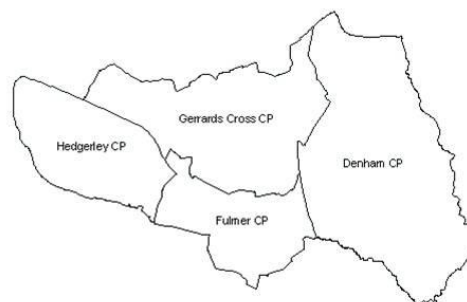


DENHAM AND GERRARDS CROSS AREA FORUM



DATE:	4 October 2017
TIME:	7.00 pm
LOCATION:	Denham Parish Council Office, Village Road, Denham Village.

AGENDA

Item		Page No
1	Appointment of Chairman & Vice Chairman	
2	Apologies	
3	Declarations of interest To disclose any Personal or Disclosable Pecuniary Interests	
4	Terms of Reference Update from Mr P Hodson.	3 - 6
5	Question Time There will be a 20 minute period for public questions. Members of the public are encouraged to submit their questions in advance of the meeting to facilitate a full answer on the day of the meeting. Questions sent in advance will be dealt with first and verbal questions after.	
6	Petitions None Received.	
7	Transport for Bucks Update Report attached for information. Verbal update to be provided.	7 - 30
8	Thames Valley Police Update Update to be provided by Thames Valley Police.	
9	Local Area Budget & Priorities Update to be provided by Mr P Hodson.	31 - 86
10	Prevention Matters Verbal update to be provided for information.	
11	BCC Update Report attached for information.	87 - 96
12	AOB/ Items for Future Meetings	
13	Date and Time of Next Meeting 31 January 2018, venue to be confirmed.	

Visit democracy.buckscc.gov.uk for councillor information and email alerts for meetings, and decisions affecting your local area.

Members

David Anthony, South Bucks District Council
Malcolm Bradford, South Bucks District Council
Chris Brown, Gerrards Cross Town Council
Santokh Chhokar, South Bucks District Council
Dev Dhillon, South Bucks District Council
Barbara Gibbs, Bucks County Council
Barry Harding, South Bucks District Council
Penny Harris, Hedgerley Parish Council
Marilyn Heath, Denham Parish Council
Guy Hollis, South Bucks District Council
Peter Kelly
Jane Lawrence, Denham Parish Council
Marlene Lewis, South Bucks District Council
Sue Moffat, Gerrards Cross Town Council
Roger Reed, Bucks County Council
Duncan Smith, South Bucks District Council

Member Services Contact : Christina Beevers, Tel 01296 382343, Email
cbeevers@buckscc.gov.uk

If you would like to attend a meeting, but need extra help to do so, for example because of a disability, please contact us as early as possible, so that we can try to put the right support in place.

Agencies : Buckinghamshire County Council, South Bucks District Council, Denham Parish Council, Fulmer Parish Council, Gerrards Cross Parish Meeting, Hedgerley Parish Council, Thames Valley Police, Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue

Proposed Terms of Reference for Local Area Forums

Local Area Forums: Draft Revised Terms of Reference

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an opportunity to support public service consultations and community engagement at a local level, promote and extend community empowerment in the area and seek feedback or champion solutions on issues raised.
- 1.2 To disseminate information to local communities and partners and to feedback information from local areas to organisations providing local services.
- 1.3 To agree the key local priorities for the local area, identified through consultation and engagement with local communities and partners.
- 1.4 To make recommendations to the County Council on the allocation of Local Priorities Funding.

2 Legal Status

- 2.1 Local Area Forums are informal meetings convened by the County Council to which all County Councillors, District Councillors and Parish and Town Councillors (appointed as representatives by their local Council) within the area are invited to participate as members.
- 2.2 With respect to County Council matters, decisions of LAFs are advisory. As such they are not binding on the County Council, although the Council will endeavour to honour these recommendations unless there is a fundamental reason why this should not be so. However, as advisory bodies, if less than 51% of the core membership of the LAF attends a meeting, the Council may take this into consideration.
- 2.3 Where the detailed Terms of Reference as outlined below are silent, by convention the Standing Orders of the County Council's Constitution will guide the conduct of LAF meetings.

3 Membership

- 3.1 Membership includes all County Councillors, District Councillors and Councillor representatives of Local Councils in the LAF area.
- 3.2 The number of representatives per Parish and Town Council may be determined by each LAF.
- 3.3 The LAF may invite other bodies or individuals into the membership at the discretion of the Chairman.
- 3.4 Substitutions are permitted.
- 3.6 Each Council's representative is responsible for reporting back on the LAF meeting to their organisation to ensure decisions are actioned and information flow maintained. Where the LAF Membership includes more than one representative from an organisation, this responsibility will be undertaken by a named representative.

4 Chairmanship

- 4.1 As the convenor of the meetings, the County Council has reserved the right for its Cabinet Member for Community Engagement to appoint the Chairman and Vice Chairman of each LAF.
- 4.2 The Chairman of the LAF will be a member of the County Council.
- 4.3 The Vice Chairman will be nominated by the Chairman and confirmed by the Cabinet Member for Community Engagement.
- 4.4 The Chairman and Vice Chairman will be appointed for four years in line with the County Council term of administration and will be confirmed at the first meeting following the County Council elections. The Cabinet Member for Community Engagement may rescind appointments within the four year period.
- 4.5 The Vice Chairman will preside in the absence of the Chairman and if neither is present, the LAF will appoint a Chairman from among the Forum members present for the purposes of that meeting.

5. Frequency

- 5.1 Frequency of LAF meetings may be agreed locally by each LAF but will meet no more frequently than four times a year.

6. Public Participation

- 6.1 LAF meetings will be open to the public and press.
- 6.2 LAF meetings will allow a maximum 20 minute period (longer at the Chairman's discretion) for public questions and comments and receipt of petitions at each meeting. Members of the public will be encouraged to submit their questions in advance of the meeting to receive a full answer.
- 6.3 Members of the public may speak on particular agenda items at the discretion of the Chairman.
- 6.4 Other bodies or individuals may be invited to attend specific meetings for a particular meeting.

7. Agenda

- 7.1 The Chairman will be responsible for the content of LAF agendas. All members of the LAF may submit agenda items which will be included at the discretion of the Chairman.
- 7.2 LAF agendas will be published online via the County Council's website giving at least 5 clear working days before the meeting.
- 7.3 Minutes will be published on the County Council's website within 15 working days of the meeting.

8. Voting

- 8.1 All members of the relevant LAF are full voting members of the Forum and only Members of the Forum can vote.
- 8.2 Subject to point 3.1 above on the core membership of each LAF, each LAF is able to locally determine the exact membership rules. As all full members of each LAF are full voting members, the means that eligibility to vote will be locally determined.
- 8.3 The membership of each LAF (and thereby voting eligibility) must be agreed as a standing item on the agenda of the first meeting following the County Council Election every 4 years.
- 8.4 If the relevant LAF fails to reach a view at this first meeting on the membership of each LAF (and thereby voting eligibility), then the Chairman of the relevant LAF has discretion to determine the rules.

8.4 A record of each LAF's locally determined membership rules will be published in the minutes of the meeting and consolidated into an overall document published on the Council's website to ensure transparency.

8.5 Simple majority voting by those eligible to vote will take place, and the Chairman of the meeting will have the casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. Officer Support

9.1 The County Council will provide administrative and policy support for the LAF.



Denham & Gerrards Cross Area Forum

Update report from
Transport for Buckinghamshire



Date of meeting: 04/10/17 **Date of report:** 22/09/17

Electoral division affected: Parishes within the LAF

Transport for Buckinghamshire



SUMMARY

1. This report forms a briefing from Transport for Buckinghamshire and is intended to give information to participants Local Area Forum (LAF) / Local Community Partnership (LCP) as to matters, projects and initiatives ongoing within Transport for Buckinghamshire, which may affect the local LAF area.
2. It aims to provide a comprehensive update on current and relevant Transportation issues, tailored where relevant to each individual LAF / LCP.
3. Standard topics to be covered include:
 - Schemes Group Update
 - Safety Defect Repairs (Revenue Funding)
 - Street Lighting
 - Network Safety
 - Rights of Way
 - Communications
4. In addition, it will cover any emerging issues which could or will affect Local Area Forum / Local Community Partnership areas.

We are always keen to receive feedback, positive or negative, in connection with our reporting, in order that we may continually drive improvement, and as such would be keen to receive any comment or query you have, which should be sent to our LAF co-ordinator, Sarah Wells, at the following e-mail address:

t-sewells@buckscc.org

Buckinghamshire County Council Team Structure

The Highways Client Team takes a strategic view of TfB's service and, working closely with TfB, ensures that the council's objectives are being met.

The Client's duties are to:

- Act as an advisor to the Cabinet Member on matters of policy and technical requirements
- To undertake the role of Traffic Manager, as required by the Traffic Management Act
- To undertake the role of Service Manager to ensure the contract is properly administered, and to report to the council's Senior Management Team
- To confirm service budgets, issue task orders, and agree service changes as the year progresses
- To provide robust checks and challenges to the quality and value for money of the service delivered by TfB
- To be the intelligent Client and work with TfB to understand risk and commercial influences, and seek better ways of delivering the service
- To take a long term view of the service and, working with TfB, ensure the service aligns with the council's strategic plan and corporate policies



Senior Management & Team Leaders



Contract Director
Simon Dando



Network Strategy Manager
Martin Heeley



Schemes and Interim Operations Manager
Dave Stewart



Finance Manager
Donna Clarke

Teams

Network Congestion

Dave Roberts

Parking

Alistair Turk

Road Space Management

Anna Coles Jimmy Wells

Intelligent Transport Systems

Vacancy

Asset

Keith Carpenter

Network Safety

Sue Brown

Business Improvement

Kerry Ann Christelow

Business Planning

Michael Light

Customer & Communications

Rosemary Bryant

Green Claims

Graham Allen

Quality & Performance

Corrina Fawcett

Teams

Schemes Countywide

Kevin Allen

Area Schemes

Sian Thomas

Structures

Keith Dolan

Teams

Street Lighting

Phil Lain

Area Managers:

Griffin Lane

Calvin Richardson

Handy Cross

Dave Coupe

Amersham

Peter Arrowsmith
(Interim)

Customer & Compliance Officers

Zoe Ford - Griffin Lane
Karen Smith - Handy Cross
Rosie Taylor - Amersham

Local Area Technicians

Highway Inspectors

Teams

Finance

SCHEMES GROUP UPDATE

The scheme delivery team comprises two main elements, complemented by specialists within other teams such as Structures and Lighting which between them, are responsible for the identification, design and construction of the majority of the Council's annual capital highways spend.

Capital Maintenance activities are carried out under the jurisdiction of Transport for Buckinghamshire's Scheme Delivery Manager, ensuring wherever practicable, a co-ordinated and collaborative approach to works planning, minimising disruption and maximising outputs.

- The teams have responsibility for design and construction of highway capital maintenance and improvement schemes across the county, Local Area Forum (LAF) initiated and funded schemes, Transport, Economy and Environment (TEE) schemes and third party related schemes originating from various additional sources. The team is split into three main areas of delivery:
- **Capital Maintenance Scheme Delivery (Countywide)** – oversees delivery of the main Capital carriageway and footway maintenance programme, funded directly from Buckinghamshire County Council.
- **Area Scheme Delivery** – responsibility for delivery of various stages of improvement projects, including initial scoping and investigation to determine feasibility, design to current standards, consultation and liaison, procurement and construction. This includes schemes originating from LAF's, TEE, third parties through Section 106 funding and other sources. In addition, the Area Scheme Delivery Team oversee the progression of programmes of Capital Drainage improvements and Capital Safety fencing Improvements across the county.
- **Specialist Teams** – with responsibility for the progression of programmes of Capital Maintenance within their specialised areas. This includes structures/bridges, traffic signals, parking and casualty reduction.

CAPITAL MAINTENANCE SCHEME DELIVERY (COUNTYWIDE)

Transport for Buckinghamshire have been entrusted with the delivery of £15.7m on carriageway and footway maintenance projects throughout 2017/18.

The programme combines work highlighted by local Members with information from technical surveys which identifies long term priorities to optimise value for money by undertaking the right treatment at the right time.

The move to a rolling 4-year programme of Capital work has allowed us to demonstrate to the Department for Transport (DfT) that we have an effective asset strategy, meeting the DfT criteria which will protect funding for future years through:

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

An overall programme of 94 countywide carriageway surfacing schemes has so far been developed and work has already commenced on the three main programmes of work consisting of conventional surfacing, surface dressing & micro-surfacing. A summary of these and other programmes of work to be delivered during 2017/18 has been detailed below:

Strategic Highway Maintenance Conventional Surfacing (including Road Improvement/National Productivity Fund Schemes) - Delivery of a programme of 41 schemes commenced in April, with all schemes programmed for completion by the end of November 2017.

Strategic Highway Maintenance Surface Dressing – The agreed programme of works contains 26 schemes to be delivered across the county. Preparatory patching work together with the surface dressing treatment have already been completed with the reinstatement of road markings and road studs, is expected to be completed by the end of September/beginning of September.

Strategic Highway Maintenance Micro-surfacing – The final programme contains work on 34 schemes covering over 60 individual streets across the county. Preparatory patching work has already been completed across all schemes and the micro-surfacing treatment which has commenced, is programmed for completion at the end of October. Other activities associated with this programme of works such as ironwork adjustments and the reinstatement of road markings will continue through to the end of November.

Strategic Highway Maintenance Joint Sealing – The final list of schemes associated with the 2017/18 programme of works still needs to be confirmed. Any work to be carried out within the boundaries of this Local Area Forum are expected to be carried out between January & March 2018.

Strategic Highway Surfacing Schemes Road Improvement (National Productivity Fund) - The final list of schemes associated with the 2017/18 programme of works has been confirmed. Any work to be carried out within the boundaries of this Local Area Forum are expected to be carried out by the end of November 2017.

Carriageway Patching (DfT Pothole Action Fund) – In 2017/18 the budget for this programme of works was increased by approximately £300,000 to £852,000 and will be spent in-year on pothole prevention. Multiple potholes have already been repaired across the county following the use of the Jetpatcher, a device which cleans out crevices with a blast of high-pressure air before filling them with a mixture of sand and bitumen. Further schemes to be delivered as part of the 2017/18 programme still needs to be confirmed. Any work to be carried out within the boundaries of this Local Area Forum are expected to be carried out from October 2017.

Plane & Patch – The final list of schemes associated with the 2017/18 programme of works still needs to be confirmed. Any work to be carried out within the boundaries of this Local Area Forum are expected to be carried out from October 2017.

Footway Structural Repairs - The final list of schemes associated with the 2017/18 programme of works still needs to be confirmed. Any work to be carried out within the boundaries of this Local Area Forum are expected to be carried out from October 2017.

Details of schemes completed or being carried out within the boundaries of this Area Forum are given in the table shown in **Appendix 1**.

Capital Maintenance Schemes Delivery (Countywide) Team

Appendix 1 - 2017/18 Strategic Highway Maintenance Programme - Denham & Gerrards Cross Area Forum Update

Task Name	Road Number	Road Name	Town / Village	Start Location	Finish Location	Members	Programme Status	Financial Year 2016/17 Quarter 1 (April to June 2016)	Financial Year 2016/17 Quarter 2 (July to Sept 2016)	Financial Year 2016/17 Quarter 3 (Oct to Dec 2016)	Financial Year 2016/17 Quarter 4 (Jan to Mar 2017)	Month of Planned or Actual Completion	Comments
Carriageway Surfacing Programmes													
Strategic Highway Maintenance - Conventional Surfacing Programme													
170055		North Orbital Service Road	Denham	Denham Green Lane	Tilehouse Way	Roger Reed	Programmed		✓			September	Surfacing and the reinstatement of road markings programmed to be completed by the end of September.
170098		Dukes Wood Drive Service Road	Gerrards Cross	Whole length	Whole length	Barbara Gibbs	Completed		✓			August	Targeted patching and the reinstatement of road markings completed.
Strategic Highway Maintenance - Surface Dressing Programme													
170016	A40	Oxford Road	Denham	A421 (east and westbound carriageways)	A40/M40 Denham Roundabout (east and westbound carriageways)	Roger Reed	In Progress					Deferred until 2018/19	Preparatory work completed. The road markings will be refreshed by the end of September. surface dressing treatment deferred until 2018/19.
Strategic Highway Maintenance - Micro-surfacing Programme													
170054		Marsham Way	Gerrards Cross	Packhorse Road	Mill Lane	Barbara Gibbs	Completed		✓			August	All activities completed.
170091		West Common Close	Gerrards Cross	Whole length	Whole length	Barbara Gibbs	In Progress			✓		November	Preparatory work completed. The micro-surfacing treatment is programmed for completion by the end of October with the reinstatement of road markings and ironwork adjustments planned to be completed by the end of November.
Plane & Patch Programme													
170236		Slade Oak Lane & Old Rectory Lane	Denham	Motorway overbridge	A412 Denham Ave	Roger Reed	Programmed			✓		November	Targeted patching along Slade Oak Lane to be completed by the end of November. Although the proposed treatment along Old Rectory Lane still needs to be determined, the required work is expected to be completed in conjunction with the work along Slade Oak Lane.
Strategic Highway Maintenance - Joint Sealing Programme													

2017/18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS STILL TO BE CONFIRMED
(Joint sealing associated with this programme of works are expected to be carried out between January & March 2018)

DfT Carriageway Patching Programme

2017/18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS STILL TO BE CONFIRMED
(Carriageway patching associated with this programme of works are expected to be carried out from October 2017)

Strategic Highway Surfacing Schemes - Road Improvement Programme

NO SURFACING AS PART OF THIS PROGRAMME OF WORKS ARE PLANNED IN THIS AREA DURING 2017/18

Footway Surfacing Programmes

Footway Structural Repair Programme

2017/18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS STILL TO BE CONFIRMED
(Footway structural repairs associated with this programme of works are expected to be carried out from October 2017)

AREA SCHEME DELIVERY

The Area Scheme Delivery Team are responsible for completion of works relating to:

- Local delivery capital schemes including LAF, parking, Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), traffic signals and delivery of various third party funded commissions.
- Provision of expert specialist design services and advice.
- Support to Highways Development Management where design or technical advice may be sought.
- Feasibility and investigate work to determine value for money solutions.
- Design in accordance with both national and local design standards.

