and Buckingham with a total of over 100 volunteers attending an event over the week. As part of the celebrations videos of library volunteers were published on Twitter, allowing our followers to meet a new volunteer each day.

### **Registration Service Annual Report**

The Registration Service is required to complete an Annual Performance Report each April. It provides an overview of the Service's performance against national key performance indicators (KPIs), compliance with various standards and achievements during the year. The report is considered by the General Register Office and feedback provided.

In 2017/18 there was an improvement in performance across the KPIs and performance generally, as well as increases in activity levels in nearly all areas. 99.5% of customers rated the service as Excellent or Good between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018.

Feedback from the General Register Office was complimentary on the delivery of the statutory service, compliance against standards, and on the improvement in performance.

### **Citizenship Ceremony - 5 June 2018**

Citizenship Ceremonies are the final step in the process for people who have been successful in gaining British Citizenship. The celebration of citizenship is normally associated with ornate ceremonial surroundings. However, on 5 June the Ceremony was held at St Mary's School, Aylesbury. This is the first time in Buckinghamshire that a citizenship ceremony has been hosted in a school, following a suggestion from one of the school governors.

The school hall resounded to the affirmation of allegiance to the Queen, and to the voices of 60 pupils from Year 5, who sang the National Anthem. Two pupils, Freya and Andrew, helped the High Sheriff present certificates and commemorative badges.

### **Regulatory Excellence Award**

The Buckinghamshire and Surrey Joint Trading Standards team has won an award for 'Outstanding Achievement for Primary Authority Leadership'. The award was one of seven given for Regulatory Excellence by the Office for Product Safety & Standards (part of the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy). The award recognises the service's close work with businesses to help them grow and maintain compliance with legislation which affects their businesses.

### **Royal Society for Public Health – shortlisted for an award**

The 'Eat Out, Eat Well' scheme developed by the Trading Standards and Public Health services has been shortlisted the Royal Society for Public Health in its 'Health on the High Street' category. The scheme encourages food businesses to provide and promote healthier options to customers, through use of healthier catering practices and healthy options for children, and rewards staff training.

There are currently over 220 members of the scheme in Surrey and Buckinghamshire, including an NHS Hospital, leisure centres, National Trust properties, prisons, non-local authority schools, workplace restaurants and chain and independent sandwich bars.

The award winners will be announced in October and the winners of the seven categories (based in England) will also be submitted for consideration for the prestigious Public Health Minister's Award and Public Health England commendations.

### **Amersham Decides**

The Amersham Local Area Forum (LAF) has allocated £9,000 of its 2018/19 budget to the Amersham Decides Community Budgeting Project. Community groups and organisations within the LAF area were invited to submit applications to take part in the project.

Of the 10 applications received, four will now be voted on with each receiving part of the allocated funding:

- Amersham Mobile Museum- a mobile exhibition to reach isolated residents
- Savvy E-Safety- an intergenerational project where students help older people to stay safe online
- Citizens Advice Service- support & advice for the vulnerable & isolated
- Old Amersham Memorial Gardens - creating a conservation area through wildlife and sensory planting.

The voting period opened on 11 June 2018 and closes on 27 July and is open to all residents of the Amersham LAF area to vote for their favourite project. Residents can vote online at [www.amershamdecides.co.uk](http://www.amershamdecides.co.uk) and at a number of locations in the Amersham area.

### **Integrated Communities Strategy**

The Council has responded to the Government's Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper consultation which closed on 5 June.

The majority of the actions in the proposed strategy are government-led national actions or actions to be taken within the five first 'Integration Areas' (Blackburn with Darwen, Bradford, Peterborough, Walsall and Waltham Forest). The key focus is on:

- Strengthening leadership to drive integration through policy making/service delivery
- Supporting new migrants and resident communities to integrate
- Education and young people
- Boosting English language
- Places and community
- Increasing economic opportunity
- Addressing barriers to rights and freedoms
- Measuring the success of the strategy.

The Government invites action by local authorities to show leadership by:

- Including an equality objective outlining specific activity to promote integration (already a requirement under the Public Sector Equality Duty)

- Selecting a number of priority policies and services and assess whether they exacerbate segregation and could be developed so they actively drive integration.

In addition the Government:

- Is challenging libraries and other community hubs to maximise their contribution to building integrated communities
- Will issue revised guidance on how community groups can bid to take over the running of valued local assets including an online platform
- Will evaluate impact of work to date on the transfer of assets to determine what has worked and how this can be replicated across all communities
- Wants to increase apprenticeships starts from ethnic minorities across local government.

There are no indications yet as to the next steps in relation to the Green Paper.

We have been broadly supportive of the strategy – it is hard not to be – but have raised concerns where we think the proposal is vague or where the costs and impact on local authorities has not been considered. This is particularly in relation to proposals around education and young people.

**NOEL BROWN**  
**CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH**



## 7D CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

### **Buckinghamshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan**

The preparation of the Bucks Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2016-2036 (BMWLP) has been progressed through Cabinet and Full Council early in 2018. The Full Council at their meeting in February endorsed the recommendation of the Cabinet to proceed with Pre-submission (Regulation 19) consultation and to submit the draft BMWLP to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government (SoS) for Examination.

The six week statutory consultation was undertaken in March/April. This was the last opportunity for the local communities, stakeholders and other interest parties to make representation based on legal compliance for preparing the local plan, conformity with national policy and test of soundness. In total, 43 organisations and individuals have made representation to the BMWLP. These include representation from the district councils, parish councils, minerals and waste industry and landowners. The representation made at this consultation is the focus of the examination in public conducted by the Planning Inspector appointed by the SoS.

The BMWLP was submitted to the SoS on 1 June and Mr Stephen Normington BSc DipTP MRICS MRTPI FIQ FIHE has been appointed to conduct the Examination in Public of the local plan.

The County Council has appointed Mr Ian Kemp as Local Plan Programme Officer to support the Planning Inspector in managing the Examination of the local plan. The role of the Programme Officer is to be the liaison between the Planning Inspector, the County Council and members of the public who have made representation to the local plan and wish to attend the Examination hearing session. The date for the Examination hearing are being organised and are expected to be in late September.

There are dedicated web pages, see the link below, on the Buckinghamshire County Council website providing up to date information on the Local Plan Examination and those interested are advised to check the web pages for the progress of the local plan examination.