Streamlined, transparent and effective process for the progression of minor improvement works has been developed with the buy in of our Clients. This has enabled a greater visibility of programme and progress, cost, budget and communication paths. The process identifies logical steps to completion, namely:

- **Initiation/Feasibility** – determine whether the project can progress within the agreed parameters, and where appropriate define options for Client consideration.
- **Design/Consultation** – upon confirmation of Client preference, design the chosen scheme to current standards and undertake any necessary informal or statutory consultation to bring the scheme to construction stage.
- **Construction** – progress work to site upon completion of design.

It should be recognised that most minor improvement projects are bespoke and individual and therefore any attempts to project 'typical' prices are extremely difficult. Even relatively small scale minor improvement projects can often contain significant complexities within design, consultation and construction. Transport for Buckinghamshire are legally and professionally bound to ensure that any change is undertaken in line with appropriate design standards and with due regard to any health and safety implication which may arise.

In addition to the above, Capital spend programmes are being progressed in the year relating to the following:

- **Drainage** – design and build work continues on a number of defined priority schemes identified through members, LAT's or third party notifications where lack of highway drainage provision is identified to be a primary contributor to road safety concerns or to problems of water ingress to property.

- **Safety Fencing** – a programme of work will progress throughout the year to upgrade or replace existing sections of safety fencing which have been identified through survey to be deteriorated or sub-standard.

Specific progress against schemes within the boundaries of the Denham & Gerrards Cross Area Forum are detailed within the attached table (**Appendix 2**).

SPECIALIST TEAMS

In addition to the above, programmes of specialist Capital works are in progress in the following areas. Commentary is included within their specific sections:

Structures Maintenance – a programme of bridge and culvert strengthening/replacement has been prepared from inspection information, taking cognisance of requirements of national design and construction standards, and is progressing in specific locations around the County. In addition, design work is nearing completion for upgrade of deteriorated pumping stations which have caused problems over recent years, with upgrade work to be progressed prior to end March 2017.

Street Lighting – a column replacement programme has been developed in two phases, following structural inspection which has identified aged columns which may be at risk of future failure. Phase 1 commenced on site in September and is nearing completion, with both phases completing before end March 2017, equating to around 850 column replacements in total.

Parking/Pay and Display – installations have taken place within local areas in Aylesbury and Chesham, through October and November 2016.

Casualty Reduction – site specific Casualty Reduction initiatives are taking place in line with a programme of work developed and prioritised through accident review.

Delivery of the various capital maintenance works programmes across our specialisms is key to achieving Buckinghamshire County Council and Transport for Buckinghamshire's main aims of:

Maintain a safe and reliable highway network: Aid safety by improving the condition of the carriageway, footway and structures, reducing reactive maintenance requirements, maintaining reliable journey times for road users, and ensuring the safe passage of both road users and pedestrians. To provide a reliable service for all of our customers, complete work efficiently and effectively, on time and to budget, with as little disruption as possible.

Improving the asset: Work within the agreed budget to improve the road surface and structural condition of the highway and improve the journey time reliability. Ensure our road network operates at maximum effectiveness in Buckinghamshire.

Getting you there: To develop improvements to our strategic and local road networks to facilitate reliable end to end journeys for residents, business and visitors. To make improvements giving increased opportunities for exercise, recreation and enjoyment.

Communications: To provide up to date information, engaging with road users and local individuals to provide a clear understanding of our work, gain a full appreciation of factors affecting local people and promote our visions, aims, values, services and achievements.

AREA BASED SCHEME DELIVERY UPDATE

Appendix 2

Definitions:

Stage	Description
Initiation	Scheme identified and resource allocated - where possible key programme dates identified
Feasibility	Scheme feasibility stage including feasibility check/design, informal consultation
Detailed Design	Detailed design and completion of construction information and statutory consultation / decision process if required. (Does not include procurement)
Construction	Start of construction on site and date of substantial completion.

Denham and Gerrards Cross Area Forum Schemes

Scheme Name	Description	County Councillor	Parish Council	TfB Project Lead	Work Stage	Comments / Status Update	Actual Start Date	Actual Finish Date
Ethorpe Crescent, Gerrards Cross Parking Restrictions	Parking: Parking Restrictions on Ethorpe Cres and South Park Drive/Cres	Barbara Gibbs	Gerrards Cross TC	Martin Bolton	Initiation	Complete	04-Dec-15	04-Dec-15
					Feasibility	Proposed scheme has been discussed with local member. Scheme taken informal consultation includes: - residents / limited waiting parking on Ethorpe Crescent. - waiting restrictions on South Park Crescent and South Park Drive. There is significant building/development work in this area, which results in significant number of workers vehicles, which will current conflict with any proposals. Informal consultation took place between 23 May 2016 to 19 June 2016; approximately 70 public responses with wide ranging views.	04-Dec-15	19-Jun-16
					Detailed Design	Gerrards Cross Town Council made request for additional roads to be included within scheme. This request was further amended by Town Council, with the town council seeking to provide additional funding to complete these restrictions. These additional restrictions (total 7 locations) have been assessed to confirm which elements were acceptable and meet the requirements of the PIP. TfB have provided a budget estimate to Gerrards Cross Town Council for additional sites for their consideration. Cllr David Martin has also requested additional restrictions within neighbouring parish. Pending further funding approval, programme for statutory consultation and implementation will be confirmed. Indicative dates are for completion of the statutory consultation and decision process by end November 2017 subject to agreement of funding.	12-Apr-17	
					Construction	Programme dates to be confirmed once the design elements are agreed. Indicative dates are for completion of implementation January 2018 subject to agreement of funding.		
Gerrards Cross A413 Layby Feasibility Study	Study into reduction in layby/slip road off A413	Barbara Gibbs	Gerrards Cross TC	Simon Bailey	Initiation	Complete	22-Aug-17	22-Sep-17
					Feasibility	Initial site visits complete. Anticipate study completion by end of November 2017	22-Aug-17	
					Detailed Design	Not part of current commission		
					Construction	Not part of current commission		

Non-LAF Schemes within Denham and Gerrards Cross Area Forum Area

Scheme Name	Description	County Councillor	Parish Council	TfB Project Lead	Work Stage	Comments / Status Update	Actual Start Date	Actual Finish Date
A4020 Oxford Road, Denham	Drainage works	Patricia Birchley	Denham	Drainage Team	Initiation	Priority 3 (with 10 being the highest priority) no work due until 2017/18	30-Mar-16	
					Feasibility	Site Visit January 2017 due to higher priorities coming in this will be moved to 2018/19		
					Detailed Design			
					Construction			
A355 Dorney hill Beaconsfield	Drainage works	Barbara Gibbs	Hedgerley PC	Drainage Team	Initiation	Brief received 6/4/16	06-Apr-16	25-Apr-16
					Feasibility	Initial site visit 25/04/16 priority 6 (with 10 being the highest priority) lack of funds will push this to 2018/19	25-Apr-16	
					Detailed Design			
					Construction			
Ashmead Lane Denham	Drainage works	Roger Reed	Denham PC	Sarah Reid	Initiation	Brief Received 31/8/16	31-Aug-16	
					Feasibility	Priority 5 due to budget restraints work will be 2017/18, Detailed design due to commence May 2017		
					Detailed Design			
					Construction	Works programmed for January 2018		
Oakside Denham	Drainage works	Roger Reed	Denham PC	Sarah Reid	Initiation	Brief received 3/1/17		
					Feasibility	Site Visit January 2017		
					Detailed Design	Design complete		
					Construction	Complete	24-Apr-17	27-Apr-17
A4020 Oxford Road, New Denham	Safety scheme signing and lining works	Roger Reed	Denham PC	Trevor Bonsor	Initiation	PID received 10/04/2017		
					Feasibility	Completed		
					Detailed Design	Completed		
					Construction	Lining works completed, vegetation clearance completed and signing works completed.		

REVENUE MAINTENANCE UPDATE

SAFETY DEFECT REPAIRS (REVENUE FUNDING) UPDATE

Safety related actions will continue to be carried out over the course of this year, with routine Highway Safety inspections being carried out by our two Highway Inspectors, and the 6 Local Area Technicians covering the Chiltern & South Bucks area with the Technician for Gerrards Cross being John Thackeray and Wayne Fabian covering the Denham LAF area. A brief summary below highlights the core areas of routine service delivery:

Cyclic Gully Cleansing & Drainage

We have commenced Year 2 of the cyclic gully cleansing programme, starting 1st April as planned. One machine will continue to cyclically cleanse gullies across the southern regions of Buckinghamshire. The programme is set for this resource to clean gullies on a fortnightly basis between Wycombe, Chiltern & South Bucks areas. The gully cleansing programme is phased to maximise summer weather conditions with outputs planned to manage the expected winter conditions. This provides us with an element of surety that Year 2 gully cleansing programme will be completed by the end of March 2018.

We also now have a reactive gully machine split between the three depots which will target any areas that are known ponding/flooding sites, or sites that need to be attended sooner than programmed. This is managed by our schedulers with the Technicians raising orders for reactive sites to be attended.

Safety Defects (Carriageway and Footway)

We are continuing to carry out defect repairs to potholes that meet our new Highway Policy intervention levels, however we are also carrying out various other improvements to the carriageways this financial year to help improve the network.

We have had the Velocity Jetpatching machine on contract carrying out repairs within Chiltern & South Bucks. This resource is specifically working to finite funding to undertake permanent carriageway repairs across the local networks. We have seen great value for money and fantastic guaranteed results in many places. Specifically to the Gerrards Cross LAF we have carried out Jetpatching in; Lower Road, Gerrards Cross.

Weed Spraying

Treatment to known sites of Noxious weeds (primarily Japanese Knotweed and Rag Wort) has been undertaken with two cycles of treatment having been completed by the external specialist crew. There will be a further treatment during September with a final site clearance visit undertaken in December. Any new locations identified during the summer will not be treated until next financial year. The full up to date list can be found within this report.

There will be no treatment made to general weeds by Transport for Buckinghamshire this year.

Grass Cutting

Urban – We are currently half way through cut 3 and the crews are currently in the Denham area carrying out the grass cutting.

Each cut cycle is expected to take 7 weeks, however due to the wet and warm weather we have experienced as well as machine break downs during the hot weather we are slightly behind. Crews are working hard to catch up carrying out weekend works at the present time.

Rural – Rural grass cutting consists of three junction visibility cuts and one 1.2m swathe cut. We are currently carrying out cut 3 which is the 1.2m swathe cut which is cut to be completed by September. With the final vision splay and junction cut starting at the end of September.

Road Markings

We are no longer able to offer an in-house road marking resource, however we do have supply-chain availability and are preparing to make best use of the expected summer road conditions, with several APM markings, and other essential markings that the technicians and Highway Inspectors pick up during inspections, we will continue to make our way through the list of outstanding jobs until the weather becomes an issue.

John Thackeray has had a great push in getting lining works completed in the Gerrards Cross area with disabled bays being refreshed as well as junction markings. John will continue to raise orders and works will be carried out until the weather turns.

WINTER SERVICE UPDATE

We have now entered the summer period preparations for the forthcoming winter season and these are continuing to take shape. A full service has now been carried out on the salt barn at the London Road East Depot with some repairs being carried out currently. Salt stocks are due to be replenished during the next few weeks and the re stocking of salt bins will be carried out during October.

Further details regarding winter service are available on our website at: <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/road-maintenance-and-repairs/winter-maintenance/> or you can follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @tfbalerts.

STREET LIGHTING UPDATE

The Lighting team has responsibility for maintenance, design (specification) and construction of Lighting capital maintenance and improvement schemes across the county, Transport, Economy and Environment (TEE) schemes and third party related schemes originating from a number of sources. The team is split into two main areas of delivery, with support provided to the Capital Maintenance Schemes team surrounding public lighting delivery:

- **Lighting Capital Maintenance Schemes (Countywide)** – oversees delivery of the Lighting Capital maintenance programme, funded directly from Buckinghamshire County Council. In 2017/18 this equates to a total budget spend of over £1.518m.
- **Lighting Planned Maintenance** – responsibility for delivery of various maintenance/improvement projects, including initial scoping and investigation to determine feasibility, design/specification to current standards, consultation and liaison, procurement and construction. This includes schemes originating from LAF's, TEE, third parties and currently equates to over 5000 works orders ongoing in 2017/18.

LIGHTING CAPITAL MAINTENANCE SCHEMES (COUNTYWIDE)

Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB) is scheduled to deliver the capital maintenance initiative via two countywide projects this year as detailed below.

Scheme 1 Annual Structural Replacement

With a successful MTP bid in 2015/2016, TfB have a budget this year to replace the aged/damaged Lighting Assets of £1.068m this year

This project follows the results of the Revenue based Electrical and Structural Testing Programme not only fulfilling the legal requirement to maintain their adopted highway assets, but ensuring the areas highlighted as age expired can be located, programmed, and completed within the financial year. Assets completed via this Programme also benefit from an LED conversion as additional energy reduction initiative. The new assets installed as part of this project have an indicative life span of 35years.

This project is scheduled to start in August this year with completion in February. To ensure value for money is demonstrated and maintained, all projects will be tendered and awarded to the most competitive supply chain partner. This framework agreement will form a key part of ensuring the service quality maintained whilst delivered in line with the current contractual arrangements with BCC.

Scheme 2 LED Lantern Replacements

With a successful MTP bid this year, TfB have a budget to replace aged Low Pressure Sodium Lanterns of £0.45m this year

This project follows the replacement of life expired inefficient 'orange' lanterns with new LED's with a manufacture guarantee of 10 years. This will assist with reducing energy & maintenance visits. Currently the project is likely to consist of 3,000 of the existing 7,500 inefficient lanterns in residential areas.

This project is scheduled to start in October this year with completion in February. To ensure value for money is demonstrated and maintained, all projects will be tendered and awarded to the most competitive supply chain partner. This framework agreement will form a key part of ensuring the service quality maintained whilst delivered in line with the current contractual arrangements with BCC.

LIGHTING PLANNED MAINTENANCE

Providing the main core of the Lighting works, the Lighting Planned Maintenance budget for 2017/18 equates to £2.6m. Within this BCC agreed budget and the TfB framework, it is the Lighting Teams area of responsibility to manage and pay the Energy for the public Lighting Assets. This has been subject to reductions following completed Energy efficiency projects under the Lighting Capital Maintenance schemes over the past 3 years.

Planned maintenance is not only a reactive service completing faults on the highway. Its nomination in the Industry recognized Vinci Innovation awards for its approach to Night time patrols is just one area TfB have improved the proactive service for BCC.

Last year, with the introduction of the Network Asset Database 'CONFIRM', the Lighting Department are striving to take this innovation further by introducing Strategic Asset Profiling. This will now allow TfB to capture information to link key Highway attributes to the Asset.

This means TfB can determine the Speed of the Road on which the Asset is situated, whether or not the Asset is present on a Primary Salting Route etc., and if any Asset is in a potential accident hot-spot etc.

This additional information will allow us to predict where the trends recommend and proactively manage the areas highlighted to be at an elevated risk position. This also will ensure that we capture any asset information that results in an increased maintenance spend, allowing regimes of works to be created to further mitigate risk of Asset fault.

(Appendix 3)

Appendix 3 - 2017/18 Street Lighting Programme - Denham and Gerrards Cross Area Forum Update

Task Name	Road Number	Road Name	Town / Village	Members	Programme Status	Financial Year 2017/18 Quarter 1 (April to June 2017)	Financial Year 2017/18 Quarter 2 (July to Sept 2017)	Financial Year 2017/18 Quarter 3 (Oct to Dec 2017)	Financial Year 2017/18 Quarter 4 (Jan to Mar 2018)	Month of Planned or Actual Completion	Comments
Street Lighting											
160015	Various	Various	Denham and Gerrards Cross	Roger Reed/Barbara Gibbs/Mark Shaw	Programmed			✓	✓	Quarterly throughout the year.	Street lighting quaterly night time patrols carried out covering entire area
160015	Various	Various	Denham and Gerrards Cross	Roger Reed/Barbara Gibbs/Mark Shaw	Programmed			✓	✓	Ongoing	Street lighting reactive repairs following night time patrols and reported faults.
160015	Various	Various	Denham and Gerrards Cross	Roger Reed/Barbara Gibbs/Mark Shaw	Programmed			✓	✓	Apr-18	Capital column replacements for 2017/2018 currently being finalised but are expected to include the remaining concrete columns & a small number of feeder pillars county wide, also column replacements in Aylesbury following 2016/2017 structural testing programme that have failed the test.
160015	Various	Various	Denham and Gerrards Cross	Roger Reed/Barbara Gibbs/Mark Shaw	Programmed			✓	✓	Apr-18	LED lantern replacement programme currently being finalised and awarded to supply chain partners. LED lanterns to replace existing inefficient lanterns on residential areas in the extremities of Bucks including Marlow, Iver, Burnham, Pitstone, Princes Risborough, Lane End & Stokenchurch first to reduce travel time spent on maintenance.

NETWORK SAFETY UPDATE

Eco Driving Assessments

Eco driving assessments are to be offered to drivers countywide. These one hour assessments are designed to improve safety and reduce fuel costs by adopting some key techniques, such as greater anticipation, use of gears and speed. Results so far have shown that drivers can achieve a reduction in MPG of 15%.

Winter Driving Workshops

Winter driving workshops are being booked and dates and venues will be forwarded once confirmed. The workshops consist of a presentation on preparing your car for winter and how to drive in winter weather. This is then followed by a practical demonstration in the garage showing how to carry out checks, such as water, oil, tyres etc.

Safe Drive Stay Alive

The booking site for **Safe Drive Stay Alive** is open to schools and colleges and booking is well underway with 3 of the 6 performances at the Wycombe Swan already fully booked. Many schools and colleges have already booked, but do contact road safety if you would like to check if your local school or college is going.

Below are the dates for 2017:

November 10th and 11th – Milton Keynes

November 13th 14th, 15th - High Wycombe

November 28th, 29th, 30th – Oxford

Please contact June Howlett to book seats. t-jhowlett@buckscc.org

Further information can be found from the website below:

<http://www.safedrive.org.uk/>

RIGHTS OF WAY UPDATE

Summer 2017

Summer surface clearance on the rights of way network is ongoing. Vegetation growth has been vigorous, but the intention is still to complete 140 km of clearance over the summer and autumn of 2017 using the rights of way gangs and volunteer organisations.

On completion of the scheduled summer vegetation clearance the works gangs will switch to structure works, including bridges, signs and waymarks posts, and these works are undertaken over the winter and spring. There still remains 85 bridge repairs to be completed with 3 bridge structures closed for reasons of public safety.

The RoW Operations team continue to work with volunteer organisation, such as the Chiltern Society and Ramblers' Association, so far this financial year volunteers have completed 120 jobs and gifted over 700 volunteer hours.

From the 1st June 2017 the Rights of Way Operations Team has been transferred from Transport for Buckinghamshire to the Environment Service within Buckinghamshire County Council, and is now within Councillor Bill Chapple's portfolio.

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Keeping Parishes informed about road closures

Transport for Buckinghamshire processes several emergency road closures every day, which are implemented immediately. These closures are usually for emergency repairs by gas, electric, or water companies, or safety defect repairs. Because these closures are unplanned it is not always straightforward to notify everyone concerned, so earlier in the summer we added parish contacts to a mailing list that automatically sends a notification when road closures are processed. We hope by doing this that parishes and local residents feel more informed about our works, and those of utility companies et cetera.

Keep up to date with the summer resurfacing programme

Despite rain stopping play frequently this “summer”, the resurfacing programme is still going strong. Stay up to date with works in your area in a number of ways; you can find the weekly surfacing update, released to press once a week, on our website, here:

<http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/road-maintenance-and-repairs/road-treatment-programme/> You can follow us on Twitter, @tfbalerts, for daily updates, or you can look on the interactive roadworks map, here <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/maps/map-of-roadworks/> and search by road name or postcode.

Preparing for Winter

It will soon be time for us to start thinking about winter! Around this time of year we begin planning how we will keep everyone informed of vital winter transport news when the temperature drops. At the end of August we attended the Buckinghamshire County Show with one of our gritters, to begin reminding residents that the cold weather will soon be on its way (sorry everyone).

Contact us

As always, you can stay up-to-date with transport news by liking Transport for Buckinghamshire on Facebook, or following @TfBalerts on Twitter. However, please remember to use the website to report road defects, from pot holes to broken streetlights, to TfB at www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport/tell-tfb/

In an emergency please call our contact centre on **01296 382416** or **01296 486630** (out of hours).

Buckinghamshire County Council

Visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/democracy for councillor information and email alerts for local meetings

Report regarding the Denham and Gerrards Cross Local Area Budget

Title: Local Area devolved budgets 2017-18

Date: 4 October 2017

Author: Jane O'Grady, Director of Public Health

Contact officer: Paul Hodson Area Manager
Tel: 01296 38 3479
Email: phodson@buckscc.gov.uk

Electoral divisions affected: Gerrards Cross
Denham

Summary

1. This paper describes the arrangements for the Buckinghamshire County Council budgets devolved to Local Areas in 2017-18.
2. This budget provides the opportunity for Parish, Town, District and County Councillors, along with residents' organisations and other appropriate local groups, to help prioritise County Council expenditure and activity in their area as well as working together to resolve local issues.
3. Each Local area has been allocated a devolved budget (called the Local Priorities budget) to help address local priorities in its area. The Denham & Gerrards Cross Local Priorities budget for 2017-18 is £22,790. It was also allocated £3,400 in September 2016 to help deliver Year 2 of the County Council's Active Bucks programme in the area in 2017.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Recommendation

4. Denham & Gerrards Cross Area is recommended to note the arrangements in 2017-18 for:
 - its Local Priorities budget of £22,790 as described in the report
 - its allocation of £3,400 to support the Active Bucks project (January – September 2017)

Background

5. An aim of the County Council's Strategic Plan is that all Buckinghamshire residents should be able to effect changes that will improve their lives and their local areas. We want to encourage communities to be actively involved in improving their local areas and all those who want more say in their local communities and services to have the opportunity to do so.
6. The Local Priorities budget plays a central role in achieving this (although this is not the only mechanism for working at a local level). The Local Priorities budget provided to each Local Area by Buckinghamshire County Council is to be used to assist the Local Area in addressing local priorities within the overarching framework of the County Council's [Strategic Plan](#).

Local Priorities budget

7. The Local Priorities budget for 2017-18 is £500k. The County Council has a Strategic Plan commitment to "devolve Council assets and services to town and parish councils where it makes sense to do so". In support of this, the County Council is supporting a capacity building programme from town and parish councils, funded in part by £50k from 2017-18 the Local Priorities budget.
8. This makes the total Local Priorities budget £450k to be allocated via the Local area's according to population base, social need and other issues in the local area.
9. The Denham & Gerrards Cross Local Area allocation is £22,790. The allocation of Local Priorities budget across all Local Area's is contained in Appendix A.
10. Area Managers can provide guidance to assist Local Areas in identifying activity that will be eligible for support from the Local Priorities Budget.
11. In addition to the Local Priorities budget, the Local Area has received £3,400 for a second year from Active Bucks (Public Health) to promote physical activity in their area. (See paragraphs 34 – 40)

Management and Decision-Making of the Local Priorities Delegated Budget

12. The Local Priorities budget is to be used to commission and support activities which will help deliver the County Council's Strategic Plan and meet the local priorities identified by its Local Area.

Criteria for the use of Local Priorities budget

13. Proposals must:

- demonstrate that it will be an effective way of addressing the identified need and present value for money.
- provide a minimum of 50% non-BCC funding - for road safety, traffic calming and parking schemes.
- Meet one of more of the County Council's Strategic Priorities, as describe in the [Strategic Plan](#).

14. All proposals will be assessed against these three points, and recommendations will be based on this assessment.

15. The Local Area's investment must be spent in line with Buckinghamshire County Council's financial orders and procurement framework;

16. Local Priorities funding cannot be used to fund:

- activity which has already taken place.
- activity or facilities which are the primary funding responsibility of another body (e.g. it should not be used for activities normally funded by parish precepts or by district council budgets) unless it can be evidenced that the applying organisation is unable to provide the funding itself and has been unable to secure additional funding for the project.
- routine ongoing, updating or maintenance costs of organisations
- individuals
- political organisations
- activity aimed at the promotion of political or religious beliefs.

17. Proposals must also demonstrate that other sources of funding have been sought and are not available, or that the Local Area's contribution is an essential part of a multiple funding package. Proposals with match-funding will be prioritised *unless* a proposal can demonstrate that alternative funding is not available.

18. The existing guidance for the use of the Local Priorities Budget where assets/services are being transferred from BCC to a parish council or community organisation will remain in place for 3 years *following* the transfer date of each asset or service:

- Funding relating to the maintenance, development or operation of an asset and/or service transferring from Buckinghamshire County Council to a community group will be decided as part of the Council's transfer decision.
- The Local Priorities Budget:
 - a. cannot be accessed at a later date for subsidising or supplementing the service if it was part of the original transfer package.
 - b. can be used for developing new or extended services with in-built sustainability if they meet the requirements for Local Priorities support.

19. Allocations can be made on schemes which span 2 financial years (or more), but funding can only be assured for the current year. This will be considered when making such an allocation i.e. what value can be achieved in the 1st year should funding not be available for the remainder of the scheme in subsequent years. Alternatively, the Local Area can make use of the Local Priorities Reserve. (See paragraph 31b)

Submission and evaluation of proposals

20. Proposals for Local Priorities funding can be submitted by any organisation. Area Managers may also commission a proposal from organisations which they consider having the capabilities to deliver Local Area priorities. All proposals must be submitted on a proposal form which is available via your Area Manager or from communities@buckscc.gov.uk. Members who have particular ideas should raise these directly with their local County Councillor, Lead Area Officer or Area Manager. Completion of proposal forms will ensure a consistent approach and that sufficient information has been provided to support an effective assessment.
21. The Area Manager will evaluate all eligible proposals, consult with the local County Councillors and make recommendations to the Local Area. When evaluating proposals, the Area Manager will also assess whether there are other plans in place to address the priority, other funding opportunities, or if 'quick wins' can be identified, to enable specific proposals/issues to be resolved quickly through other means. In some cases an Area Manager will refer the proposal back to the organisation if further information is required, particularly around research into sources of alternative funding.
22. The submission deadline for proposals to be delivered by Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB) in 2017-18 was August 2016. This deadline ensures complete assessments and budget estimates are prepared for all proposals to be considered by the Local Area's and scheduled into the 2017-18 TfB work programme. Therefore no further proposals will be taken for TfB-delivered schemes in 2017-18. Any proposals for TfB schemes for 2018-19 must be submitted by the end of August 2017.

Compliance with the Council's financial orders and procurement framework

23. All Local Area funding must be allocated in line with Buckinghamshire County Council's financial orders and procurement framework¹. It must be spent on activity within the financial year for which it is allocated. For this reason:
- Local Areas are urged to allocate their budgets as far in advance as possible as this will enable schemes to commence early in the relevant financial year once the budget is confirmed by Buckinghamshire County Council.
 - Organisations are encouraged to begin planning their proposals and delivery as early as possible in order to participate in this financial allocation process and ensure that expenditure on proposals can take place within the relevant financial year.
24. The Area Managers are responsible for ensuring that funding priorities and possible schemes are compliant with the Council's procurement framework. It is important that proposals can be considered at the earliest possible stage, particularly for highways schemes or schemes for which additional funding needs to be raised to ensure that work can be completed during the financial year to which the budget relates.

¹ Compliance with BCC's procurement framework has never yet prohibited a Local Area decision. However, there have been occasions where either the size of a single allocation or the accumulated value of allocations to one provider from a number of Local Areas has required specific action to be taken to ensure that the Council can demonstrate that it considered value for money and fair competition in implementing the Local Area's advice.

Standard conditions to approved Local Priorities budget proposals

25. Standard conditions apply to all schemes receiving Local Priorities budget support and the Area Manager may recommend additional conditions for specific schemes. The standard terms and conditions are:
- a) The Local Area's financial contribution may only be used for the purposes agreed by the Local Area and detailed in the submissions held by Buckinghamshire County Council. Any variations must be agreed by the Service Director and any significant changes will require reconsideration by the Local Area.
 - b) Payment will be made upon invoice with proof of expenditure e.g. relevant paid invoices/receipts at completion of the scheme. (Advance or staged payments can be made by separate agreement with the County Council should this be necessary, for example, where a small organisation may not have adequate cash flow).
 - c) Buckinghamshire County Council's support and funding for the project through the Local Area must be acknowledged in all relevant publicity, including articles on the scheme.
 - d) The funding can only be used during the financial year to which it relates. The recipient must alert the Area Manager at the earliest possible opportunity if it is likely that the scheme expenditure is slipping from its original timetable.
 - e) The recipient must provide monitoring information by the date requested by Buckinghamshire County Council.

Governance

26. As in previous years, in terms of formal decision-making, the Local Area is advising the relevant Service Director on how to spend the Local Priorities budget. The Service Director will implement that advice *unless* there is a good reason not to do so. In such an instance, a full explanation will be provided to the Local Area including, where possible, options to allow a modified scheme to proceed.
27. The Communities Service Director has delegated the responsibility for the management of the Local Priorities budget to the Community Engagement & Development Manager and the day-to-day management to Area Managers. Issues relating to the devolved budget or individual schemes should be raised with the relevant Area Manager who may refer upwards if appropriate.
28. The allocation of funding, expenditure and notifications of timetable slippage (requirement 26d) is monitored by each Area Manager. This enables the Local Area's to consider reallocation to other proposals before the end of September.

Local Priorities budget allocation timetable

29. All Local Area's must have completed budget allocation by the end of September 2017 for the 2017-18 Local Priorities budget. At this time, the Community Engagement & Development Manager will form a view on the unallocated and unspent monies and will allocate the budget to other purposes.

Local Priorities Devolved Budget funding reserve

30. There may be exceptional circumstances which cannot be accommodated within the

devolved budget management framework described in this report. For this reason a funding reserve has been established for Local Priorities approved schemes which meet certain criteria.

31. In summary these criteria are:

- a. A scheme remains viable but, despite best planning, has stalled and is unable to complete within the financial year. Examples include delays in assembling the complete funding package, difficulties in finding a contractor to complete within planned time scales or where bad weather extended outdoor building works.
- b. A Local Area wishes to assemble funding for a scheme over a number of years, either because the scheme value is beyond its funding capability in any one year, or because to deploy its entire annual funding on one scheme would significantly restrict other activity.
- c. A Local Area wishes to provide revenue funding for a scheme that will span several years out of its current annual budget.

32. Additional criteria for the management of the reserve will be:

- Funding will only be transferred to the reserve when a clear plan and commitment to incur the expenditure can be evidenced.
- Where funding is then not fully required as planned, it will be returned to County Council reserves.
- For stalled projects, the activity associated within the “slipped expenditure” must complete within the subsequent financial year i.e. it will not be used as a mechanism to allow stalled projects to stall indefinitely.
- For the categories 31b and 31c above:
 - a minimum threshold of 50% of the Local Area’s annual revenue budget will apply
 - applications for this reserve should be made by August 1st of the fiscal year that the budget relates to.

33. Under no circumstances can the reserve be used to allow Local Areas to carry forward budget accruing from miscellaneous under spends, or a simple failure to allocate its budget in good time and in line with the devolved budget management framework.

Active Bucks allocation to the Local Areas

34. Physical activity has been highlighted in all Public Health local area profiles as a key preventative priority. Active Bucks has allocated part of its funding, £107,600 per year over 2 years (Sept 15 – Sept 17), for distribution via the local areas to support initiatives which increase physical activity, particularly amongst inactive groups. The Denham & Gerrards Cross Local area was allocated £3,100 in September 2016 to help deliver Year 2 of the County Councils Active Bucks programme in the area in 2017, reflecting the population in the area (based on data from Census 2011). The allocations for each Local Area are illustrated in appendix A.

35. The overall Active Bucks funding will be delivered in two ways:

- Projects directly commissioned by the Local Area for locally-determined provision which can deliver the Buckinghamshire Physical Activity Strategy.
- Projects centrally commissioned, including project co-ordination, physical activity asset based community development, asset mapping, some county-wide physical

activity interventions, and evaluation.

36. The Active Bucks funding package for each Local Area went live from September 2015 and each Local Area was provided with a full set of guidelines setting out the priorities to be funded, criteria, restrictions, the decision-making process and deadlines for spend on local physical activity provision. The procurement process for the 2nd year of Active Bucks Local area funding is now complete and contracts have been awarded to successful providers, who will start their delivery between January – March 2017.
37. The funding package, its guidelines and delivery was informed by a community engagement process and an asset mapping exercise which was carried out between May and September 2015. The engagement and mapping was crucial in better understanding physical activity in local communities and identifying what physical activity communities wanted to participate in. As the project concludes, further reports will be provided to the Local Area with the final summary in early 2018.
38. Compliance with the Council's financial orders and procurement framework applies (see paragraphs 23 and 24). Likewise, the same conditions apply to Active Bucks funding as for Local Priorities funding (see paragraph 25).
39. The same governance principles apply (see paragraph 26). The relevant Service Director is the Director of Public Health who has delegated the day-to-day management to Sarah Preston, Public Health Principal. Issues relating to the devolved budget or individual schemes should be raised with the relevant Area Manager who will refer upwards where appropriate.
40. A full report on the Active Bucks project and the role of Local Areas has previously been provided by the Public Health service.

Transportation schemes

41. Transportation schemes are usually delivered by Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB). If parishes and town councils wish, they may undertake the work themselves or can appoint an external contractor for delivery of transportation schemes. However, TfB approval for any scheme on the public highway is required. Parish and Town councils should also be aware that only contractors with the required accreditation approvals needed to work on the public highway will be permitted to undertake the works.

Appendix A.