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/environment/planning/minerals-and-waste-local-plan/new-local-plan-examination/>

On the conclusion of the Examination in Public of the local plan, the Planning Inspector will submit the Report to the County Council informing them whether the local plan has been found to be “Sound”. It is likely that Planning Inspector will recommend some “Modifications” the Draft BMWLP. The County Council will be required to formally consult on the Modification recommended by the Planning Inspector before the local plan is reported to Cabinet and Full Council recommending that the BMWLP 2016-2036 is adopted.

More detail on the BMWLP is available from the Growth, Strategy and Highways team - email [mineralswastepolicy@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:mineralswastepolicy@buckscc.gov.uk) for more details.

On issues related to the Examination of the Local Plan you can also contact the Local Plan Programme Officer Mr Ian Kemp on email - [ikemp@icloud.com](mailto:ikemp@icloud.com)

## Growth

### Local Plans

The draft Vale of Aylesbury local plan, draft Wycombe local plan and the draft Minerals and Waste local plan have all been submitted for their respective Examination in Public in the coming months. We are working with district colleagues to ensure that the Inspectors considering the Plans have written evidence to address the key infrastructure and funding questions they will be asking. Collectively across Buckinghamshire, we are planning for 46,500 homes by 2033 and over 250,000sqm of employment floorspace. Growth on this scale will have an impact on the County's infrastructure and require improvements in transport networks, highway infrastructure, education and health infrastructure, digital connectivity and green infrastructure. In line with the emerging local plans' expectations around growth, the County Council's Minerals and Waste local plan sets out a requirement for 20 million tonnes of aggregate to be supplied from new and existing sand and gravel quarries in the county and to plan for the management of 266,000 tonnes of waste per year.

### Growth Funding

The County Council submitted a 'Forward Funding' bid for £204m of transport, education, utilities, green and digital infrastructure to support the growth of Aylesbury Garden Town. The Aylesbury bid was announced as successful in proceeding to stage 2 of assessment, and Homes England has informed us that the next step is to develop a business case for the proposal. We await detailed specifications for this business case work from Homes England.

Buckinghamshire's District Councils, supported by the County Council, submitted five 'Marginal Viability' bids for highways improvements on the A41 Tring Road in Aylesbury (£9.5m), Princes Risborough Expansion Area (£12m), Abbey Barn Lane in High Wycombe (£7.5m), Beaconsfield (£4.5m) and Iver (£10m). These bids all focused on unlocking development proposed in the emerging Local Plans for Buckinghamshire. All except the Iver bid were successful in proceeding to stage 2. Homes England have now been provided with detailed funding and scheme updates. A final funding decision is expected this Summer.

Aylesbury is expected to deliver 15,000 more homes over the Local Plan period, up to 2033 and has achieved Garden Town status. Being a Garden Town brings both funding and a requirement for a co-ordinated, masterplan approach to shape the growth of the whole town and deliver the healthy and vital community ambitions of the County, District and our LEPs.

### Heathrow, Luton, Rail and Road Projects

Government has designated the Airports National Policy Statement (ANPS). In June MPs voted by 415 to 119 to approve the NPS, making the provision of a Heathrow third runway and associated works Government policy. The Commons vote sets Heathrow as the right location for a new runway to enable the UK to continue to grow as global hub for trade and travel. Heathrow Airport Limited is developing Masterplan options, taking on board the County Council's previous comments to protect the Green Belt and support investment in the Colne Valley Regional Park as the 'Green Gateway' to the UK. Heathrow's preferred option will be the subject of pre application public consultation early in 2019.

Luton Airport is currently consulting on its options to expand from 18 to 38 million passengers per annum by 2050. The consultation closes at the end of August and the

airport owners will then develop their plans for a new terminal and supporting infrastructure. The application will be submitted in early 2020 before a decision by the Secretary of State in 2021.

The County Council has also been consulted by Network Rail on the proposed Western Rail Link to Heathrow (WRLtH). The link would serve passengers in the west of England and Wales and as it joins the mainline west of Iver station construction will impact on communities near Richings Park. Moving to roads and the north of the county, Highways England will announce their preferred corridor options for an Oxford to Cambridge Expressway in late summer.

### **Waste**

Provisional recycling performance data has just become available showing that the County Council's overall recycling rate has reached a level of 56.6% for 2017/18. This is 1.2% higher than the previous year 2016/17 and the second highest it has ever been – just 0.4% off the record of 57% set in 2014/15. The overall level of performance in Buckinghamshire is particularly good in the context of national recycling rates. Nationally recycling rates have stagnated over the last couple of years. It is of note that in recent years the recycling performance in Buckinghamshire has consistently been amongst the top 10 best performing authorities in the country.

A possible reason for the increase relates to some waste volumes changing across a number of waste streams, but of particular note was a sharp drop in overall residual household residual waste collected compared to last year. Over the last year together with the district Councils, the County Council has been supporting the waste reduction message, providing digital tools for customers to use to help advise on what waste can be placed in each bin. There are further waste communication campaigns planned throughout 2018/19.

### **Planning Enforcement Success**

Buckinghamshire County Council has successfully defended at Public Inquiry an appeal against an enforcement notice at The Warren, Rowley Lane, Wexham. The upheld enforcement notice issued by BCC has resulted in the cessation of the unauthorised mixed use waste activity and will require the removal of a large amounts of scrap metal, cars and waste from a woodland in the Green Belt over the next few months.

### **Country Parks and Rights of Way**

After a rather slow start to the year with poor weather in April, Country Parks' visitor numbers have begun to recover and the months of May and June have shown increases on last year's figures of 4.9% and 7.8% respectively.

Customer satisfaction with the Country Parks (Trip Adviser) remains in the upper quartile: Black Park 95%; Langley Park 99%; and Denham 81%. We are working with Groundwork South at Denham Country Park to improve the catering offer which is one of the areas of concern in the feedback.

The Country Parks, along with all other countryside areas, are on a high alert following the prolonged dry spell and increased fire risk. To date, there have been two small fires in the Country Parks; one at Thorney Park and one at Back Park – both were attended by the Fire Brigade and were extinguished before any significant damage was caused.

On a positive note, Denham Country Park has been shortlisted as a finalist in the Canals and Rivers Trust's Living Waterways Award scheme for its recent work on improving habitats for water voles and Brown Trout – the project has attracted £50k

from the Environment Agency and has used in excess of 300hrs of staff and volunteer time to improve access to these important river habitats. (A short report detailed below.)

The River Misbourne is a chalk stream which flows through Denham Country Park and is home to one of the last remaining water vole colonies in Buckinghamshire, as well as populations of brown trout.

In 2016, Buckinghamshire County Council Country Parks Team started worked with BBOWT, Bucks CC, Wild Trout Trust and Chilterns Chalk Streams Project and Groundworks South on a river enhancement project for the Misbourne. The project, which was delivered in 2018, used over £50,000 of funding from Environment Agency to deliver river enhancements which addressed failures to meet the Water Framework Directive “good” target status on the river.

Over 300 hours of partner staff and volunteer hours has not only improved access to, and enjoyment of, the river for the public but has provided training in specialist skills which will enable Country Parks staff and volunteers to replicate the improved and increased habitat creation on sections of river elsewhere.

Visitors to Denham Country Park have benefited from the creation of an improved beach access area, providing schools, community groups and families with a valuable educational and recreational resource to engage with the Country Park and the River Misbourne. Through our social media campaigns, news of the new improved facility reached 4,000 people and over 800 school children have benefited from organised river visits since April 2018.

The project has now been selected as a finalist in the Canals and Rivers Trust Living Waterways Awards which take place in September.

The Rights of Way operations team is now entering a peak period of maintenance works; the routine repairs and maintenance works to the rights of way network is now added to with seasonal vegetation clearance works. Work has commenced planning the capital improvement works that was approved in last year’s budget and implementation will commence in earnest in the coming months.

### **Countryside Stewardship Consultations**

This year the county Historic Environment Record (HER) based in the Environment Team in TEE has been consulted on 157 Countryside Stewardship applications covering 15,713 hectares within Buckinghamshire. The Environment team was able to provide added value to 54% of these applications which, as well as resulting in the enhanced management of these sites, they are expected to generate over £13,000 income for Buckinghamshire County Council. Historic Environment Records along with Historic England (who provide detailed advice on Scheduled Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens) are the only external consultees involved in providing specialist advice to landowners on Countryside Stewardship and other agri-environment grant schemes within England.

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

## **7E CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES**

### **Appointment of Executive Director**

I am delighted to announce that Sarah Ashmead has been appointed to the post of Executive Director for Resources and Monitoring Officer on a permanent basis. Sarah brings with her a wealth of experience that will help drive forward improvements across the service. Sarah will be looking to bring the Resources and Assistant Chief Executive's Services teams together on a formal basis, building on the opportunities for more joined up working that has begun over the last few months.

### **GDPR**

The Council uses a range of information from residents to provide services. The use of this information is governed by data protection principles enshrined within legislation. This ensures that appropriate processes, checks and balances are in place to address data privacy, data security and data transparency.

The legal basis for these principles recently changed when the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into effect on 25 May 2018 (replacing the Data Protection Act 1998). This new regulation strengthens a range of data protection measures and increases the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) enforcing power - including larger financial penalties for serious breaches of this legislation.

To address GDPR the Council has updated policies, processes and standards for how information is governed, and training for our staff. New processes have been put in place to manage how requests to access to personal data are managed. Alongside this, all key information management systems have been assessed to develop a record of the specific information held by the council, how it is used, and any related privacy considerations. Where services are contracted out, new contract Terms and Conditions have been introduced to address the new legal requirements.

Residents can see how the council uses their data within the context of the GDPR through an updated privacy notice on the Council's website, and where required have been asked to 'opt-in' to any promotional activities for Council services (including e-mails and newsletters). Residents will also benefit from a range of new rights and more streamlined timeframes should they request access to their personal information (also now without cost - previously a £10 fee applied).

For Councillors, the new regulation retains the previous responsibilities for all Members to be registered with the Information Commissioners Office (which BCC ensures is in place on Members' behalf). This requires Councillors to use information in line with data protection principles, including only using residents' personal information in the way they intended when they shared it with us. More information on GDPR can be found on the intranet: <https://intranet.bucksc.gov.uk/how-do-i/corporate/general-data-protection-regulation/>

### **Apprenticeships**

#### **Context**

The Apprenticeship levy was introduced in April 2017, for organisations with a pay bill in excess of £3 million and there is a mandatory levy 0.5% of staff pay bill which is ring-

fenced to fund apprenticeship training fees (not salary or admin costs). Levy money unspent after 2 years is lost to General Taxation.

- Government target for any public-sector employer in England is to employ an average of 2.3% of their staff headcount as new apprentice starts between April 1 2017 and March 2021.
- For BCC this equates to:
  - Levy contributions £1,067,000 per annum: £421k corporate, £646k schools
  - Apprenticeships starts per annum of 251: 63 corporate, 188 schools
  - BCC corporate has achieved 119% of target through using schools levy which would otherwise have been lost to General taxation.

### **Challenges**

- Inclusion of schools in both the public sector target and the levy has been of significant concern for many LAs, given the limited influence we have over recruitment in schools
- Nationally, in comparison to corporate, schools are performing much worse against targets (average meeting only 18% of target (LGA, 2018)). BCC maintained schools are currently at 18%. This is understandable owing to the lack of relevant teaching Apprenticeship standards – they are in development, were expected Sept 2018, now further delayed)
- Lack of available Apprenticeship Standards (particularly higher level apprenticeships, e.g. Social Worker, Occupational Therapist, Chartered Town Planner)
- Tight restrictions over how the levy can be spent (apprenticeship training and assessment only, **NOT** salaries, travel and management/administration of apprenticeship schemes)
- Managing 20% off-the-job training requirement (which will be audited and Ofsted inspected) in teams which are already working at capacity
- Targets are based on headcount as opposed to FTE (given the large number of part time staff in LAs and schools, this has resulted in challenging targets for schools in particular)

### **BCC Strategy**

In the short term we are currently spending levy money tactically by using the money to develop our own through developing and upskilling existing staff (apprenticeship levy opens up new career development routes to support workforce planning) – this aids retention of talent.

Once the key apprenticeship standards come on line we will use levy money strategically to develop our own Social Workers, Teaching, OT and Town Planners.