Local Area	Local Priorities Allocation	Physical Activities Strategy Allocation Year 2 <i>(Already Allocated)</i>	Total
Amersham	£23,140	£5,600	£28,740
Beaconsfield	£22,100	£3,000	£25,100
Beeches	£23,310	£5,100	£28,410
Buckingham	£23,020	£5,600	£28,620
The Chalfonts	£22,330	£4,600	£26,930
Chepping Wye Valley	£23,770	£7,600	£31,370
Chesham & Chiltern Villages	£25,500	£5,600	£31,100
Denham & Gerrards Cross	£22,790	£3,400	£26,190
Gt Brickhill, Wing & Ivinghoe	£22,790	£4,100	£26,890
Greater Aylesbury	£29,830	£15,800	£45,630
Haddenham & Long Crendon	£22,620	£3,300	£25,920
High Wycombe	£30,000	£15,900	£45,900
The Missendens	£22,100	£3,500	£25,600
Northwest Chilterns	£22,850	£5,300	£22,850
Southwest Chilterns & Marlow	£23,950	£6,900	£30,850
Waddesdon	£21,870	£3,000	£24,870
Wendover	£22,390	£3,300	£25,690
Wexham & Ivers	£23,710	£3,000	£26,710
Winslow & District	£21,930	£3,000	£24,930

Local Area Working Impact: 2013-2017

£2.8M
local priorities funding



306
Transport projects



396
Community projects

234
MEETINGS

Adult Social Care
Dementia Good Neighbours Schemes
Trading Standards Prevention Matters
Anti-Social Behaviour **TOPICS** Libraries
Community Health & Wellbeing Youth Forums
Community Safety Community Hubs

85
Resident petitions presented at LAFs



52
resolved



80%
MVAS moved monthly by volunteers



£109k
LAF investment

£2.8M LAF funding
£1.2M Match funding

Successful funding bids to implement studies
£820k



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1. Introduction

Over the last four years each Local Area has funded a range of projects that have all addressed a local priority as well as supporting County Council priorities.

Overall, 702 projects were delivered, including 306 transport schemes. In total £2.8million has been allocated from local area budgets, which has resulted in an additional £1.2million match funding being provided for the funded projects.

Of this, £109,000 was spent contributing to feasibility studies which have, so far, led to £820,000 being invested into the delivery of the proposed schemes.

The first chapter of this report details the priorities of the Gerrards Cross & Denham Local Area, and lists all the projects funded in the last four years. The total budget for local area projects was reduced in 2015; there were more projects in the first two years of the period.

The remainder of the report describes a range of projects supported across the county, grouped by the themes that have been addressed.

2. Gerrards Cross & Denham Local Area Funding Review

Each Local Area determines priorities for the local area plan. To this end, the Gerrards Cross & Denham Area work towards the County Councils strategic priorities.

The current strategic priorities are:

- Safeguarding our Vulnerable
- Creating Opportunities & Building Self-Reliance
- Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive

Funding supporting Buckinghamshire County Councils strategic priorities

Strategic Priority	Allocated	Match Funding	Total
Safeguarding our Vulnerable	£0	£0	£0
Creating Opportunities & Building Self-Reliance	£0	£0	£0
Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive	£125,133	£12,000	£137,133
Totals	£125,133	£12,000	£137,133

Years in review

2016/2017				
Project	Allocated	Match Funding	Total	Local Priority Addressed
Gerrards Cross MVAS	£2,000	£2,000	£4,000	Creating Opportunities & Building Self-Reliance
Denham Footpath Feasibility	£13,000	£10,000	£23,000	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Denham school SLOW signs	£500	£0	£500	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Totals	£15,500	£12,000	£27,500	

2015/2016				
Project	Allocated	Match Funding	Total	Local Priority Addressed
Dropped kerb on Hay Lane	£4,915	£0	£4,915	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Parking consultation for Ethorpe Close and related roads	£12,000	£0	£12,000	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Contribution to 2 school flashing signs in Fulmer	£1,000	£0	£1,000	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive

Totals	£17,915	£0	£17,915	
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2014/2015				
Project	Allocated	Match Funding	Total	Local Priority Addressed
Dukes Wood Avenue footway improvements	£11,800	£0	£11,800	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Stoke Common Road footway	£3,950	£0	£3,950	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Gerrards Cross bridleway 3 improvements	£15,000	£0	£15,000	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
DEN/31/2 – footpath surface improvements.	£10,000	£0	£10,000	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Street light on the corner of Village Road, Denham	£1,222	£0	£1,222	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Village Road Street Lighting	£1,700	£0	£1,700	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Hedgerley MVAS (Haddenham)	£1,200	£0	£1,200	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Total	£44,872	£0	£44,872	

2013/2014				
Project	Allocated	Match Funding	Total	Local Priority Addressed
Denham yellow box junction	£4,300	£0	£4,300	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
New Town road	£29,046	£0	£29,046	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
South Park Crescent	£10,600	£0	£10,600	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
MVAS ground screw for Fulmer and Hedgerley	£1,200	£0	£1,200	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Village Rd lighting, Denham	£1,700	£0	£1,700	Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving & Attractive
Total	£46,846	£0	£46,846	

3. Community & Public Transport

This section looks at previous projects undertaken by all LAFs between 2013 and 2017, in so far as they are linked to community and public transport priorities. During 2013-17, the LAFs collectively spent 1.16% of their budget on community and public transport projects or £61,376. When match funding is considered, the total spent by LAFs and partner organisations rises to £150,076.

Link to Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Priorities

Priority: Safeguarding our vulnerable

- Support our most vulnerable adults to lead independent lives through Health & Social Care Integration (Better Care Fund)
- Ensure that our older, disabled and vulnerable people receive the support that is right for their needs, delaying the need for care through earlier diagnosis, intervention and re-ablement

Priority: Creating opportunities and building self-reliance

- Support our voluntary and community sector to help our communities to help themselves

Examples of Community Transport LAF Projects

Haddenham Wheels to Work



Wheels to Work was a moped loan scheme for young people (16-19) from rural areas of Buckinghamshire, who are unable to access employment or training opportunities due to a lack of transport. Candidates received a 50cc moped for a period of up to nine months, in return for a £50 monthly wear and tear fee. Community Impact Bucks reported that enquiries were received from two young people within the LAF area to join the Wheels to Work scheme. As a result two mopeds were purchased using funding of £3,850 from the LAF. The bikes have been utilised to assist other young people participating in the scheme.

Local Transport Subsidy Buckingham

It was determined that there was a need for a bus service to connect villages to Buckingham. The LAF appointed community champions who, working with the localities and community's manager for the area, recommended Buckingham LAF should subsidise a Bus route from every parish that runs once a week on a market day into Buckingham.

£10,000 was provided by the LAF to subsidise the first 12 months, funding was provided on the understanding that Buckingham Town Council and the Buckingham Traders Association will provide funding in future years. LAF members including parish councils will reviewed the success halfway through the year and decided whether to provide ongoing financial support based on success and income to date.

Although the scheme did not prove successful in the long term, because the number of passengers using the service were not sufficient to fund an ongoing service, it remained useful, in that it highlighted transport needs in the local area.

High Wycombe Shopmobility

High Wycombe Shopmobility is a registered charity offering the free daily loan of mobility scooters, manual and powered wheelchairs. High Wycombe LAF agreed a contribution of £3,500 towards the purchase of 2 mobility scooters to replace worn out mobility equipment. Equipment can be used to access services in High Wycombe Town centre, for business, shopping or leisure purposes, promoting and enabling independence and enhancing daily living for anyone with limited mobility whether permanent or temporary; you do not have to be registered disabled.

Chiltern Dial-a-Ride



In 2013/14 the Chesham LAF contributed £1,741 to assess the demand for dial-a-ride buses operating through the Chiltern Villages offering transport to GPs, shopping events, social activities, etc. This funding was used to test demand for different concepts by piloting a few ideas and getting feedback.

Following the successful pilot, Chiltern Dial-a-Ride became established in the local area with the main aim of providing an affordable, accessible and safe transport service for people living in or close to Chiltern District who, due to age, illness or disability are not able to transport themselves or to use public transport services. Chiltern Dial-a-Ride operate a fleet of 10 vehicles, all with tail-lifts or ramps and wheel chair facilities, driven by a team of drivers including volunteers, and coordinated by a small team.

In the first quarter of 2016 Chiltern Dial-a-Ride completed **3,546 passenger journeys**.

“Mr Hall from Chesham who is wheelchair bound had not been out of the house, other than for hospital appointments, for 3 years until he found out about Chiltern Dial-A-Ride, he now goes to the local market on a Wednesday and feels his quality of life has changed.”

Wexham & Ivers - Community Bus Service Needs Analysis

The Wexham & Ivers LAF contributed £2,000 which, together with £3,000 match funding, was used to conduct a needs analysis for a community bus service and work out detailed costings for providing this. For this purpose, CTA Consultancy was commissioned to provide a comprehensive overview of the community transport sector in the area.

Following the review of the local community transport sector, different options were explored which included a Sunday shopping service, with return trips on consecutive Sundays to Windsor, the Museum District in London and Petticoat Lane. The cost for the local trip was £7 return and for the London Trips it was £9 return, with a discount for children.

Although none of the options explored became established, the research and trial following this project were useful in highlighting local transport needs, and are now feeding into a health transport scheme.

Waddesdon Community Bus



Waddesdon Local Area Forum (LAF) identified the need for community transport provision, following a decrease in public transport, the demise of Aylesbury Vale Dial A Ride, and representations made by several groups of residents. The LAF formed a sub-group to review the options, which resulted in a committee being set up which became the community bus committee. The LAF contributed

£8,265 towards the funding for a new community bus, which will serve outlying villages to take older people to regular clubs and events.

The group worked closely with the community buses in Winslow and Princes Risborough to identify the best option, and initially purchased a bus from the Winslow service. Community Impact Bucks provided the group with advice and support.

Forum chairman Paul Irwin, said one of the priorities was to **strengthen community transport**.

“We’re very concerned to tackle social isolation,” said Paul. “This bus will be a lifeline for people who find it difficult to get out and about because the rural nature of our communities doesn’t support regular public transport.”

4. Employment and Business

This section looks at previous projects undertaken by all LAFs, in so far as they are linked to employment and business priorities. The report focusses on case studies and best practice from within Buckinghamshire over the last 5 years.

Link to Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Priorities

Priority: Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving and Attractive

- Create the right conditions for firms to flourish and succeed
- Get the best deal for Buckinghamshire from economic growth and development
- The creation of more jobs for local people

Priority: Creating Opportunities & Building Self Reliance

- Ensure all our young people are prepared for the world of work and adult life by promoting volunteering, work experience and apprenticeships
- Devolve Council assets and services to town and parish councils where it makes sense to do so.
- Promote good citizenship
- Buckinghamshire residents are skilled and ready for employment
- Buckinghamshire communities are supported to help themselves

Examples of employment and business LAF projects

Pop up shop



The High Wycombe LAF contributed £3,000 to the STRIVE Enterprise Business start-up course for 25 local residents. The 13 week course benefitted would-be entrepreneurs in starting up and developing their business ideas. The Enterprise CUBE supported people to engage in enterprise by offering advice and training on social enterprise, enterprise creation, community engagement and management skills helping individuals to start their own businesses or self-employed careers. The total scheme value came to

£15,000 with £12,000 being contributed through match funding.

Buckingham Youth Enterprise

The Buckingham Youth Enterprise project provided part-time work opportunities for local people meaning that 14 young people were employed over the first, 2015 season. This project enabled mostly young people (16-19) to access local part-time work; helping them develop their work skills including: organisation, communication, planning, time management, team working, receiving and giving constructive feedback. Five of the 2015 workers asked for references to enable them to secure other part-time work, highlighting this project's success in helping young people improve their employability.

This project also provided retired people with voluntary work opportunities that directly benefit the community within which they live, maintaining (and even enhancing) local environment quality standards so that limited budgets do not result in limited services or lower quality standards. Complaints over grass verges were significantly down over the 2015 season with Town Councillors receiving many comments about the scheme and the value it offers.

The £10,000 provided by the Buckingham LAF towards this scheme resulted in positive outcomes for the community and enabled this project to become self-sustaining in a great example of LAF funding being used to support employment, business and young people.

Blue Light course



This Blue Light Course was part-funded and supported by the Chesham and Chiltern Villages Local Area Forum (£1,970) as part of the local area plan priorities concerning employment skills and diversionary activities. The 30 hour Blue Light course was held at Chesham Fire Station during the February Half Term week. The week was designed to give young people the experience of training with the emergency services and to learn new skills including team building and safety activities. The youth crew were issued with a uniform to wear for the course and participated in activities including drill ground and fire engine familiarisation, hose running, and kit checks. Other activities included first aid arson reduction/awareness, radio procedure, knots and lines, chip pan display and home safety checks.

Wheels to Work

In the Great Brickhill, Wing & Ivinghoe local area plan, the issue of Transportation for young people was identified as a priority. Wheels to Work is a moped loan scheme for young people aged between 16-19 years (or up to 25 years of age in some circumstances) who find it difficult to access work or training opportunities because of a lack of transport. Eligible candidates receive the loan of a 500cc moped for a period of up to nine months. Candidates are expected to pay a small monthly 'wear and tear' fee, pay for their own fuel, wear the provided safety equipment and take the moped in for monthly safety checks.

The scheme was been successfully piloted in the Aylesbury Vale area and there was a waiting list for young people wishing to participate in this scheme. However there was a shortage of mopeds and funding. The LAF provided £2000 towards the purchase of one moped to be used exclusively for eligible young people within the local area for a minimum period of two years. 'Eligible candidates received a 50cc moped for a period of up to nine months, in return for a small monthly £50 wear and tear fee and a refundable deposit of £100 subject to the bike being returned in a satisfactory condition.

Supporting Community Businesses

The Winslow and District Local Area Forum set new priorities in 2013 which included, "Support community businesses". No proposals were provided or ideas submitted to address the priority. The LAF arranged for a detailed review to be carried out of all the community businesses in the area. Data was also provided by two funding programmes for community

businesses on all the queries they had had from the LAF area. All the enquirers were contacted to identify any support needs they may have had.

A report was provided summarising all the local community businesses that were in place and being planned, along with details of all the sources of help, advice and funding available locally and nationally.

The LAF was provided with some suggestions for the kinds of work that the LAF may have wanted to consider investing in. A similar report was provided for other LAFs with a similar priority.

Ultimately, no groups received funding through the LAF. However, a number of prospective groups were linked with successful community businesses such as the North Marston Community Shop, who provided advice and support, so a new network of peer support was established.

5. Environmental

This section looks at previous projects undertaken by all LAFs, in so far as they are linked to environmental priorities. This report will focus on case studies and best practice from within Buckinghamshire over the last 5 years.

Environmental projects can benefit communities by improving the local environment and increasing understanding of nature and the environment, particularly amongst young people. Environmental projects in Buckinghamshire are especially relevant as a large part of the County sits within The Chilterns Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Buckinghamshire is blessed with a number of woodlands, parks and other areas of cultural heritage and wildlife treasured by local residents (Wendover Woods, Burnham Beeches, Black Park, etc.).

Link to Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Priorities

Priority: Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving and Attractive

- Continue to invest in the maintenance of the County's existing roads and footpaths
- Continue to protect the Green Belt, AONB, Rights of Way and Green Spaces
- Promote and encourage sustainable approaches to energy, water and waste
- Improved condition of roads and footpaths
- Protecting our high quality natural environment

Examples of Environmental LAF projects

Community Orchard



Buckingham in Transition received £2,597 funding from the Buckingham LAF for a project to develop woodland that grows according to the principles of an eco-system, with food producing plants. The main activities were designed for residents, including school children, to learn about biodiversity, plant relationships, and food production. Another benefit was bringing people together to form a community group of volunteers and learn about planting and growing.

The main activities were designed for residents, including school children, to learn about biodiversity, plant relationships, and food production. Railway walk volunteers were invited to participate, and all the schools in the Buckingham area had the ability to use the woodland to develop part of their curriculum in a practical way; and their involvement started once the woodland was established.

Elmtree School Sensory Garden

The Chesham & Chiltern Villages Local Area Forum awarded £2,000 to Elmtree School to support the completion works to their new Sensory Garden.



Elmtree School is situated in an area of social deprivation characterised by high unemployment. The garden was created to provide Elmtree's pupils and the wider community with an inspirational outside space that would stimulate the senses. With this in mind the plants and other design elements were selected with intention of providing experiences for seeing, smelling, hearing, touching, and tasting.

The school and the community were very much involved with the development of the garden. The final design was an interpretation of the winning entries of 8 of the pupils in the school following a competition to draw or write their vision of the garden. Parents and neighbours also helped out with the organisation and the hard landscaping.

The garden was opened in September 2012 and the Elmtree School pupils are the primary users of the garden with 180 children in the main school and up to 100 in nursery. All of these children spend time in the Sensory Garden at playtimes, lunch and during the day for curriculum based activities. They enjoy a range of physical activities and are aware of the link with their health. It is beneficial for the children to be working in the garden, maintaining it, and carrying out other learning activities there too. The successful transformation of the space into the Sensory Garden has significantly enhanced the local environment.

Haddenham in Transition Thermal Imaging Equipment

The LAF purchased thermal imaging equipment for Haddenham in Transition in 2010. This has been very well used for imaging of local houses both by the group and by volunteers in Cuddington, Chearsley, Towersey, Long Crendon and Ford. Overall, the three years of the thermal imaging campaign volunteers imaged nearly 300 homes and businesses and provided in excess of £28,000 value to the community (£8,000 following the £2,200 grant to acquire the camera). This estimate of benefit/value refers only to the making of the images and the advice to householders - it does not include the considerable value (savings on heating bills, reduction of carbon emissions, etc.) to those householders who took action to improve the thermal efficiency of their homes using the images (around two-thirds of those who took part in the 2009-10 campaign survey indicated that they had taken action on the evidence of the images).

The initial campaign was selected as a finalist for "Best Community Initiative" in the 2011 National Climate Week Awards. There is no charge, although householders who have had imaging are invited to make a donation at the local meetings where the results are presented. There is not an up to date figure for the savings which households have been able to make following its use, although a survey years ago indicated that about two thirds of households imaged had made energy efficiency savings as a result. The project demonstrated strong benefit for, and participation from, residents aged 60.

National Energy Foundation; reducing energy bills for carers and older people in Haddenham and Long Crendon

The National Energy Foundation (formally United Sustainable Energy Agency) already worked closely with Carers Bucks who have 54 carers registered with them living in Haddenham, and 22 in Long Crendon. Their support group runs on the fourth Monday of the month which this project would support. National Energy Foundation has recently undertaken some data analysis and mapping on behalf of Aylesbury Vale District Council, which highlighted particular areas where action could be taken for the Haddenham and Long Crendon area. Both areas have around 1 in 4 properties that have solid walls. These typically are more expensive to insulate, and therefore many remain uninsulated, resulting in the properties being more expensive to keep warm in winter. The off-gas-network data indicates that 50% of Long Crendon is not connected to mains gas, typically the cheapest fuel to heat a property with. The result of this is that at least 1 in 2 residents have to use more expensive fuels in the village: oil, LPG or electric heating.

GIS mapping of electricity consumption showed relatively high use as compared to many other areas of Buckinghamshire. NEF delivered a talk and information stand, working closely with the Haddenham and District Carers' Support Group at one of their coffee morning meetings, offering follow up visits to their homes to advise on a one-to-one basis about their energy needs, and ways in which these can be made more efficient.

The aims of the general advice session and follow-up house visits were to:

- Provide information, literature and energy saving gadgets suitable for the residents being cared for through this group.
- Focus on small changes that each of us can make in order to add up to make a significant difference.
- Demonstrate energy-saving gadgets through hands-on displays, to show the extent of cost-savings these can achieve for residents of Haddenham, Long Crendon and surrounding areas with the aim to ensure vulnerable residents are more healthy and comfortable in their own homes.
- Promote financial assistance (such as the Green Deal for home efficiency improvements – replacement boilers, solid wall, cavity wall and loft insulation). It is hoped that this will bring additional funding into the region through ECO grants available through the Green Deal scheme, helping to greatly increase the efficiency of properties and thermal comfort of vulnerable residents.
- Promote the Bucks Community Energy Champions Network, and invite carers to become more involved in this initiative. National Energy Foundation (NEF) is an independent charity, based in Milton Keynes, which aims to deliver carbon reductions and address fuel poverty by offering a range of sustainable energy solutions to individuals, business and organisations.

6. Children and Young People

This section looks at previous projects undertaken by all LAFs in so far as they are linked to children and young people. Between 2013 and 2017, the LAFs collectively spent 9.22% of their budget on projects for children and young people or £317,171. When match funding is considered, the total spent by LAFs and partner organisations rises to £431,485.

Link to Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Priorities

Priority: Safeguarding our vulnerable

- Safeguard children
- Ensure that vulnerable children fulfil their potential, including their emotional and physical development as well as their educational achievement, training and employment prospects

Priority: Creating Opportunities & Building Self Reliance

- Ensure that our young children growing up are 'school ready' by providing help, support and advice to families with pre-school children
- Enable and support our children to be successful and cared for throughout their school years, with a particular focus on promoting high quality education across all our schools
- Ensure all our young people are prepared for the world of work and adult life by promoting volunteering, work experience and apprenticeships
- Improve community safety and reduce crime and the fear of crime
- Continue to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents and address major health risks
- Support our voluntary and community sector to help our communities to help themselves
- Promote good citizenship

Examples of Children and Young People LAF Projects

Chiltern Summer Outreach

Chiltern Youth Projects received funding of £500 from the Chalfonts LAF and £2,000 from the Amersham LAF to run a summer activities programme in the Amersham and Chalfont areas. The programme was run over a period of five weeks with the aim of engaging with young people in the Chiltern District with little to do over the summer; encourage them to plan projects and trips that would widen their perspective of life; help them raise money for these projects; and discover and deal with any issues of concern.

Over the five weeks, the summer team engaged with well over 40 different young people. Many of the activities run were suggested by the young people themselves and several of them helped to run the activities. Additionally, over £700 was raised. This money went towards the cost of trips, transport and food over the five weeks. Activities were wide-ranging and included:

- A trip to Thorpe Park
- A Results Day celebration in Chesham Open Air Swimming Pool (funded by CDC)
- Hanging out parks in Chesham, Amersham and Little Chalfont
- Paintballing

- Use of the Youth Centre
- Helping with National Play Day
- Volunteering at the Opening of St Michael's Square
- Serving refreshments at the Big Screen Day

As a result of the programme TVP noted a 50% reduction in anti-social behaviour. The activities undertaken, which involved several young people giving up their time simply to help other local causes, have broadened the young people's perspectives on life as well as giving them a sense of having achieved something over the summer.

Aylesbury Youth Action - Tackling Social Isolation in Our Community

Aylesbury Youth Action worked with young people aged 14-24 to plan and deliver weekly groups that tackled social isolation in the community, provided friendship, offered fun activities, and encouraged interaction and community engagement. Between January and March 2015, the GALAF funding supported AYA volunteers' activities across a range of projects:

- The Griffin Place Club for primary school children and their siblings who became homeless and were staying in temporary accommodation.
- The After School Club for children who were fleeing domestic violence and staying at the local Women's Refuge.
- AYA volunteers also helped at the Young Carers Club nights for children aged 6-9 who had a close family member with an illness, disability or addiction.
- The young volunteers also provided friendship and activities for children and young people aged 8-18 at The Grove Respite Centre, who had physical and learning disabilities and were socially isolated from mainstream peers.

Between January and March, more than 30 young people volunteered on these projects around the Aylesbury area. The activities also provided positive diversionary activities for the young people volunteering, developing skills in team work and leadership, offering valuable experience in a range of caring professions, and opening their eyes to the needs of others in their community.

The groups were each run by a small team of young people, and managed by a youth management group, supervised by AYA staff at project and management level. In addition to this project, Aylesbury Youth Action have also delivered a number of youth volunteering projects in the following LAFs: GBWI, GALAF, Wendover and Winslow.

Aylesbury Vale Youth For Christ - Greater Aylesbury Youth Forum

The Greater Aylesbury Forum has been running for a few years and has had funding support from BCC through the GALAF since 2012/13. Young people from the Greater Aylesbury area have since met together to discuss issues relating to young people, think about the needs and respond by providing resources, events and activities in the community. Funding has been spent on a variety of projects, including:

- Resources to be shared amongst the youth
- Research projects looking at the needs of the youth and community
- Putting on musical concerts for young people
- Training events and team building activities

AVYFC has also been involved in setting up and maintaining Wendover Youth Forum and the Great Brickhill, Wing and Ivinghoe Youth Forum.

Padbury Youth Club

Padbury's youth club closed when the existing volunteers were no longer able to keep it going. The LAF contributed to the salary of a youth worker to run one evening a week for a year to re-establish the group. At the end of the year, the parish council were so impressed with the club's development that they agreed to provide ongoing funding to preserve the club for future years.

Westbury Youth Club

Westbury received substantial grants from a number of sources to completely rebuild their village hall and pavilion. The parish council applied to the LAF for funding to develop use of the centre by young people in the village. This resulted in a series of events which were used to identify activities which young people would continue to be involved in, and also resulted in young people being involved in the Management Committee of the new centre.

Aylesbury Vale Youth For Christ - Winslow Young People's Project (mobile skate ramps)



In 2015/16 the Winslow LAF awarded £3,500 for the creation of mobile skate ramps to be used by young people from the area. The young people were involved in building the ramps from scratch. This project has been extremely successful and the mobile skate ramps continue to be used by young people, in a great example of LAFs funding sustainable projects.

In addition to these projects, AVYFC have also delivered a number of projects for young people in the following LAFs: Beeches, GBWI, GALAF, Wendover and Winslow.

Buckingham Youth Enterprise

The Buckingham Youth Enterprise scheme was given £10,000 by the Buckingham LAF over the course of the 2014/15 and 2015/16 financial years. The aim of this scheme was to establish a social enterprise within Buckingham Town that employs local people to undertake local highways maintenance services such as: verge grass cutting, verge strimming, footpath clearance and edging, and sign cleaning.

This project employed 12 young people in 2014 and 14 young people in 2015 on a part-time basis. A large number of participants left the scheme to secure other work and the references and experience they gained from taking part in this project were instrumental in helping them secure further employment.

Another benefit from this scheme is that the quality of the environment around Buckingham was maintained, being considered satisfactory in 2015, and complaints over grass verges were significantly down over the 2015 season with Town Councillors receiving many comments about the scheme and the value it offers.

This project continues to prove successful and will continue to run in 2016/17 without LAF funding. This illustrates how LAFs can have a lasting and positive impact in the community by investing in sustainable projects, particularly those in line with the BCC strategic objective to help communities help themselves.

Wendover Decides

Wendover Decides 2012 gave residents in the Wendover local area the opportunity to vote for the projects they would like to see receive a share of £10,000 to benefit the area. All the participating projects met local priorities which included reducing social isolation and activities and facilities for young people aged 11+. There were 539 valid votes (and 63 incorrectly completed forms) and residents decided to award the £10,000 as follows:

- Wendover Youth Centre (£3,000)
- Identifying Young Carers (£3,000)
- Boomerang Toy Library (£3,000)
- Blue Light Project (£1,000)



Wendover decides was a great example of the local community engaging with the LAF and deciding what projects would best fit the local priorities.

7. Community Budgeting

This section summarises some previous projects undertaken by LAFs between 2013 and 2017, which are linked to the processes of Community Budgeting and mentions the impact on communities, and links to BCC strategic priorities.

Background

Community Budgeting (CB) is a term that covers a range of initiatives and approaches, one of which is known as 'Participatory Budgeting'. Participatory budgeting is a democratic process in which community members decide how to spend part of a public budget and is described in the following terms:

"Participatory budgeting directly involves local people in making decisions on the spending priorities for a defined public budget. This means engaging residents and community groups representative of all parts of the community to discuss spending priorities, making specific proposals and vote on them, as well as giving local people a role in the scrutiny and monitoring process."

In Buckinghamshire, some of our Local Area Forums have held community budgeting schemes over the past few years. These schemes have taken place in Greater Aylesbury, Amersham, Buckingham and High Wycombe.

The Local Area Forum (LAF) invites organisations who have projects that will benefit the specific community linked to that LAF to submit proposals for their ideas and then a shortlist is created that residents in that area will have the opportunity to vote on, based on their preferences

The projects that applied to take part were assessed against the three areas that all local area projects are asked to meet:

- Fit with Local Area Forum priorities
- Fit with Buckinghamshire County Council priorities
- Value for money.

Link to Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Priorities

Priority: Safeguarding our vulnerable

Most residents live healthy lives but some need extra support. The Council, working closely with our partners, is successful in equipping our most vulnerable children, adults and families with the support and skills they need to do more for themselves and to get back their independence at the earliest opportunity

Priority: Creating Opportunities & Building Self Reliance

Buckinghamshire residents have the aspiration and opportunities to lead successful and independent lives, taking responsibility for their own health and wellbeing and supporting each other in their communities. Young people thrive in Buckinghamshire's schools enabling them to progress to good jobs and training opportunities in our County.

Priority: Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving and Attractive

Buckinghamshire is a rapidly growing county and its economy is one of the strongest in the country. As it grows our challenge is to help it remain a thriving and attractive place to live

and work, securing good jobs, good road, rail and other essential infrastructure to meet the current and future needs of our residents. The County Council is proactive in protecting the county's unique countryside, setting standards of excellence in its growth, including exceptional standards of sustainable development design

Examples of Community Budgeting LAF Projects

Choose 4 Greater Aylesbury (C4GA)



Choose 4 Greater Aylesbury

We are pleased to invite local organisations and community groups to submit proposals for a share in the £17,500 Local Area Forum (LAF) funding that is available to the local area.

The projects proposed must directly benefit residents in the Greater Aylesbury area. If it's a wider project, then only the Greater Aylesbury part can be proposed.

Residents in Greater Aylesbury will then decide how the money will be allocated by putting the projects in order of preference on a ballot form or online.

This puts local residents in control of how money is spent within their community.

The deadline for submitting proposals is 31 July 2014.

For more information visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/choose4aylesbury

Choose 4 Greater Aylesbury 2015 enabled residents in the Greater Aylesbury local area the opportunity to vote for which of the six projects they would like to see receive a share of £17,500.

Run by the Greater Aylesbury Local Area Forum (GALAF), Voting was open to all residents from the Greater Aylesbury area, either online at: www.choose4greateraylesbury.com or via paper voting in ballot boxes throughout the area.

Voting was undertaken by ranking all six project choices from 1—3 (with 1 being the highest). The top three projects receive £4,000 each, then project four receives £3,000, project five £2,000 and project six receives £500. Ballot boxes were placed in different locations in Greater Aylesbury.

Choose 4 Greater Aylesbury 2015 ran from 30 March - 30 May. 1,752 residents voted from across the Greater Aylesbury area (Aylesbury Town, Bierton with Broughton, Buckingham Park, Fairford Leys, Hulcott, Quarrendon, Stoke Mandeville, Watermead and Weedon).

Six projects were selected and received funding:

- First Gear (£4,000)
- Support for Parent Carers across Bucks (£4,000)
- Street Angels and Chaplaincy (£4,000)
- Aylesbury Youth Action (£3,000)
- 42 Aylesbury Youth Motor Project (£2,000)
- Culture Sounds (£500)



Amersham Decides



Your vote counts! Amersham Decides

Six local projects have been shortlisted to receive a share of £10,000 from the Amersham Local Area Forum.

Details at: www.buckscc.gov.uk/amershamdecides

Vote online at amershamdecides.com

Voting closes 31 July 2015

Which projects will you support?

Amersham Decides 2015 enabled residents in the Amersham local area to have the opportunity to vote for which excellent community projects they would like to see receive a share of £10,000 of County Council funding allocated through the Amersham Local Area Forum. **1,555 residents voted** from across the Amersham area.

Six projects were selected and received funding:

- Chiltern Youth Projects- Mental Health and First Aid Training (£3,000)
- Voices and Choices—Stay in Your Home (£3,000)

- Amersham Men in Sheds (£1,500)
- Pop Up Cinema (£1,500)
- Amersham Museum– Memory boxes (£500)
- Chiltern Rangers - Be a Ranger for a day (£500)

Buckingham Decides



Buckingham Decides 2015 enabled residents in the Buckingham local area to have the opportunity to have their say in how £9,500 of County Council funding from the Buckingham Local Area Forum should be allocated to five excellent community projects.

Voting was undertaken by selecting the top three project choices (although all five projects were allocated a share in the £9,500). The top two projects would receive the £3,000, projects three and four would receive £1,500 with £500 for the project coming fifth.

1,016 residents voted and five projects were selected and received funding:

- Men in Sheds Buckingham (£3,000)
- Home Visiting Service - Citizens Advice Bureau (£3,000)
- Generate - Buckingham Youth Action (£1,500)
- Young Persons Activity Group - Buckingham Activities Group (£1,500)
- Skate Bucks - Aylesbury Vale Youth For Christ (£500)

High Wycombe Decides

High Wycombe Decides 2015 enabled residents in the High Wycombe local area to have the opportunity to have their say in how £17,500 of County Council funding allocated by the High Wycombe Local Area Forum should be allocated to eight excellent community projects.

Voting was undertaken by selecting the top three project choices (although all eight projects were allocated a share in the £17,500). The top three projects would receive the £4,000, projects four and five would receive £2,000 with £500 for each of the final three projects.



2,934 residents voiced their preference and nine projects received funding:

- Tenancy Support Worker: Wycombe (£4,000)
- Homeless Connection (£4,000)
- Identifying Young Carers: Young Carers Bucks (£4,000)
- Boomerang Toy Library: Bucks Play Association (£4,000)
- Bucks New Usage:, Bucks New University (£2,000)
- Cooking with Confidence: Empower to Cook (£2,000)
- Motor Mechanics Course: Skidz (£500)
- Developing Downley Library (£500)
- Be A Ranger for a Day: Chiltern Rangers (£500)

8. Addressing Anti-Social Behaviour

This section looks at some projects undertaken by LAFs between 2013 and 2017 to address issues which are linked to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), and lists some providers and links to BCC strategic priorities.