### **Progress**

We have started:

- Corporate 75 Apprentices: 21 entry level and 54 upskilling
- Schools 35 Apprentices

### **Next Steps**

- **Corporate**
  - Via HR Business Partners and workforce development groups, embed apprenticeship targets into 3 year plans
  - Incorporate new higher apprenticeships in specialist / technical areas as they become available to replace expensive postgraduate training (e.g. new

- Commercial Procurement & Supply L4 apprenticeship priced at £9K– x1 existing TEE employee started May 2018)
  - Social Worker Apprenticeships are still in development but we're putting in place plans with Children's Services and Adult Social Care to be ready to start enrolling trainees as soon as they go live (2019)
  - Develop options for accredited training in Early Help, Early Years in schools and Residential Childcare, giving opportunity for apprentices to train alongside colleagues from other agencies
  - Link Apprenticeship Strategy to wider skills agenda/strategy and Early Careers framework (in development)
  - Explore commercial/collaboration opportunities with Harrow
- **Schools**
    - HR to consult with wider schools/education leadership team to agree how to allocate apprenticeship training (levy portion) across the next three financial years (to minimise levy sacrifice)

### **Recruitment and Retention**

Staffing at Buckinghamshire County Council is relatively stable, with a voluntary turnover of 12.6% and a balanced ratio of starters and leavers in the past 12 months. A higher proportion of staff move internally to fill vacancies than are recruited from outside the council. However, there are a number of hotspot areas which require concerted effort to reduce vacancy levels.

Like many authorities, social workers within Children's Services remain the most challenging staff group to recruit. The Children's Workforce Development Board meets monthly to discuss improvement work within the service, and has an action plan to focus on the recruitment of temporary and permanent workers.

Educational psychologists are another challenging staff group to recruit and retain. A new Associate Educational Psychologist role is being introduced to oversee the majority of statutory work. This new role will allow our substantive staff greater freedom to focus on more creative work within schools and grow our traded service.

The Council, in common with all employers, is facing an economic context where there continues to be record employment levels - in Buckinghamshire just 1.8% of adults are currently unemployed. To ensure the Council can compete in this challenging job market, work is underway to refresh our employer brand, careers website and our careers-focussed social media channels, with specific focus on hotspot vacancy areas and early careers. This work will increase our engagement and will promote Buckinghamshire county Council as a great place to work.

### **Preventing Disabled Blue Badge Fraud**

Commencing the first week of June the County Council began a pilot to prevent disabled blue badge fraud in Buckinghamshire. The Council is working in partnership with BBFI Ltd who specialise in investigating fraud and theft against the public sector. BBFI have assigned an investigating officer to work one day per week during the pilot to identify blue badge misuse in Buckinghamshire and prepare cases for court. The investigating officer has had training sessions with NSL Ltd who carry out on street parking enforcement on behalf of Transport for Bucks. NSL are feeding intelligence to the investigating officer, an ex-police officer with 35 years' experience. The investigating officer has been out on enforcement exercises on three occasions at the

time of writing and retained 12 badges. Of the badges retained, six are likely to result in cases taken to court and one requires further investigation. Preparation work on the likely court cases is underway. It is surprising to already have so many cases and BBFI say this is more than they would expect to have in a London Borough.

In some instances, and especially where there are disabled children involved, badges have been returned at the scene and the badge holder has been sent a strongly worded warning letter only. The reason for the warning letter and not taking further at this stage is that the Council is mindful of the impact on families who are already in a difficult situation. Badges have also been returned where people have been able to prove that the disabled person has a hospital appointment imminently. This action does not preclude the Council from taking further action after investigation.

Whilst the investigating officer and the enforcement officers have met with some abuse on the street this was not specifically aimed at the activity they were carrying out but was more about anyone in a perceived position of authority. The investigating officer and enforcement officers have had considerable support and cooperation from the police and from store holders in Wycombe. The public are generally supportive of taking a firmer line with those who abuse the disabled blue badge scheme. The focus is currently on High Wycombe before moving to other areas of Buckinghamshire.

### **Information and Technology Strategy**

A new strategy for the Council is currently under development which will set out how we propose to use information and technology to support the Council, Residents and local businesses in this digital age.

The strategy will be launched in September 2018.

Key themes within the strategy will include but are not limited to:

- **Getting the basics right**
  - Ensure that systems are reliable and access is secure and supports modern working practices
  - That technology does what it needs to do and is kept simple
  - We do not hold duplicate information and there is a single version of the truth
- **Connecting Buckinghamshire**
  - High speed broadband to more of the County for residents and business
  - Enabling residents to access technology through training and Internet enabled devices
- **Making Buckinghamshire County Council more accessible**
  - Putting more services on-line
  - Services and information on-line made simpler and of a higher quality
  - Supporting more residents to access our on-line services



## **N and H Drive Service**

During May 2018 the Council experienced poor performance and a lack of accessibility on a number of separate occasions to information held on the N and H drives. The information on the N and H drives is used by Council Officers and Members in support of their daily work activities.

Short term measures have been taken to ensure the stabilisation of the system, which has resulted in a normal service being provided during the month of June. The issues were caused by out of date technology and its capacity being exceeded. Work has started on the replacement of the storage technology and in the short term the workload is being reduced by moving some storage to other technology.

**JOHN CHILVER  
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES**

## **7F CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

### **Front Line Visits**

I have undertaken another round of visits to many of our front line teams within Children's Services and to hear directly from them about their ideas, suggestions and concerns. Teams visited include:

- Youth Offending Service
- Children in Need Team
- Safeguarding and Court Team
- Children in Care Team
- Special Education and Disabilities Team
- Early Help Team

### **Children's Commissioner**

Following his appointment in March 2018, our commissioner, John Coughlan has completed his three month review of Children's Services. To summarise the main findings:

- A significant amount of work is required to establish and normalise good social work and child care practice across the organisation.
- Good early progress is being made but unquestionably this engagement needs to be made more systematically and then sustained relentlessly.
- Previous officer leadership had driven a hard and data based approach to performance management which did not take sufficient account of the quality of practice.
- Changes to practice are already being implemented, supported by changes in performance and quality assurance.
- Changes are being driven at pace but nobody should be under any illusions that there are quick fixes as the scale of the necessary improvement is significant.
- A single Council for the County of Buckinghamshire accountable for the entirety of its children's services is by far the safest option for children and, especially in the light of the current progress, has the best and most rapid chances of achieving sustainable high performance.

The Commissioner's recommendation to the Department for Education is that there should be no alternative delivery model in Buckinghamshire. The current direction of travel should be endorsed in terms of the internal leadership's improvement planning. That said, he recommends that some external support should be commissioned. A primacy should be placed on the support and development of front line managers and staff, balancing a firm application of consistent high standards with a systematic range of mechanisms to ensure those managers and staff are closely involved in and own the improvement process.

This is a very pleasing outcome for the service and demonstrates that there has been significant positive change over the last six months.