Link to Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Priorities

Priority: Creating Opportunities & Building Self Reliance

- Improve community safety and reduce crime and the fear of crime.
- Buckinghamshire communities are safe places to live

Background

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 defines anti-social behaviour as 'behaviour which causes harassment, alarm or distress'. It covers a wide range of issues from crime and serious nuisance to frequent and annoying behaviour. Anti-social behaviour has a negative impact on the quality of life of victims and residents. Examples of ASB include:

- Abandoned vehicles
- Harassment/intimidation
- Animal related problems
- Litter/rubbish
- Hoax calls
- Noise/air pollution
- Drug/substance misuse
- Persistent nuisance
- Fly tipping
- Public disorder
- Graffiti
- Street drinking and begging

ASB data analysis in Buckinghamshire between 2015-17

	24/01/2015 - 23/01/2016	24/01/2016 - 23/01/2017	% Change
Chiltern And South Bucks	1,948	1,912	-2%

Neighbourhoods by ASB incident numbers (most recent rolling 12 month)				
Rank	Neighbourhood	Previous Rolling 12 Month	Most Recent Rolling 12 month	% Change
1	Chesham	459	397	-14%
2	Burnham / Farnhams / Taplow	179	268	50%
3	Chalfonts	249	244	-2%
4	Denham / Gerrards Cross	226	224	-1%
5	Amersham	218	219	0%
6	Iver / Stoke Poges / Wexham	200	187	-7%
7	Missendens	179	172	-4%
8	Beaconsfield	190	147	-23%

	24/01/2015 - 23/01/2016	24/01/2016 - 23/01/2017	% Change
Aylesbury Vale	2,884	2,176	-25%

Top 10 Neighbourhoods by ASB incident numbers (most recent rolling 12 month)				
Rank	Neighbourhood	Previous Rolling 12 Month	Most Recent Rolling 12 month	% Change
1	Aylesbury South	499	369	-26%
2	Aylesbury West	571	357	-37%
3	Buckingham and District	291	213	-27%
4	Aylesbury Central	336	200	-40%
5	Aylesbury North	239	152	-36%
6	Wendover	150	142	-5%
7	Aylesbury East	146	125	-14%
8	Great Brickhill / Wing / Ivinghoe	95	109	15%
9	Haddenham / Long Crendon	66	86	30%
10	Winslow and District	157	85	-46%

	24/01/2015 - 23/01/2016	24/01/2016 - 23/01/2017	% Change
Wycombe	1,408	1,880	34%

Neighbourhoods by ASB incident numbers (most recent rolling 12 month)				
Rank	Neighbourhood	Previous Rolling 12 Month	Most Recent Rolling 12 month	% Change
1	Wycombe East	289	428	48%
2	Wycombe South	299	371	24%
3	Wycombe West	300	371	24%
4	Marlow	190	268	41%
5	Chepping Wye Valley	129	145	12%
6	Princes Risborough	55	110	100%
7	Marlow South West Rural	55	61	11%

LAF projects to address or prevent Anti-Social Behaviour

CCTV



CCTV (closed-circuit television) is a TV system in which signals are not publicly distributed but are recorded, primarily for surveillance and security purposes.

Aston Clinton parish council introduced a CCTV system to the park in the centre of the village after consultation with Thames Valley Police. The park has

a wide range of amenities which had been subject to unacceptable levels of crime, vandalism and anti-social behaviour. The CCTV system has enabled the council to follow up

specific incidents. The aim of this project is to reduce the number of crime incidents and increase deterrence, for the safety of Aston Clinton residents and other users of the park.

The Wendover LAF contributed the sum of £2,300 towards the CCTV in Aston Clinton.

Buckingham Activities Group (BAG)

The Buckingham Activities Group (BAG) is a partnership group comprising of AVDC, BCC, Buckingham Town Council, Thames Valley Police, Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust, Project Street Life, Buckingham Youth Club, Buckingham and Maids Moreton NAG, Buckingham Youth Action and Buckingham Town Youth Council.

The Group organises an annual programme of activities that could also be diversionary for young people aged 8 – 18 years, in order to maintain the low rates of ASB achieved by the Group's initial work. These activities are led by the needs of young people, and have recently included weeks of sport sessions like basketball and American football, music club, events and competitions.

Statistics provided by the BAG group of figures collected over a 2 year period shows a decrease in antisocial behaviour in the area.

Chiltern Youth Projects—Summer Activities



Chiltern Youth Projects (CYP) runs weekly clubs (years 5-13) for boys, girls, and mixed youth clubs in a variety of locations around Amersham. CYP also has an established summer outreach team and is building links with schools. Whilst being a largely affluent area, Amersham does have groups of young people who are marginalised or identified as 'at-risk'. As a result they often miss out on youth provision due to their backgrounds and behaviour.

CYP works to build positive relationships with the marginalised young people and help provide a safe place for them to belong, be cared for and loved. CYP's strategic partnerships with the Town, District and County Councils, together with Thames Valley Police allow them to feed into local and regional forums with regards to youth work. They also participate in the Independent Police Advisory Group to represent the views of young people with regards to local policing.

Chiltern Youth Projects received funding from the Chalfonts LAF to run a summer activities programme in the Amersham and Chalfont areas, with the aim of engaging with young people who were hanging out in the Chiltern District with little to do over the summer; It was to encourage them to plan projects and trips that would widen their perspective of life; help them to raise money for these projects; discover and deal with any issues of concern.



The summer team engaged with well over 40 different young people, most of whom had little opportunity to do anything outside of 'hanging out' over the summer. Many of the activities

ran were suggested by the young people themselves and several of them helped to run the activities. Additionally, over £700 was raised by 24 of the young people as a result of a 'Sleep-Out'. This money went towards the cost of trips, transport and food over the five weeks.

SMART Drug and Alcohol Support Service (Aylesbury)



SMART is a charity, helping people to overcome the devastating effects of drug and alcohol dependency. SMART's innovative projects are designed to assist in transforming the health and wellbeing, prospects and opportunities of people, especially those with substance misuse and the issues that this brings. These issues include social isolation and stigmatisation, anti-social behaviour, homelessness and many more.

SMART works with local people, their families, and other community organisations to help people reach and maintain recovery for the long term. They offer a vast array of professional support and structured programmes, which includes outreach and support, 121 sessions, group work, peer support, complimentary therapies, housing support and access to structured treatment. They also use mentoring for a less formal process.

In 2014-15 Greater Aylesbury LAF allocated £4000 for a new SMART project across the Greater Aylesbury area, to buy and renovate a campervan to be used to provide outreach support to those facing social isolation. This van is equipped with the ability to provide warm meals and drinks, and is staffed with Recovery facilitators who provide substance misuse advice to all using the van.

Owen's story *At 29 Owen got botulism through contaminated Heroin, and ended up paralysed. "Nothing ever changed my mind until I started using the local SMART service and got a worker that understood what was happening to me. I started working hard: using the service, going to AA meetings".*

Owen ended up in hospital with a tumour on my spine and came out in a wheelchair. He had to adapt to life.

"Working here with my worker saved my life. *Talking about my feelings and emotions from before I started using drugs. I had to really connect with someone. Nothing I ever did satisfied me. I felt emptiness in my soul. Today my life has improved through this service. I used the groups here. I was so done being controlled by medications that I said I was not using anymore. And I haven't touched a drop or drug since, in over three years. I started working here. It saved my life. I can't thank this service enough. It gave me my life back. I came out the other side."*

SKIDZ and Street Dreams

The SKIDZ Motor Projects charity provides opportunities for disadvantaged young people to gain vocational motor trade skills and access to courses in motor engineering in an adult work-style environment, providing qualifications as well as experience of the world of work.



Street Dreams acts as an extended family to disadvantaged, disengaged and disruptive young people supporting them to achieve a positive sustainable life by providing advice and assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of helping young people by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals.

In 2012-13, The project 'Street Dreams and SKIDZ' engaged with youngsters from deprived areas of High Wycombe offering opportunities with learning through new and challenging activities with the aim of reducing the amount of anti-social behaviour over the half term period. The project, which received £5,688 from the High Wycombe Local Community Partnership, aimed to equip youngsters with vocational skills in motor mechanics and furniture renovation and encouraged the development of intergenerational relationships. Young people identified with disadvantaged backgrounds were recruited on to the programme and spent a week learning the basic skills required to renovate furniture and learn basic car motor mechanics.



The young people attended sessions for four days out of the week and on the fifth day were taken Quad-biking as a 'reward day'. They were also presented with certificates on the final day to recognise their efforts and achievements over the course. The project was very successful engaging with 13 young people and had an 80% attendances rate, 40% have been/were implicated in some form of anti-social behaviour, and 55% came from areas of significant deprivation within High Wycombe, 1 pupil from a Special School and 1 pupil from a Pupil Referral Unit.

All of the young people enjoyed the project and felt that they had learned a lot of valuable skills and expressed interest in attending similar projects. As a result two further school holiday projects were run with funding support from elsewhere.

Buckingham - Project street life equipment for activities



Project Street Life is a charity based in Buckingham, which aims to educate and train young people to achieve their full potential and to steer them away from a life of crime. They run clubs for the young people of Buckingham. Various activities such as Table Tennis, Table Football, and Nintendo Wii are available together with an opportunity to get to know one another in a safe and non-threatening environment. A tuck shop is always available and films and music are able to be enjoyed.



In 2014-15, the Buckingham LAF contributed £630 towards the purchase of woodworking tools such as saws, hammers, drills, jigsaws etc. The activities gave a really good opportunity to engage with the youth. They benefitted from being able to choose from a range of activities that requires them to plan through an idea of what they want to achieve and follow this through seeing a positive product at the end of it.

9. Footpaths

This section looks at previous projects undertaken by all LAFs between 2013 and 2017, in so far as they are linked to footpath priorities. This report will focus on case studies and best practice from within Buckinghamshire over the last 5 years.

Footpaths perform an important function, particularly in rural communities, offering a convenient way for residents to access community facilities and services. Over the past 5 years LAFs have funded a number of footpath projects which have significantly benefited local communities by improving paths to schools, connecting different parts of a village or restoring rights of way.

Link to Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Priorities

Priority: Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving and Attractive

- Continue to invest in the maintenance of the County's existing roads and footpaths
- Continue to protect the Green Belt, AONB, Rights of Way and Green Spaces
- Improved condition of roads and footpaths
- Protecting our high quality natural environment

Examples of LAF Footpath projects

GBWI footpath sub group

The LAF created a Footpaths and Cyclepaths subgroup. The subgroup, consisting of representatives of each parish, compiled a list of all the footpaths requiring work, and potential routes for footpaths to be created. Research was carried out to identify available funding sources, and then the sub-group prioritised the list. Each parish council was asked how much match funding they could provide to each possible scheme. The LAF then funded the schemes in order of priority over several years. Some of the funding was for feasibility studies to establish the viability and cost of new routes. One of these is now in receipt of New Homes Bonus funding from AVDC to implement the scheme.

Ivinghoe Footpath

Ivinghoe footpath no. 4 is one example; this is a well-used footpath linking Station Road/Maud Jane's Close residents to the school, and the SureStart Centre. The path was in poor condition and extremely muddy and difficult to cross in winter and during wet weather. In addition to this, the surface was not suitable for the many pushchair users who walked along the footpath. Ivinghoe Parish Council proposed chipping the footpath, to which the landowner agreed. Following this agreement, GBWI LAF agreed to fund £5,934 towards this work, which resulted in marked improvements to the condition of the footpath.

Tyler's Green Footpath

Following several requests from residents to improve the cross Common footpath, Tylers Green Parish Council submitted an application to the LAF for funding to address this. The footpath frequently became muddy and difficult to use in poor weather conditions. Funding for this project came from the LAF (£5,000) and the Parish Council (£3,000) in a great example of partnership working. The top surface used was self-binding gravel, which over

time will bleach out and blend with the surroundings. It offers a hard surface so that all can access the Common.

The project has been well received by local residents and is still a well-used path that joins the two sides of the village of Tylers Green.

Safer Route to school footpath and seating at Green Meadow



For several years there had been an issue with children's safety on the pavement to and from school, on School Lane, Seer Green. The narrow pavement was difficult to navigate especially when parked cars open their doors into the pedestrians. A survey was conducted with parents/guardians of the children at the School and Preschool, the result was a 90% agreement (of parents who completed the survey) to construct a path across Green Meadow.

The total cost of this project was £14,000 and this was financed by £10,000 grant from the Chalfonts LAF, £3,500 from the Living Streets charity with the balance being met by the Parish Council. The path has been a great success with many more people using it than originally anticipated and the school has also appreciated the path as they use the route to take the school children to Church each week.

Families who use Green Meadow had also informed the Parish Council that there was not enough seating in Green Meadow, especially in the shade. The Chalfont's Local Area Forum kindly provided further funding towards two further picnic tri-tables and a circular bench in the shade of the tree, all of which are now being used and enjoyed by families in the area.



10. Older and Vulnerable People

This section looks at previous projects undertaken by all LAFs between 2013 and 2017, which are linked to Older and vulnerable people and a detailed look at some providers. It also briefly looks at the Buckinghamshire population demography in recent years, the impact on the communities, LAF's projects and funding to address the challenges and links to BCC strategic priorities.

Background

Data from the last ONS figures first released in July 2012 shows that the total population of Buckinghamshire increased from 479,000 in 2001 to 505,300 in 2011 (5.5% increase, 26,300 people) – taking the population of the county to over half a million people which is the largest rise in any 10 year period since the census began in 1801.

There is large increase in the number of older people aged 60 or over, from 93,200 to 115,300 – an increase of 22,100 (23.8% Just under a quarter of Bucks residents). Note that 16.6% of the Buckinghamshire's population are now aged 65 yrs and over, higher than the national proportion for England and Wales which is 16.4%.

There has been a very large percentage increase of 27.7% in the most elderly aged 80 and over – increasing from 18,100 in 2001 census to 23,100 in 2011 (5,000 more people). The ONS population projection for Buckinghamshire 2015-2033 shows a 44% increase in people aged 60+(and extra 55,000), a 140% in people aged 90+ (an extra 6,800) a shortage of 20-35year olds and more teenagers (13% more 8-18year olds).

This increase the population - particularly in the older age group - could mean an increase in the number of vulnerable people in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation.

This includes people with learning disabilities, mental health problems, older people or those with a physical disability or impairment. It may also include individuals who may be vulnerable as a consequence of their particular personal situation such as domestic abuse, chronic illness, drug or alcohol problems, social or emotional problems, poverty or homelessness.

In addressing potential challenges associated with an aging population, and safeguarding of Vulnerable people in the county, Buckinghamshire County Council has developed strategic plans, which include safeguarding our vulnerable, creating opportunities and building self-reliance. LAF schemes support and enhance these plans by addressing local opportunities and needs in partnership with local councils and groups.

Link to Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Priorities

Priority: Safeguarding our vulnerable

- Support our most vulnerable adults to lead independent lives through Health & Social Care Integration (Better Care Fund)
- Ensure that our older, disabled and vulnerable people receive the support that is right for their needs, delaying the need for care through earlier diagnosis, intervention and re-ablement.

- Provide understanding and dignity in end of life care
- Vulnerable Adults are safe and protected from harm
- Vulnerable Adults are supported to lead independent lives

Priority: Creating Opportunities & Building Self Reliance

- Continue to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents and address major health risks.
- Support our voluntary and community sector to help our communities to help themselves
- Improved health and wellbeing for all of our residents
- Buckinghamshire communities are supported to help themselves

Example Projects

Men in Sheds



Men In Sheds support older men to get together, share and learn new skills all in the welcoming space of a 'Shed'. It's a place that gives men who have experienced life changing events such as redundancy, retirement, bereavement or mental/physical ill-health 'A New Lease of Life'. Men in shed engage socially isolated men in activities where they can learn new practical skills or enhance existing ones.

Men In Sheds projects are open to all men, most but not all of those involved are older men.



There are currently Men In Sheds projects in in 5 LAF areas: Buckingham, Winslow, Amersham, Wycombe and Aylesbury. They usually apply for a start-up grant and later become independent and self-sustaining, an example is the Amersham Men in Sheds which started in 2015 with LAF funding but became independent in June 2016 growing from only 3members to 13 regular members.

They hope to play an active role in the rehabilitation of these men by building confidence, enhancing social contacts, developing and enhancing skills and enabling those who wish to return to work to do so. An example of a positive impact is the documented report from a GP in Milton Keynes stating that at least two older men showed significant improvement in their mental condition having joined and attended the Milton Keynes Shed.

The Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) - home visiting service

The Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) - home visiting service is aimed at members in the community who face rural isolation and are often excluded from mainstream services. They include the elderly (75yrs and over), people with disabilities, families with young children in rural areas who do not have cars or means of transportation and carers of people with disabilities who cannot leave the people they care for on their own. Usually the needs

required include advice on the (disability) benefits system, housing, filling of the forms and debt management. These services are provided to people in their own homes although by

CAB specialist advisers work within the community promoting greater co-operation and joint working initiatives with other local complementary organisations, helping towards maximizing people's incomes and restoring them to more viable living standard. This enables the elder population to live independent lives for longer. It also helps to address poverty issues for young families, tackling many of the root causes of social isolation and exclusion in rural areas.

Over the years, they have noted an increased number in demand of their services from people with early stage dementia, people in their late 50s and early 60s needing advice on how to care for their aging parents, usually in their 90s. And an overall 30% increase in the demand for the service with home visiting accounting for around 12% of that increase. During the 12 month funding period the Home visiting service helped 287 households in the north Buckinghamshire area. In total they helped 475 clients and their families.

The table below shows the breakdown of issues dealt with by the home visiting service. CAB also records the financial gain to each client e.g. what extra income and benefits they are receiving as a result of our advice:

Client P. phoned the bureau asking for help in getting her ESA benefit reinstated. She was too poorly to come into the bureau so a home visit was arranged. The home visitor completed a holistic needs assessment and was able to see the conditions in which P. was living. She had become isolated and found it very difficult to leave is flat. Also she wasn't eating properly.

Over the coming few days the home visiting team was able to obtain a food parcels for the client to help in the short term and to assisted P. in making a fresh set of benefit applications. They were also able to obtain to £100 energy fuel grants, which were paid directly to her energy supplier.

The home visiting service was awarded grant by both Buckingham and Winslow LAFs to the total sum of £8,240.

The Older Persons Directory

The Older Persons Directory is a Guide to services for older people living in specified areas. It has been developed to help older residents in the area become aware of local services and activities that are available to them. The services and activities include those provided by both public and voluntary sector organisations. This printed guide has come about as a result of requests from local organisations working with older people who feel a 'one stop shop' of information is needed. The guide covers the area and its surrounding villages.

Amersham, Beeches and Wexham and Ivers LAF have invested the total sum of £2,750 towards the project.

Carers Bucks Caring for Older Carers in Aylesbury



Carers Bucks' Caring for older carers provides support for the growing number of people aged 75 or over who are caring for loved ones. In Buckinghamshire there are over 14,700 carer aged 75+ and over half of these care for someone for 50 hours a week or more. Research showed that older carers have long-term health challenges such as problems with their back, arthritis, heart disease, cancer or depression. Over 50% reported that their physical health had decreased and 40% said their mental health had deteriorated. Some have had to cancelled treatment or an operation due to their caring responsibilities.

The project piloted a specialist support service for carers aged 75 and over which included in person support which is not available generally. Older carers sometimes struggle to engage with support that is simply online or impersonal, and may have additional needs. The success of the project led to successful funding bids being awarded to Carers Bucks who are now rolling out the service more widely.

Aylesbury Youth Concern Female Worker

Aylesbury Youth Concern is a charity that offers help and support to vulnerable young people aged 13-25, many whom have complex needs. They run a drop-in for support session and noticed an increase in the demand for a female worker especially for gender sensitive issues.

The target group for this project is vulnerable women who have experienced issues such as domestic violence, sexual abuse and exploitation, neglect, sexual health, emotional distress, mental health and self-harm. Through the project, Aylesbury Youth Concern are focussing on building a trust relationship and quickly resolving priority issues for those entering the service at crisis point.

Through the grant from the Greater Aylesbury LAF, they have supported 171 young women through drop-in and outreach sessions, some of whom have been fed into other services as appropriate such as Nightstop, drugs engagement project, mentoring scheme and multi-media studio, and have received testimonials and feedbacks from clients. An unexpected benefit has been that having a female support worker has helped some young men, who may have had negative male role models in their lives and therefore wish to access support from a female.

Feedback from some of the young people include:

"I told her stuff I couldn't have told the guys"

"It helped me build the confidence to get the help I needed from CAMHS"

"I've stopped using drugs at last"

"I can't believe I did it...I got into Art College and have finally moved out of home"

Contact the Elderly



Contact the Elderly is a charity organisation supported by a network of volunteers. The group organises monthly Sunday afternoon tea parties for small groups of older people aged 75 and over, who live alone, offering a regular and vital friendship link every month. Once a month volunteers take isolated elderly people, 75 and over, in the area out for tea.

Hosts then welcome the group into their homes for a tea party. This regular monthly outing makes a huge difference to the life of an isolated person and gives them something to look forward to.

Drivers collect two to three elderly guests, take them to the party and join in, and then return them safely home.



Jim, 95, has been a member of one of Contact the Elderly's Harrow groups for many years and in the video he gets collected by his driver Ash and is driven to the tea party.

"I put it in my calendar and it gives me that feeling that I've got something to look forward to," says Jim.

"It's not so much the tea and the cake but the important bit is getting together being able to talk to one another. **You're taken in as one of their family for that afternoon**".

11.Strengthening Communities

This section summarises some previous projects undertaken by LAFs between 2013 and 2017, which are linked to activities that strengthen communities, and mentions the impact on communities, and links to BCC strategic priorities.

Background

Community cohesion refers to the aspect of togetherness and bonding exhibited by members of a community, the “glue” that holds a community together. It is about inclusion, making the effort to find out about others, treating each other with respect and building good relations between different parts of the community. This can be achieved by strengthening a community, through connecting people to activities or programs that help them find positive ways to spend their spare time for example, festivals, youth and intergenerational programmes and events. Events have direct and indirect impacts on communities. They provide opportunities for participation, interaction, skills development, and volunteering, social, cultural, economic and environmental developments.

Research shows that the more involved local people and suppliers are in terms of provision of services, food, beverages, and attractions, the greater the economic benefits to the region.

Link to Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Priorities

Priority: Creating Opportunities & Building Self Reliance

- Improve community safety and reduce crime and the fear of crime.
- Support our voluntary and community sector to help our communities to help themselves
- Promote good citizenship
- Buckinghamshire communities are safe places to live
- Buckinghamshire communities are supported to help themselves

Priority: Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving and Attractive

- Create the right conditions for firms to flourish and succeed
- The creation of more jobs for local people

Example Projects

Wycombe African Caribbean Community Day 2012



The principal objective of the day was to bring people together in an atmosphere where they could mingle easily and cement old friendships and in this they were delighted with the response. Community cohesion was the aim and it was gratifying to see the delight on their faces as they left for home after a day in the sunshine. The atmosphere was calm and peaceful, and the performances were well appreciated.

The High Wycombe LAF contributed £160 towards the costs of the Day and attendance surpassed the estimated 1500 people of the 2011 event.

St Michael's and All Angels Celebratory Event



St Michael's and All Angels organised the first ever celebratory community event in Amersham's new "town square" held on 4th August 2012. It was felt that a "town square" would function as a community hub, linking church with community, hosting live events throughout the year. It is hoped that these events will further support the vitality, viability and the sustainability of the town - A place where a sense of community identity is strengthened.

The launch festival provided an opportunity to celebrate Amersham's community identity and to strengthen community relations between church, civic organisations and residents. St Michael's Square was officially opened by The Rt. Revd. John Pritchard Bishop of Oxford and some 300 local people attended the short service of dedication held on the square. Thereafter there were a number of musical performances by local bands/choirs. A number of local charities had stalls. There was a BBQ with cream teas served on the square in the afternoon. An order of service was produced in which the contributions of the various funders including the LAF were acknowledged. There has already been a huge uplift in people using the square on a daily casual basis and a number of community groups have used the square to raise funds and their profiles.

The Amersham LAF contributed £2,500 towards this event.

Penn Community Projects

Penn Parish Council held three community events between the 17th-19th of June 2016. The projects were an afternoon tea & tea dance, a mobile climbing wall event, and an open air cinema for young people and their families.

The free Open Air Cinema aired a family movie at the Local Common with the aim to reducing social isolation and enhance interaction, using open spaces and access to the outdoors. Families were also encouraged to walk to the event. The Mobile Climbing Wall appealed primarily to the 11+ age group. The event also included a 2-3 mile fun run with specific prizes for 1st 13-14 year old and 1st 11-12 boy and girl.

An open air stall was set up giving children the opportunity to take part in some scientific experiments. Bucks School of Dance performed an open air workshop for all school children from 5-16 years to have a go at street dance.

Amersham LAF allocated £500 towards the Community Projects in Penn.

North West Chiltern - Risborough Area Community Bus



In 2005 a survey showed that commercial bus services covering the residential areas of Princes Risborough and the surrounding villages had significantly reduced. In 2006 a voluntary body called Risborough Area Community Action (RACA) – now Risborough Area Partnership (RAP) – conducted a Local Travel Survey to determine how best to address the problem of declining bus services. RACA distributed 3,000 questionnaires and 65% of respondents said

that they would use a community bus service if made available.

A project group, set up to examine the feasibility of a community bus service, confirmed the demand suggested by RACA's survey, identified potential routes covering residential areas poorly served by commercial bus services, determined the type of service best suited to the task and an appropriate type of bus, and identified funding opportunities and methods of recruiting volunteer drivers.

The North West Chilterns LAF agreed a contribution of £10,000 towards the purchase of the new Risborough Area Community Bus.

Winslow Volunteering Project

The event was organised by the Great Horwood and Singleborough Youth Club. The day involved the organisation of an afternoon concert in the village hall by Great Horwood Silver band with an afternoon tea provided. The young people of the youth club played an active part in organising the entertainment, preparation of the tea and serving the guests. The aim of the event was to help young people realise their potential, gain self-confidence, engage with the local community and encourage intergenerational interaction. Profits from tickets and raffle sales were split between the youth club and a charity of its choice.



The Winslow LAF contributed the sum of £900 towards the youth club's costs.

Beeches Pop up Youth Work



This project is being run by the Youth Café organisation to carry up 10 Pop Up Youth events across the Beeches Area. The events were organised to promote the current youth clubs and increase membership. Farnham currently do not have a youth club so the aim in this area is to generate interest and potentially to support the setup of a permanent youth club. The further aims of the project are to create a network of youth leaders across the area that will be able to share ideas and promote projects across the

different youth clubs. Youth Café will also carry out work to identify priorities for the Beeches area through contact with local young people and this will then be reported back to the LAF to consider addressing in future years.

The activities that will take place during these Pop Up events included outdoor sports, skateboarding on mobile skate ramps and electric Karts.

The Beeches LAF allocated £3,400 towards Pop up Youth Work across the LAF area.

Waddesdon Community Library Digital Intergenerational Project

“Get Connected” is a social project aimed at older vulnerable and isolated people and the school’s sixth form students. Through intergenerational learning, the students are teaching basic skills lessons to help the older people feel more confident on tablets and other electronic devices. The classes are relaxed and therefore encourage the social aspect of the project between the different generations. They are taking place in Waddesdon Community Library taking advantage of the large bright space and focus on four main areas; Getting Online, Social Media, Video Calling and Skype and Online Shopping.

Waddesdon is situated 7 miles from its nearest town of Aylesbury. Despite being on a bus route this distance can lead to many feeling isolated from various services. Waddesdon Community Library was established in February 2016 and is already acting as a gateway to many of these services. Starting a project like “Get Connected” will give vulnerable & isolated people the opportunity to connect with others and engage with their local community as well as gaining skills to become more self-reliant.

In 2016-17 Waddesdon LAF invested £2,370 toward the purchase of the equipment.

12. Community Traffic Calming

This section summarises community led Traffic Calming projects undertaken by LAFs.

Link to Buckinghamshire County Council Strategic Priorities

Priority: Keeping Buckinghamshire Thriving and Attractive

- Continue to invest in the maintenance of the County's existing roads and footpaths

Although Traffic calming is not included directly as one of BCC's strategic priority plans it fits by exception in 'Keeping Bucks Thriving and Attractive' as BCC recognizes that in some local areas, road safety remains a pressing concern, and as such, LAFs are permitted to continue investing in road safety schemes subject to the evidence of need, and provided 50% match funding from a non-Buckinghamshire County Council source is provided.

The County Council's role is to educate drivers, not to enforce speed limits, which is the role of Thames Valley Police, and so LAF funding can only be used for raising awareness of drivers' speeds and the possible consequences. Research has shown that a 1mph drop in speeds can lead to between 2 and 5% drop in casualties.

Types of Traffic Calming Measures

Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS)



Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) re-enforce existing traffic signs and are only activated to alert drivers who are travelling above a pre-determined speed set in the device. They will usually be speed limit roundels (order signs), or warning signs to target those motorists who are considered to be driving too fast for the local prevailing conditions. VAS are permanent post-mounted signs that display either the speed limit or warn of a hazard ahead. They

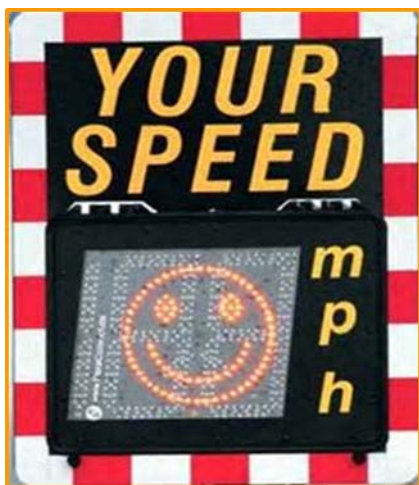
must comply with The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 (TSRGD) and be type approved for use on the public highway.

A study into the effectiveness of VAS at over 60 locations across the country has been undertaken for the Department for Transport. This showed that where collisions were recorded, these were reduced by up to a third and that average speeds were reduced by 4mph. Although the speed reductions may seem modest, VAS appears to be very effective at reducing the speed of faster drivers. The cost of installing a VAS is at least £17,000 and may be significantly higher if no power is available at the chosen site.

VASs are only permitted where this is substantial evidence of need – too many signs would reduce their effectiveness, and go against the Council's de-cluttering policy for the roadside. Parishes that have invested in VAS Include; Wendover, Chepping Wye Valley, Seer Green,

Halton, Buckland and Princes Risborough. The LAFs have collectively invested £33,600 between 2012-2016.

Temporary Speed Indicating Devices (TSIDs)



Temporary Speed Indicating Devices (TSIDs) are temporary sign installations that alert road users to the speed at which they are travelling along a given stretch of the highway. They are educational devices to advise drivers of the speed at which they are travelling through a given area and assist in developing a more balanced attitude and behaviour towards speed choices for given environments.

The TSID will display the drivers' speed, together with a frowning face, or a smiling face, dependent upon whether they are travelling above or below the given speed limit.

A small scale study into the effectiveness of TSIDs has been undertaken for BCC by The University of Reading.

This showed that when TSID was deployed, average speeds were reduced by about 3.5mph. After TSID was removed, there remained a residual reduction in pre-TSID speeds of between 5.5 and 6.5%. Although this trial took place at a small number of sites and only over a two week period, the results are encouraging and BCC is now supporting the wider use of TSIDs. TSID cannot be used for Data collection.

Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs



The Moveable Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS) initiative is a locally managed scheme where rechargeable vehicle activated signs can be purchased by the Parish/Town Council and moved around the village to pre-agreed locations, co-fixed onto existing posts or onto a movable post secured by a ground screw.

MVAS displays the speed limit when approached by a vehicle travelling above a pre-determined speed, acting as a reminder to drivers exceeding the speed limit. The aim of this is to encourage a safer driving speed and improve road safety. MVASs also collect speeding data which can be analysed and provided to Thames Valley Police to make the case for speeding enforcement where there is evidence of higher than usual speeding. Some parishes have also used the data they have collected to support requests for traffic mitigation for planning applications. Swarco Traffic Ltd is BCC's approved supplier of MVASs, along with Highways & Solar who can arrange for the supply of ground screws and hinged posts.

The average cost of an MVAS, including several ground screws, is about £3,300, and collectively LAFs have invested around £137,647 between 2012 and 2016.

Community Speedwatch; Sentinel Cameras

Community Speedwatch is a traffic monitoring scheme that is co-ordinated by the Police and Buckinghamshire County Council but managed and run by volunteers in a community. The

volunteers are trained to use a detection device to monitor the speeds of vehicles travelling through their local area. The registration number of speeding vehicles is recorded. Warning letters are then sent out by the Police to the registered keepers stating that their vehicle has been reported as speeding.

Locations for monitoring speed are selected from sites suggested by the community, based on where there is most local concern about speeding traffic, or the impact of speed. Sites will be risk assessed for suitability by a trained Neighbourhood Police Officer or a Police Community Support Officer. Ideally a minimum of six volunteers are needed to set up a scheme. Volunteers are issued with high visibility jackets and roadside mobile signs, which must be displayed to notify motorists that they are entering a Community Speedwatch area.



Parish Councils may wish to join together to run a Speedwatch scheme to reduce costs. Equipment consists of the Speed Detection Radar, electronic recording device, tripod, high visibility jackets and roadside mobile Speedwatch signs. Confirmation of £5 million public liability insurance for roadside working by volunteers must be included on the Parish Councils insurance cover



Several LAFs have purchased one or two Sentinel cameras to enable effective community speedwatch projects. The Cameras take an image of passing traffic, which ensures that roadside volunteers take down the correct details, which are essential for the police volunteers to be able to send a letter. They also enable volunteers to capture details of several consecutive vehicles.

The Sentinel cameras are produced by UNIPAR Services Limited and the average cost is about £3,700. The practice in Buckinghamshire has become that one parish council buys a camera, with LAF funding, and then coordinates its use by all interested parishes in the area. Parishes pay around £5 each time they use the camera for a week, ensuring a moderate fund for repairs should they be necessary.

LAFs that have purchased Sentinel cameras for their speedwatch programme include; Great Brickhill, Wing and Ivinghoe and Buckingham.

High Visibility Speed Message Posters (HVSMPs)



High Visibility Speed Message Posters (HVSMPs) are temporary posters that give drivers an indication that local residents are concerned about traffic driving too fast for the conditions on the local road. These posters can be installed or requested by Local Councils, where resources allow.

The posters usually installed temporarily and only for a few weeks every quarter, in a given location to gain maximum impact upon road users. The very fact of their temporary nature

ensures that road users notice their presence. They are re-installed at periods throughout the year, rather than them being permanent installations and the risk those drivers will develop an attitude of 'sign blindness' towards them

Buckinghamshire County Council

Visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/democracy for councillor information and email alerts for local meetings

Report to the Denham and Gerrards Cross Local Area Forum

Title: LOCAL PRIORITIES BUDGET 2017-18

Date: 4 October 2017

Author: Jane O'Grady, Director of Public Health

Contact officer: Paul Hodson Area Manager
(01296) 383479

Electoral divisions affected: Denham
Gerrards Cross

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report presents recommendations for the allocation of the Denham and Gerrards Cross Local Priorities Budget for 2017-18.
- 1.2 The Local area budget for 2017-18 is £22,790. Of this, £2,474 has already been allocated, leaving a balance of £20,316 available for allocation.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Denham and Gerrards Cross Local Area Forum are recommended to support the proposals summarised in the table below. Detailed descriptions and evaluations of the proposals are contained in the report.