The link to the report can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/buckinghamshire-county-council-report-on-childrens-social-care>

## **Ofsted**

Following the November 2017 inspection of Children's Social Care, Ofsted has recently conducted a two-day monitoring visit. The focus of this visit was to assess the quality and progress of our work with children and young people on statutory child in need (CIN) plans. Key themes that were explored by inspectors included:

- Thresholds for statutory children in need work
- Recognition, understanding and response to risk - particularly concerning neglect and domestic abuse
- Purposeful, meaningful direct work aligned to core objectives of the CIN plan
- Quality of care plans, and arrangements for regular, rigorous review of progress
- Management oversight and supervision
- Quality assurance arrangements

As part of the inspection, inspectors tracked and audited the individual experiences of six children. In addition to this, they sampled 25 other cases. In all cases, inspectors spoke with the allocated social worker for these children.

Ofsted will publish a letter setting out its findings, detailing the areas of strength and those areas that require further improvement. We anticipate that this will be available at the beginning of August 2018.

## **Children's Short Break Draft Strategy**

Short Breaks describes a range of support to enable disabled children, young people and their families to be able to continue living at home and their carers to maintain their caring role.

We know that our Short Breaks provision is in need of modernisation. A draft Short Breaks Strategy for children has been developed to set out a vision for how short breaks can help disabled children to develop their independence, increase their readiness for becoming an adult, boost their physical and emotional health, enable them to have new experiences, learn, have fun and meet friends as well as helping carers to provide sustainable support for their families.

The strategy will help the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to deliver services in the future which:

- Deliver an offer which enables access to universal services and helping children with disabilities use provision locally. This will help children make friends, help parents build networks of support and allow us to develop provision where children with and without disabilities can interact with each other.
- Deliver a more flexible short breaks offer so we can provide tailored support at the right time to prevent families from falling into crisis.
- Ensure our services represent value for money and that our available resources for short breaks are targeted at those who need support the most, through eligibility criteria and regular reviews.

This is the first Children's Short Breaks Strategy for the Council and it has been developed in partnership with Adult Services, the Clinical Commissioning Group and FACT Bucks (Bucks Parent Carer Forum). Pre-consultation engagement activity has taken place to inform the strategy and following Cabinet approval on 18 June, the next stage is a six week consultation that started on 29 June and runs until 10 August to obtain views from stakeholders on the draft Strategy prior to agreement of the final document in the autumn.

Following this, service users, carers and wider stakeholders will be engaged in developing options for the future service offer. This will result in the production of a draft Short Breaks Service Statement which will then be subject to a further twelve week consultation. The outcome of this consultation will inform future re-commissioning of short breaks provision.

### **In-house residential provision**

#### Churchill Avenue, Aylesbury

Our long standing children's home within Aylesbury received an Ofsted inspection in December which highlighted a number of areas for concern and, as a result, was given an overall rating of Inadequate. Following this, intense development work was put into place, including working closely with staff to support them to make the changes needed.

The home was then re-inspected in May and has now been re-graded as Good. We continue to build on the improvements which have been made within the home and are now beginning a period of consolidation to make sure that this home can provide the best possible support to our children in care.

#### The Elms, Aylesbury

As part of our change for children programme, one of the projects seeks to ensure that we can support all of our looked after children to achieve the best possible outcomes. We have recognised a need to place more of our looked after children within Buckinghamshire and have developed a £2 million capital programme to open four new children's homes within the county.

The first of these, the Elms in Aylesbury, has now been completely refurbished and the home received Ofsted registration in mid-July so is able to accept placements. This five bed home will allow us to place more of our children within local authority care and make the most of opportunities for them to get to know our teams and foster carers so that, where appropriate, we can support them towards stepping down from residential care to a more permanent placement.

### **Early Help**

A public consultation on a new model of service delivery was undertaken last year, however, in March 2018 we took a decision to re-consult with the public in recognition of the strength of public feeling.

The Council has commissioned an independent research agency, BMG Research, to support the Council with this consultation work.

Prior to the launch of the public consultation, BMG are carrying out in-depth research with families and partner organisations to help design the detail of the public consultation. This work will ensure that the consultation documents are helpful and clear to the public, and it will allow service users the opportunity to take part in focused

research to ensure that the new service works well for the people currently accessing Early Help services.

The Council's official public consultation process will start in October 2018, and this will give all residents and organisations the chance to have their say about the future Early Help services through a survey and public meetings.

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

## **7G CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

### **Appointment of New Director**

Following a successful interview process, I am pleased to announce that Gillian Quinton has been appointed as the new Executive Director for the Communities, Health and Adult Social Care department, and the Director of Adult Social Services for the County Council. Gillian has worked for the Council since 2005 and will provide continuity, stability and a focus on the change needed to lead the department in this period of challenge and uncertainty.

### **Transformation Update: Assistive Technology**

Assistive technology has a vital role to play in enabling our ageing population to live independently in their homes, whilst at the same time reducing the cost of the support which is required.

The results of our assistive technology programme are impressive. The number of referrals from health and social care professionals has increased by 70%, from around 20 per week to over 36 a week. Feedback from service users has shown the positive impact this has made on their lives.

The financial aim for the first year of the project was to achieve a breakeven position. However the project actually delivered a net benefit to of £1.5m in the first year.

It gives us a great evidence base to ramp up the programme over the next 12 months. Over the next 12 months our priorities will include increasing the number of people using assistive technology and exploring new technologies by, for example, collaborating with Amazon on its Alexa system.

### **Adults Short Breaks Draft Strategy**

Short Breaks provision describes a range of support to enable people with care and support needs to be able to continue living at home and their carers to maintain their caring role.

We know that the Council's short breaks provision is in need of modernisation. A draft Short Breaks Strategy for Adults has been developed to set out a vision for how short breaks can help vulnerable adults to live more independent lives and also support carers. The draft strategy emphasises the outcomes that a variety of support can deliver, rather than focusing on services that have historically operated separately and without considering how they support the person to live independently at home.

This is the first Adult Short Breaks Strategy for the Council and it has been developed in partnership with Children's Services, the Clinical Commissioning Group, TalkBack and Carers Bucks. Pre-consultation engagement exercises have taken place to inform the strategy development and following Cabinet approval on 18 June and the next stage is a six week consultation (29 June -10 August) to obtain views from stakeholders on the draft Strategy prior to agreement of the final document in the autumn.

Following this, service users, carers and wider stakeholders will be engaged in developing options for the future service offer. This will result in the production of a draft Short Breaks Policy for Adults which will then be subject to a further twelve week consultation. The outcome of this consultation will inform final options for future service delivery and development.

### **Compliments for Social Care**

Social care is one of the most demanding and complex jobs in local government. The public often hears of when Councils have not delivered the highest standards of services but I am delighted to have the opportunity to report that the number of compliments we are receiving for our work is far greater than the number of complaints and is increasing.

In 2016/17, the Council received 78 complaints about adult social care services and 107 compliments. In 2017/18 we received 130 compliments, compared with just 54 complaints.

All people who come into contact with our services are encouraged to provide feedback on our work and we welcome feedback of any kind as it helps us to improve our services. However, I am particularly pleased that people are taking the time to thank our hardworking and dedicated workforce for the difference they are making to the lives of our local residents.

### **Social Care Workforce**

Over the last three months we have recruited six permanent social workers and six permanent social worker assistants. We are currently looking to recruit another four senior social workers. Senior Social workers and Occupational Therapists remain the most challenging staff groups to recruit within CHASC and therefore we have started a large targeted recruitment campaign which focuses on attracting candidates for these posts.

The number of agency workers has remained relatively stable over the last three months and we currently have nine agency social workers on site. An approval process for any additional agency workers has been put in place to ensure Service Director authorisation is gained prior to any new start dates.

### **'Good' for Reablement**

In March this year, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) carried out an inspection of the Council's reablement service and rated it as 'Good'. The report said that 'staff we spoke with were passionate about the work they did. They spoke about how much they enjoyed working with people to help them to regain their independence.'

The CQC inspectors looked at how safe, effective, caring, responsive and well-led the service was rating it as 'Good' in all five areas.

Receiving this rating is a result of the commitment of the staff to continually improving our services. The full report can be seen here:  
<http://www.cqc.org.uk/location/1-3782697737>.

### **Dementia**

The positive work around action and awareness raising continues – 24 County Councillors have become Dementia Friends; Wendover CE Junior School has also become one of the first schools in the country to have all 350 of its pupils trained as Dementia Friends. The children have now pledged to raise awareness of dementia and to help someone living with the condition.

Dementia Action Week events took place across the county, such as a Walk The Patch exercise at Tesco in Loudwater, dementia-friendly cinema screenings at care homes and a theatre production at Buckingham Library. Wendover Dementia Action Alliance

received Local Area Forum funding to support a new badge scheme for local businesses and organisations.

The County Council and the Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group will be hosting a Dementia Conference in Aylesbury on 28 September where the views and experiences of people living with dementia will inform the new Joint Commissioning Strategy.

### **Adult Social Care Funding and the Green Paper**

The future funding of Adult Social Care remains a critical issue across the country, with a forecast funding gap of £2bn by 2020. Although the announcement of the delay until the autumn of the Adult Social Care Green Paper has been disappointing for the sector, the link to the NHS Plan is a positive step towards the Government approaching the health and social care system as a whole. As proposals are developed and debated, such as the 'social care premium' proposed in the recently published Parliamentary Committees' report, the Council continues to take all opportunities through its networks to ensure we lobby for the best outcome for residents and the future services they may need.

### **Occupational Therapy – making a difference to our residents and staff**

With the demand for Occupational Therapy increasing year on year, the waiting list in December stood at 630, affecting residents' ability to live independently at home.

The service took a radical new approach, introducing a Triage system with customers then offered either information on local equipment services, a clinical appointment within two weeks, or a home appointment which was put directly into workers' calendars.

The team has embraced this new way of working and as of June, the waiting list is now at zero. Residents now receive a great service, and the team is able to focus fully on promoting the independence of their clients.

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



## **7H CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND SKILLS**

### **Early Years Commissioning Team – The Meeting the Sufficiency Duties for Early Years Provision**

On 20 March 2018, the Buckinghamshire County Council Early Years Commissioning Team won a national award presented by Department for Education for our 'Sufficiency and Market Management'. The award is for the local authority who can best evidence having taken an effective approach to identifying its sufficiency of childcare provision, and developing the local sector's response through impactful market management.

In Buckinghamshire we have worked with our early years providers to prepare for and manage a challenging growth in market demand following the introduction of the extended entitlement for 30 hours for eligible three and four year olds. Our initial forecast in 2017 showed a potential under supply of over 3000 places across the county but, following extensive market management, we are now confident that all eligible families will be able to secure a high quality early education place.

This award recognises the value and importance that the Council places on supporting all our young children to have the best start in life through securing high quality early years provision.

### **Special Educational Needs and Educational Psychology Service – Delivering the Special Educational Needs Reforms set out within The Children and Families Act 2014**

In 2014, The Children and Families Act set out new expectations for all Local Authorities so that children and young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN) were able to access a more joined up offer of support across Education, Health and Social Care. Central to these reforms was the ambition to put children, young people and parents and carers at the centre of service delivery and this meant converting what was previously entitled Statements of Educational Need to Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) by the end of March 2018. The new plans include a number of assessments from the relevant services and there is a statutory duty for these assessments to be completed within a 20 week timeline. To ensure the reforms have been fully embedded, Ofsted and the Clinical Quality Commission are inspecting Local Authorities.

An improvement plan was developed to prioritise action so that the SEN team were able to re-focus their work. In parallel, the Educational Psychology service has been supported by two experienced Interim Senior Educational Psychologists. The impact of these changes is now evident with all statements scheduled converted to Education Health and Care Plans at the end of March.

It is also pleasing to note that the backlog of cases that have impeded the ability for the Educational Psychology service to undertake its assessments within the prescribed timeline has now been addressed and based on current performance, we will be in line with national performance by the end of the year.

## **Ofsted Inspection Results**

It is pleasing to note the positive outcomes from Ofsted inspections of schools between October 2017 and March 2018. During this period a total of 31 schools were inspected: 3 schools maintained their current judgements of 'outstanding'; 2 schools moved from 'requires improvement' to 'good'; and 22 schools retained their 'good' rating. The remaining 4 schools retained a 'requires improvement' judgement.