Proposal	Match funding	Total project cost	Amount recommended
Gerrards Cross CCTV	£0	£9,090	£9,090
Denham Bus Stop Drainage	£0	£4,000	£4,000
Ring fenced for projects to support vulnerable older people in Denham	£0	£7,226	£7,226
Total	£0	£20,316	£20,316



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

3. Background

- 3.1 The Denham and Gerrards Cross LAF has a Local Priorities devolved budget to be used for evidence based projects which address local needs and which fit with the County Council's strategic priorities.
- 3.2 This funding must be spent on expenditure relating to this financial year running from 1 April 2017 to end March 2018.
- 3.3 Applications received are evaluated against the evidence of local need.
- 3.4 They are also evaluated against the County Council's strategic priority themes which are:
- Safeguarding our vulnerable
 - Creating opportunities and building self-reliance
 - Keeping Buckinghamshire thriving and attractive.
- 3.5 More detail on these priorities is available at: <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/council-and-democracy/our-plans/our-strategic-plan/>
- 3.6 All allocations are subject to the standard terms and conditions unless amended in the detailed recommendations below.

4. Budget Available

- 4.1 The LAF's 2017-18 budget is £22,790. Of this, £2,474 has already been allocated, leaving a balance of £20,316 available for allocation.
- 4.2 The current allocation is for:

Proposal	Match funding	Total project cost	Amount recommended
Gerrards Cross Layby Feasibility Study	£2,474	£4,948	£2,474
Total	£2,474	£4,948	£2,474

- 4.3 The allocation for the Gerrards Cross Layby Feasibility Study was agreed by the local County Councillors in May 2017.

5. Proposals recommended for funding

5.1 Gerrards Cross CCTV

- 5.1 This proposal has been put forward by Gerrards Cross Town Council to reduce anti-social behaviour by youths in the centre of town. Eight youths who had come in to the town using the train link from High Wycombe have recently been prosecuted and the Police have now recommended that high quality CCTV in the town centre would help solve and prevent crime.
- 5.2 A seven camera CCTV system would be installed. This installation will help Gerrards Cross remain a thriving and attractive place to live and work and will safeguard all sectors of the community against the threat of crime. The Town Council will manage the ongoing maintenance and servicing of the system.

5.3 The Town Council have provided a detailed quote for the system.

5.4 In terms of meeting the Local Priorities Budget funding criteria:

- a) The proposal is a good fit to meet the local area need to reduce anti-social behaviour, prevent crime and safeguard the vulnerable across Gerrards Cross town centre.
- b) The proposal is a good fit with the County Council's strategic priority to Create Opportunities and Build Self Reliance because it aims to improve community safety and reduce crime and the fear of crime.
- c) The proposal provides an average fit in terms of value for money because although there is no match funding, the Town Council will take on the ongoing maintenance costs for servicing and repair which will ensure continued usage of the system.

5.5 It is recommended that the LAF allocate £9,090 towards the installation of the CCTV system in Gerrards Cross.

5.6 Denham Bus Stop Drainage

5.7 This proposal has been put forward by Denham Parish Council to install drainage channels at two existing bus stops in Denham Avenue which will enable residents and visitors access to the bus service.

5.8 There are two Bus Shelters, opposite each other, on the A412 Denham Avenue that frequently flood due to the levels of the floor of the Shelter and the gradient of the pavement and the fact that the kerb is at the same level as the road.

It is proposed to install 4" Aquaflo Drainage Channels at each Shelter and then re-direct the water to a metre square soakaway pit at one side of each Shelter. The parish council has obtained a quote for the work from a local contractor.

5.9 In terms of meeting the Local Priorities Budget funding criteria:

- a) The proposal is an average fit to meet the local area need to enable the use of all services in the area which will ensure that the service is attractive to local residents who wish to travel and also to visitors of the area.
- b) The proposal is a good fit with the County Councils strategic priority to Keep Buckinghamshire Thriving and Attractive as it will repair drainage for the bus stop allowing the continued use of a service.
- c) The proposal provides an average fit in terms of value for money because although there is no match funding, Denham Parish Council have sought their own quotes and will coordinate completion of the works.

5.10 It is recommended that the LAF allocate £4000 for the installation of drainage channels at the Denham Avenue Bus Stops provided that all works are done off the carriageway and do not touch the kerb. This project is also subject to all relevant permissions being granted by Streetworks.

5.11 Ring fenced for projects to support vulnerable older people

5.12 Following the allocation of the above it is recommended that the LAF ring fence it's remaining budget (£4726) to be used for Good Neighbours projects to support vulnerable older people in Denham. The scheme would establish projects including Befriending Scheme, a Men in Sheds project and will be used towards the development of the scout hut to be usable by activities and groups for vulnerable and older people.

5.13 The project would not receive any funding until costed proposals have been received, and assessed as being eligible for funding.

6 Future Proposals

6.1 Following Forum agreement regarding the above recommendations, the Forum's budget would be allocated for 2017/18.

Report ends

News from your County Council –September 2017

For the Gerrard’s Cross & Denham Area Forum.

At a glance....

1. **Green light for first satellite school for Buckinghamshire**
2. **Celebrating our foster carers**
3. **Select Committee probe into modern slavery**
4. **Bid for Government grant for road improvements**
5. **Advocacy Service contract announced**
6. **Public feedback sought on school's future plans**
7. **Scams champion Barry gets parliamentary platform for his plea**
8. **Winter times for Household Recycling Centres as October arrives**

1. Green light for first satellite school for Buckinghamshire

Buckinghamshire's first satellite school - an extension of St Michael's, High Wycombe - will open in Aylesbury next year.

Mike Appleyard, Buckinghamshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, approved the plan on Wednesday September 6.

St Michael's Catholic School will establish its satellite on the former Quarrendon school site. Building work, expected to start next summer, will not be finished until 2019, so the school will open next September with a Year 7 intake of 120 in the former Berton Hill Day Centre, which will be refurbished, before it moves to the permanent site a year later.

The satellite plan, a partnership between the County Council, St Michael's governors and trustees, and the Diocese of Northampton, would cater for students between 11 and 19, growing over time to six forms of entry.

The decision follows public consultations that generated up to 99% support. Mike Appleyard said: "There has been extremely strong support for St Michael's satellite, a level of response rarely seen in such consultations. Faith schools do deliver good

results and by and large parents like them. We've taken account of the way people in Aylesbury feel and I hope we'll be providing a school they will welcome."

With housing growth in the coming five years, Mike said an additional 12 forms of secondary school entry would be needed in Aylesbury Vale - the equivalent of two schools.

The satellite school would provide half of this need. The £1 million cost of refurbished buildings at Bierton Hill and £22m construction cost of new buildings on the Quarrendon site will come from Department for Education basic need funding and housing developer contributions.

Head teacher Garret Fay said he was very pleased to be in a position to open the St Michael's satellite at Aylesbury, and thanked parents, the Buckinghamshire Catholic Schools Partnership and the County Council's school expansion team for their support.

"The use of Bierton Hill ensures that pupils will be educated in a safe and secure learning environment, while building work at the Quarrendon site progresses," he said. "I'm looking forward to meeting prospective pupils and parents in the near future to share our designs and plans for 2018 and beyond."

2. Celebrating our foster carers

The hard work, commitment and dedication of Buckinghamshire County Council's foster carers was celebrated at a special awards ceremony and dinner on Friday, 8 September.

Organised by the Council's Fostering Team, the awards, attended by over 100 guests, recognised long service and training success and also offered the opportunity to give special praise to individuals and couples for a range of achievements.

The awards are now in their 11th year and give the unique opportunity for the County Council to celebrate the hard work, enthusiasm and commitment to caring for children of all its foster carers.

For the first time this year a range of new awards were introduced including best new-comer, service to disabled children and outstanding contribution to fostering. Also for the first time this year we introduced an award that was voted for by the public.

Six individuals and couples were nominated for the Foster Carer of the Year award with the public invited to vote online for their favourite. The prize went to Gemma and

Adam Butler who became foster parents to their four nieces and nephews following a tragic family event.

Sheila and Alastair Kay won the award for Best Newcomer to fostering. Their first child had no verbal communication and significant special needs. After a year with them, he has made significant progress with his speech and they have made a huge difference to his life.

Chris Driscoll won the award for her Outstanding Contribution to Fostering as she goes the extra mile helping to run the South Bucks support group, is a mentor to other foster carers whilst caring for young babies and toddlers alongside her own four children.

Juliet Cleverdon won the award for Service to Disabled Children for her dedication to caring for these children. Speaking after the event she said: "It was a real surprise, I was not expecting it at all and I'm very honoured and proud. I'm very passionate about working with children with disabilities so it makes the last 30 odd years worth it. I love doing it and I'll continue to do so with my very supportive husband."

The evening also celebrated those for their commitment to fostering.

Ron and Kate Gutteridge received an award for 25 years of respite fostering. Kate said: "We feel it's a real privilege to foster and we gain so much more from it than we give. Giving respite to a family is such a worthwhile thing to do and can be a real life saver to some families."

Keith and Sally Howard have been fostering for an amazing 35 years.

They said: "We do it because the children appreciate what we do for them. We have mainly done long term care and we build up relationships with the children and keep in contact with most of them. One of our foster children visits every weekend with his two children. They're our family."

A full list of the other winners on the night can be found on our website:
www.buckscc.gov.uk/fosteringawards

Could you foster? We are always keen to hear from anyone interested in becoming a foster carer. You really can make a difference to the life of a child or young person and help to make sure Bucks children can stay close to their local community. We will provide you with all the training and support you need.

Foster carers can be of any age over 21 years old, homeowners or tenants, employed or unemployed, single or in a relationship. There really is no typical foster carer.

Anyone wishing to find out more about fostering, contact the council's fostering team on 01296 382555 or email fostering@buckscc.gov.uk

3. Select Committee probe into modern slavery

It's a hidden crime that slips under the radar and on to the secret pages of the illicit dark web. But the evils of modern slavery in Buckinghamshire are about to come under the full glare of public scrutiny.

County Councillors are launching an inquiry into the scale of modern slavery in Buckinghamshire and how the County Council can help tackle it. Modern slavery traffickers and slave drivers coerce, deceive and force people into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.

Research across the county last year by University College's Jill Dando Institute, warned there was potential for exploitation of workers in isolated agricultural jobs, remote factories, and in caring for an increasing ageing population.

And researchers identified focal points for the County Council to target in the fight against modern slavery: liaising with public transport providers to watch for victims who might be fleeing from slave masters, asking delivery drivers who visit remote locations to look out for tell-tale signs of exploitation.

Since then the County Council has worked on an adult exploitation strategy, which will be presented to the Safer Stronger Bucks Partnership Board next month.

However, as members of the County Council's Transport, Environment and Communities Select Committee heard at a special briefing last week (Tuesday, September 12), people's awareness of the problem is limited, and exploitation could be much greater than figures show.

At the briefing, addressed by the police and Rahab, an agency from Reading working with modern slavery victims, Select Committee members heard how Thames Valley Police were one of only three forces now taking part in a cyber trial, logging references on Facebook, adult sites, and the dark web, where victims are recruited, to advance their investigations.

Police recorded 150 Buckinghamshire victims between February 2016 and March 2017, highlighting that females are more vulnerable to sexual exploitation and domestic servitude, whereas males are targeted for labour and forced criminalisation.

So the Select Committee has set the wheels in motion for an inquiry to understand the extent of criminal activity in Buckinghamshire. It will also explore and test how effective the County Council is in training and awareness raising, working with partner agencies, and in supporting victims - all responsibilities it has under the Modern Slavery Act.

4. Bid for Government grant for road improvements

A bid for £2.1 million of Government funding for road improvements in Aylesbury has been made by Buckinghamshire County Council.

If the bid to the National Productivity Investment Fund is successful, the improvement plan in Oxford Road will help to ease traffic queueing at the Fowler Road junction and the Hen & Chickens roundabout.

Upgrades to walkways and cycleways, an improved college bus stop and installation of synchronised traffic light controls are included in the bid, along with new pavements by the Ellen Road roundabout and at Fowler Road.

Mark Shaw, Deputy Leader and Transport Cabinet Member, said the scheme would help to relieve pinch-point congestion and reduce air pollution.

"It's important that we continually look for opportunities to bid for Government funding to invest in our roads, to help deal with the impact of housing growth," he said. "This is a great opportunity to make life a little better for our residents."

The County Council will add around £500,000 of developer contributions to fully fund the scheme, and expects a response from Whitehall around the time of the Chancellor's autumn budget.

This round of National Productivity Investment Fund bids aim to help councils relieve congestion, unlock economic growth, and enable homes to be built.

5. Advocacy Service contract announced

Vital support for people to resolve issues or concerns about their NHS care and treatment will continue in Buckinghamshire.

Buckinghamshire County Council has announced it has awarded a new three year contract to seAp advocacy to continue to deliver the Independent Health Complaints Advocacy (IHCA) service. seAp has been delivering this service in Buckinghamshire since it began in 2004.

Noel Brown, Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health said: "When someone has concerns about the NHS treatment they have received they want answers. This service is all about helping them to get those answers. IHCA is a free, independent service that can help people to make a complaint about any aspect of

their NHS care or treatment – and get the answers they need to understand what went wrong.”

IHCA is a statutory service delivered throughout England and seAp is an independent charity that provides advocacy, mainly in the South of England.

Advocacy is about supporting people to exercise their right to be heard. Advocates help people express their wishes and views, secure their rights, represent their interests and obtain the services they need. seAp has the QPM, Quality in Advocacy award and the four stars recognised for excellence, EFQM quality mark.

Lin Hazell, Health and Wellbeing Cabinet member said, “Most people are happy with the care they receive from the NHS, but things do go wrong sometimes. When they do, people are often at their most vulnerable, so it is vital that they can access and receive the right support to get their voices heard.”

She added, “If someone is ill, undergoing treatment or grieving it can be really hard for them to express their feelings and have the strength to raise it. Raising concerns in this way also enables the NHS to learn so that it continually improves.”

seAp supports people to put in a complaint about a service through the NHS complaints process. The service is available to all Buckinghamshire residents and covers all NHS services including:

- GP surgeries
- hospital trusts
- mental health services
- dentists
- ambulance services
- pharmacies

All other services funded by the NHS, including those by private providers

The new service started on 1 September 2017 and the contract is for three years. For more information please call the seAp contact centre on 0330 440 9000 or visit www.seap.org.uk for more information and for a self help information pack.

6. Public feedback sought on school's future plans

New up-to-date teaching areas at Pebble Brook Special School, Aylesbury, could be created if proposals to close its boarding block next February are approved.

They could enable Buckinghamshire County Council to provide more places at the school and meet an increased demand for specialist teaching.

The County Council is running a first-stage public consultation <http://ow.ly/TWmH30fieio> until October 13 on its plans to close the 12-place boarding wing, currently used by nine pupils. A public meeting in the school hall has been arranged for 4pm on Wednesday 27 September.

The County Council says the boarding wing could provide new teaching space and open possibilities for improvements to the sixth-form facilities, although this would depend on the outcome of a county-wide Special Education Needs and Disabilities review, and available resources.

Mike Appleyard, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, (pictured) said: "It's important that we consult fully before making any decision on what we provide for vulnerable young people, so that we're sure it's right to meet their needs."

Following the consultation the Cabinet Member will review the feedback and decide whether to publish a Statutory Notice proposing closure of the boarding wing, which would trigger a four-week representation period for people to comment.

Pebble Brook caters for children and young people from 11 to 19 with moderate learning difficulties, and difficulties with communication, interaction, social, emotional and mental health.

7. Scams champion Barry gets parliamentary platform for his plea

Memories for veteran Aylesbury soldier Barry Atkins are still vivid - but not of war. They're of a mail scam that sucked almost £3,000 from his life savings a few years back.

Since then the one-time victim has become an enthusiastic advocate for scam busting and a passionate campaigner against financial abuse of vulnerable people.

And last week Barry found himself on a parliamentary platform urging movers and shakers of the finance and security industries to wage war on the scammers.

He was telling the story of how he was conned by a bogus Spanish lottery to more than 100 leading stakeholders at a House of Commons reception. It was hosted by Conor Burns MP, Bournemouth University and the National Trading Standards Scams Team, to combat cyber scams and financial fraud targeting vulnerable adults.

Barry, who now works closely with Buckinghamshire and Surrey Trading Standards, and is a Mail Marshal with Friends Against Scams, scanning the post for scams, told the reception: "The problem is that scams come from all over the world, so they are hard to find and it's getting harder and harder to get rid of them.

"I've already worked to help six people in the area with scam mail," he said. "All it takes is somebody that is slightly confused, or elderly, to be tempted."

Barry urged MPs to support the work of anti-scam campaigners.

Mr Burns praised the victims and organisations working to detect and deter scammers, but said more could be done by banks and building societies to increase financial security against scammers.

Noel Brown, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health, (pictured) said in the two years to March 2017 Trading Standards received 204 reported doorstep crime incidents and 223 scam reports in Buckinghamshire. The average loss per victim was around £1700, and some have been scammed of more than £300,000.

"Scams Champions like Barry do a great work in helping people understand the problems created by scammers, what to watch for, and the importance of telling someone else if they have any doubts," said Noel.

"This helps our Trading Standards team to take early action and gather evidence which can lead to successful prosecutions. Sadly it's the vulnerable who are often targeted and we want to be at the forefront of protecting them from these criminals.

"If we can catch them, we'd love it. And we can make a lot of people feel much better and safer."

8. Winter times for Household Recycling Centres as October arrives

The arrival of October means that Buckinghamshire County Council's Household Recycling Centre services are moving to their winter opening hours of 9am-4pm, seven days a week.

The earlier closing time in winter makes the service more cost effective, as winter evenings are the least popular time for people to visit their Centre.

All the Household Recycling Centre services usually on offer are still available seven days a week, which means residents can still drop off unwanted items to be re-used by the South Bucks Hospice Shops, or dispose of their garden waste and other items. All ten sites will see the opening hours change on Sunday 1st October and the sites will close at 4pm until April 1st when they go back to the summer opening times of 9am-6pm.