## **Good news from Buckinghamshire Schools**

**Spinfield School** and **Kingswood School** have both achieved a Gold Sports Mark award

**Great Marlow School** won the Youth Sports Trust Award for Outstanding Schools

**Widmer End School** and **Millbrook Combined School** have both been awarded a Nurture Schools Award

**Holmer Green Junior School** received a Green Flag environmental award

**Princes Risborough Primary School** has been awarded a silver environmental award

**St Peter's CE School** achieved a Gold ArtsMark award for championing arts and culture

**The Grange** achieved a gold award for its work with Looked After Children

**Aylesbury Vale Academy, Aylesbury High School, Cottesloe School, John Colet School, The Grange School, Sir Thomas Fremantle School** and **The Royal Latin School** all received Bucks Young Carers Awards in recognition of their work in supporting young carers in their schools

**Holtspur School** is receiving an award for the Best Community Building 2017 for its new pre-school building

**Heritage House School** has been part of the Seeability project for eyecare support for children with SEND

**Marsh Gibbon School** was visited by the BBC Children In Need Rickshaw Challenge

**Stone CE School** made it through to the quarter final of CBBC (Children's BBC) quiz 'Top Class'

**Padbury CE School** made a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for £10,000 to develop an outside play area

**Bedgrove Junior School** has received a £30,000 grant from William Harding Trust to upgrade computer equipment

**Winslow CE School** now has a new all-weather outdoor play area funded by a Bucks County Council grant

**Overstone School's** new library was decorated by HomeBase staff as part of a community action programme

Finally, three Buckinghamshire schools have opened new Early Years provision: Kingfishers Pre-school is now on site at **Mursley CE School**, **John Hampden Infant School** nursery is now open and **Halton School** has opened a new Pre-School.

## **St Michael's Catholic Satellite School Aylesbury**

In order to meet the demand for additional secondary school places in Aylesbury, a proposal was taken forward to open a satellite to St Michael's Catholic School in High Wycombe on the former Quarrendon School site. The Local Authority wished to ensure that any new proposal within Aylesbury town met the local need and the wishes of parents, following discussions with the DfE, a statutory consultation was undertaken to open a satellite to St Michael's Catholic School. During the consultation period a total of 444 responses were received and 99% of those replying were in favour of the proposal.

The planning application for the Satellite was considered by Buckinghamshire County Council's Development Control Committee on 19 March 2018. Development Control Committee unanimously approved the application.

The school is due to open with 120 Year 7 pupils in September 2018 at a temporary site in the former Berton Hill Day Care Centre before moving into its new buildings on the former Quarrendon site in September 2019.

## **Youth Service**

### **We Do Care Champions**

The Youth Service has appointed a group of young people to the role of We Do Care Champions.

We Do Care (the name for the Children in Care Council in Bucks) is made up of children and young people in care or those leaving the care of Buckinghamshire County Council who want to make sure young people have their voices heard.

The Champions work closely with Corporate Parents (the name given to every elected Member and officer) who are responsible for making sure that young people in care have a voice.

The roles also provide the young people with a Level 2 qualification and opportunity to gain valuable work experience. This supports a commitment from Buckinghamshire County Council to support care leavers with training and employment opportunities.

### **Bucks Inspired Traineeships**

The Youth Service's 'bucksinspired' traineeship programme continues to see great success. Our programme includes a level 1 qualification in 'Employability Skills'.

The programme has been a catalyst for vulnerable young people to change their lives. Feedback from our current work experience placements has been extremely positive and it has been wonderful to see the young people grow in confidence as they gain vital employability skills which will support them in the future.

Prior to starting the traineeship one young man had been suffering from anxiety, he rarely left his home, was socially isolated and was at risk of becoming long term NEET. When reflecting on his progress so far, he said "I never thought I would be able to answer a telephone" or "talk to others at work". Each week he is growing in confidence and is enhancing his communication skills. He said that the traineeship programme and his work experience placement has made a huge difference to his life and that he realised for the first time.

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





# 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 <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/council-and-democracy/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>.

#### **Finance, Performance & Resources (FPR)**

In May 2018, the FPR Select Committee received a progress update on the delivery of Technology Service priorities, and a workforce review report from Human Resources and Organisational Development. At the request of Members, this report laid the foundation for the first FPR inquiry of 2018 on planning for effective leadership.

Led by Chairman, David Watson, an inquiry sub-committee was established for this inquiry. This sub-committee will explore the Council's current approach to recruitment, development, succession planning and retention; identify market leaders and explore best practice within both public and the private sector; and highlight good practice that the Council could learn from. The inquiry evidence-gathering session will take place in September.

At the June meeting, Members had the opportunity to conduct pre-decision scrutiny of the customer service standards review, and contributed to the process by making recommendations to the Director of Customer. They also received an update on the current status of Buckinghamshire County Council's property and assets as well as changes to the Council's Property and Assets Department. At the same meeting, David Shakespeare OBE was welcomed as the Committee's latest member, and the Chairman noted the valuable contribution of Anita Cranmer whilst a member of the Committee.

Looking ahead, the Committee's agenda for September and November includes a review of costs and savings in Children's Services and Adult Social Care; a 6-month update on Budget Scrutiny 2018 recommendations; and the implications of business rates retention changes on the Council and small businesses within Buckinghamshire.

## **Health & Adult Social Care**

In its role as “critical friend”, the Committee recently reviewed and submitted responses to South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust’s annual report and Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust’s annual report.

At its April and May meetings, the Committee evaluated the community hubs pilot which is part of the “developing care closer to home” model and heard from representatives from the Clinical Commissioning Group and Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust. The Committee offered its support for continuing with the development of the hubs and will be reviewing their progress, along with the other components of the model, over the coming months. At its July meeting, the Committee will be reviewing the Adult Short Breaks Strategy which recently went out to consultation. They will also be receiving a progress report on Adult Social Care transformation work.

The Committee will be agreeing its draft inquiry report on how well Buckinghamshire is tackling the issue of childhood obesity at its meeting on 24 July. The report and recommendations will be presented to Cabinet in the autumn.

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**

The Children’s Select Committee has recently concluded and agreed its inquiry report: ‘Working Together to Reduce Permanent Exclusions from School’. The report makes 8 recommendations designed to support officers and head teachers in their work to further reduce the number of permanent exclusions of pupils in Bucks over the coming years. It will be presented to Cabinet in September.

At its July meeting, the Committee also reviewed and responded to the Short Breaks Strategy consultation (commenced 29 June 2018) and had an update on the Early Help project.

Forthcoming items for scrutiny include the Q1 2018-19 Performance Reports for Children’s Services; the Education Service annual 2017-18 DfE data; and a follow-up on outstanding actions in implementing the recommendations of the Committee’s 2016 inquiry report ‘The Voice of the Child and Young Person’.

## **Transport, Environment & Communities**

At its May meeting, the Committee reviewed the Buckinghamshire County Museum Trust’s key priorities and performance. Members were reassured by the planned activity around income generation opportunities and widening community engagement to ensure the long term sustainability of the County Museum for residents of and visitors to Buckinghamshire. Members also received an update on the draft Freight Strategy and examined the approach being taken to ensure the best possible protection for our local communities, while balancing the needs of the freight industry, in light of the scale of growth across the county.





Members recently reviewed progress on implementation of the recommendations from the joint Select Committee on the Council’s planning for growth in Bucks. Members were reassured by the steps being taken, but acknowledged that the

landscape is constantly evolving and that progress will be far more long term, so they may need to continue to monitor progress beyond the 12-month review point.

Looking ahead, Members have identified two key areas they would like to examine in more detail through focused Committee meetings: street lighting; and gully cleansing and drainage systems. Both are areas of concern raised by Members and residents. These topics will be developed and examined in detail at the September and November Committee meetings respectively. The Committee will also be reviewing the 6-month progress towards the recommendations made within the modern slavery inquiry at its September meeting.

### Select Committee Live Inquiry Timeline

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

Key:  Scoping  Evidence Gathering  Committee Approval  Cabinet/NHS

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

**SELECT COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**





# County Council



## MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

### MEMBER BRIEFINGS – INFORMATION EVENTS ON HOT TOPICS

Member briefings are typically held monthly at County Hall. These sessions are a valuable opportunity to explore a particular issue, a new policy or strategy direction, or other service area developments. They provide an informal space for questions, suggestions and most importantly ensure Members are fully informed.

Feedback from Members attending shows these are highly valued. We recognise that everyone is extremely busy so aim to give as much notice as possible along with information about the session content. We also record attendance and apologies.

Democratic Services manage a 'forward plan' of briefings and can help service areas plan these in throughout the year. We talk through with the service to ensure a briefing is the most suitable option, scheduled at the most appropriate time and delivered in the most effective way.

Market stalls at Full Council are another helpful way of highlighting a project or team's work.

Confirmed Member Briefings are:

Date	Topic	Time	Venue
20 September 2018	Early Help (Support for Families)	On the rise of County Council	AVDC, The Oculus
25 October 2018	CHASC	10:30 – 12:30	Large Dining Room

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/>

### 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 Services via email: [democracy@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@buckscc.gov.uk) or telephone: 01296 382343.

**Claire Hawkes, Head of Democratic Services**





# 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](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/democracy)

### Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Cabinet Member for Resources

13 Jul 2018

#### **CS06.18 - Children's Homes – Local Provision (Decision taken)**

The Cabinet Members:

**APPROVED** release of £850k within the £2m capital programme agreed by Cabinet in April 2017 for the purchase and renovation (if required) of a property to be used as a children's home within south Buckinghamshire and to the funding of this project by prudential borrowing.

**APPROVED** release of the remaining £826k of capital within the £2m capital programme agreed by Cabinet in April 2017 and supplemented by the capital receipt resulting from the resale of the Westfields site for the purchase and renovation (if required) of a second property to be used as an additional children's home within south Buckinghamshire and to the funding of this project by prudential borrowing

**DELEGATED AUTHORITY** to the Executive Director for Children's services and the Executive Director of Resources in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and also the relevant local members to agree the purchase of both additional properties up to the total value of £1676k and within the criteria set out in confidential appendix 2.



## **Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing**

30 May 2018

### **HW05.18 - Funding for Hughenden Gardens Village (Decision taken)**

#### **Recommendation**

The Cabinet Member **AGREED** to endorse the legal agreement made in 2012 to underwrite any shortfall in the care costs at Hughenden Garden Village up to the value of £500,000 over a period of 3 years, so a contract can be put in place for the care delivery at the village.

## **Cabinet Member for Planning and Environment**

15 May 2018

### **PE03.18 - Land Drainage Enforcement Policy (Decision taken)**

#### **The Cabinet Member:**

**ENDORSED** the policy and **AGREED** that it can be published on our website and referred to for future enforcement cases. The policy will be reviewed whenever there is a significant change in legislation, national or local policy, or otherwise when the Cabinet Member and Strategic Flood Management Team deem necessary

## **Cabinet Member for Resources**

13 Jun 2018

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

#### **The Cabinet Member **AGREED****

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

## **Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation**

16 May 2018

**T06.18 - Cryers Hill Layby Parking/Weight Restrictions and Clearway (Decision taken)**

### **Recommendations**

**The Cabinet Member for Transportation agreed the imposition of;**

- a Pay & Display zone during the hours between 10am – 2pm Mon to Fri.
- a weight limit of 7.5t at all times on the layby.
- carriageway and verge clearways south of the layby to the extents shown on the plan.

16 May 2018

**T07.18 - Beaconsfield Waiting Restrictions (Decision taken)**

**The Cabinet Member agrees:**

- a. The Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation considers the objections and feedback received at Statutory Consultation;
- b That the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) be made as advertised at Statutory Consultation in November-December 2017;
- c. That responders to the statutory consultation be informed of the decision taken by the Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation.

18 May 2018

**T08.18 - Addington Road, Buckingham - Traffic Reduction Scheme (Decision taken)**

**The Deputy Leader AGREED:**

- a. to consider the Objections and Feedback received at Statutory Consultation
- b. That the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) be made as advertised at Statutory Consultation in February-March 2018
- c. That responders to the Statutory Consultation be informed of the Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation Decision

31 May 2018

**T09.18 - Proposed conversion of limited waiting bays to pay and display – King George V Road, Amersham (Decision Taken)**

**The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member AGREED to ratify the recommendations for changing the limited waiting bays to paid parking bays from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018 (pay and display with the option to pay by telephone/internet) and the tariff be set at the Buckinghamshire (Chiltern District) (Consolidation) Order 2010 charging group 2 of £0.50 per hour.**

25 Jun 2018

**T11.18 - Freight Strategy (Decision taken)**

**The Cabinet Member:**

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

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

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

3 Jul 2018

**T12.18 - Roberts Lane, Chalfont St Peter - Prohibition Of Motor Vehicles (Decision taken)**

**The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation;**

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

12 Jul 2018

**T13.18 - Highways Development Management Guidance (Decision taken)**

**The Cabinet Member for Transportation agreed Buckinghamshire County Council's Highways Development Management Guidance as a supporting document to the Local Transport Plan 4.**

**The Cabinet Member for Transportation agreed that the approval of any minor amendments to the guidance would be delegated to the Director of Growth & Strategy in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation.**

**Leader of the Council**

21 Jun 2018

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

**The Leader of the Council:**

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

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

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

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

21 Jun 2018

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

**The Leader of the Council:**

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

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

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

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

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

For further information please contact: Claire Hawkes on 01296 382343

