

WINSLOW AREA LOCAL AREA FORUM



DATE:	3 December 2008
TIME:	7.00 pm
LOCATION:	Mursley Village Hall

AGENDA

Item		Page No
1	Appointment of Vice Chairman	
2	Apologies for Absence / Changes in Membership	
3	Declarations of Interest To declare any personal or prejudicial interests	
4	Action Notes To confirm the notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16 September 2008.	1 - 6
5	Fire Service Claire Childs	
6	NAG update PCSO Wendy Taylor	
7	Public transport/buses Andy Clarke	
8	Petitions None received	
9	Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plane and patch sites for 09/10 • Winter salting routes for this winter • Parish Gang report sheets • Delegated Budget 	
10	Growth agenda A report by John Bryne is attached for Members to consider.	7 - 12
11	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	

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	facilitate a full answer on the day of the meeting. Questions sent in advance will be dealt with first and verbal questions after.	
12	District Council issues	
13	Items for next agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delegated budget (Ann-Marie Davies) 	
14	Date of Next and Future Meetings The proposed date of the next meeting is Wednesday 18th March at 7.00pm. Venue to be confirmed.	

Members

County Councillors and District Councillors:

Ashley Bond, Aylesbury Vale District Council
 Quintin Ings-Chambers, Bucks County Council
 Brenda Jennings, Bucks County Council
 Pam Pearce, Aylesbury Vale District Council
 Susan Polhill, Aylesbury Vale District Council
 David Rowlands, Bucks County Council
 Lindsay Rowlands, Aylesbury Vale District Council
 Sir Beville Stanier, Aylesbury Vale District Council
 Duncan Wiggley, Aylesbury Vale District Council

Parish and Town Councils:

Creslow
 Dunton
 Granborough
 Great Horwood
 Hardwick
 Hoggeston
 Little Horwood
 Mursley
 Newton Longville
 North Marston
 Oving
 Pitchcott
 Swanbourne
 Whitchurch
 Winslow

Partner Agencies: Thames Valley Police, Bucks Fire and Rescue, Buckinghamshire PCT, Voluntary Sector representatives

Democratic Services Contact : Liz Wheaton, Tel 01296 383856, Email ewheaton@buckscc.gov.uk

Please contact me if you have any special requirements e.g. hearing loop

ACTION NOTES

MEETING:	Winslow Area Local Area Forum
DATE:	16 September 2008 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm
LOCATION	The Winslow Centre

Item	ISSUES RAISED
1	<p>APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN</p> <p>Resolved that David Rowlands and Brenda Jennings be appointed Chairmen on a rotational basis.</p> <p>David Rowlands in the Chair for this meeting.</p>
2	<p>APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN</p> <p>This item was deferred until the next meeting.</p>
3	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP</p> <p>Apologies were received from Linda Lear, Andrew Pain, Sir Beville Stanier, Quintin Ings-Chambers, Lindsay Rowlands, Duncan Wiggley, and David Headley.</p>
4	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>There were none.</p>
5	<p>TERMS OF REFERENCE</p> <p>The Terms of Reference for the Local Area Forums and Local Community Partnerships were agreed at County Council on 10 July and a summary sheet was circulated at the meeting.</p> <p>Members were asked to note the report and agree the recommendations.</p> <p>Concern was expressed that the District Council and some of the parishes were not represented in order to have the discussion. Members were informed that the agenda and papers were sent to all Parishes prior to the meeting so that everyone was aware of the date and time. Unfortunately, there was an AVDC Audit Committee meeting and Buckingham NE NAG taking place the same evening, which were arranged after the LAF date had been agreed.</p> <p>The GC2C Manager confirmed that Resolutions 1 – 11 were agreed by County Council. In answer to a question, it was confirmed that adjoining parishes may attend the meeting if there is an item of interest to them.</p> <p>With regard to membership, a letter had been sent to the Parish Councils asking them to nominate one member to represent them at the meeting. This did not preclude other parish councillors from attending, but if there was a need to vote on an item there would be a designated member.</p> <p>Proportional representation was discussed. However, in the past many smaller parishes lost interest in such meetings because they were overshadowed by the bigger areas and their issues. The members were referred to paragraph 19 of the paper which gave further explanation of the voting procedure and this was accepted.</p>

	Members of the Local Area Forum noted the Report and the agreed County Council recommendations.
6	ACTION NOTES Members agreed the notes of the meeting held on 4 June.
7	ACTION LIST OF ITEMS OUTSTANDING FROM LAST MEETING The following was noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fire Service would not be giving a presentation at this meeting but the item would be carried over to the next meeting. • An Adult Social Care surgery had been held in Newton Longville which was very successful. Others will be held in the area and dates will be provided. • An issue was raised regarding people in the area who are attached to GP surgeries in the Milton Keynes area. The surgeries appear to be unaware of how to contact services in Aylesbury Vale regarding support which may be needed.
8	QUESTION TIME The Forum received the following questions from John Gilbey from Great Horwood Parish Council. Question 1. Although Great Horwood is part of the Winslow LAF it comes under the Buckingham North-East NAG. The next meeting of the NAG has been arranged for the same date and time as the Winslow LAF. Is it possible to re-align the NAG groups to match the LAF Groupings? If this is not possible can there be co-ordination between the organisers of the two groups to avoid date and time clashes. (I guess this comment also applies to Little Horwood) <i>Response: The representatives from Thames Valley Police agreed to obtain a response.</i> Question 2. In the BCC Winslow Area Newsletter July 2008 Issue 1, there is reference to the first wave of applications for Vehicle Activates Signs (VAS) having been assessed and letters sent to Parish Councils advising them of the outcome. Over many months Great Horwood has raised the issue of speeding in the village with representatives of the transportation department of BCC, including Tim Fowler, Ann-Marie Davies and David Cairney, with our local PC and PCSO including regularly at NAG meetings and also with our County Councillor and our District Councillor but we have never received any information on this VAS initiative. Why? <i>Response: A detailed response had already been sent to Mr Gilbey. The forum noted that a request had been made for funds from the delegated but it was not successful. With regard to the VAS initiative, officers were unaware of this and undertook to find out further information.</i> The Forum noted that the Council Policy on VAS was approved last year and they can be made available dependent on budget and assessment of location. Parishes wishing to have a VAS should apply to Sian Thomas. The cost takes into account power sources and location and each site would be individually assessed. Speeding initiatives are being presented to the Parish Forum on 13 October and further information can be obtained from the BCC website. Leaflets will be circulated to all Parishes and adverts will appear on the LAT vans. It was suggested that a TSID may be more suitable for the location and it was agreed that Ann-Marie Davies would look into this issue. Action: Ann-Marie Davies

	<p>Steve Orchard stated that the £125,000 delegated budget for local committees would be devolved down to the LAFs. However, the current year's programme was already committed. Money would be available from 2009 onwards. Town and Parish Councils will be notified once the level of funding has been set for 2009/10. Schemes will be scored as they were for Local Committees and it will for the Forum to make the final decisions. Bids for VAS could be made from that money.</p> <p>Funding for traffic calming measures was discussed. This could be bid for from the devolved funding but it would be for the LAF to make the decision and make recommendations to the Head of Transportation. However, there may not be enough money for chicanes, stand outs and bollards.</p> <p>Advertising of Local Area Forum meetings was discussed. These would be advertised on the BCC website, LAT vehicles and Parish magazines. Members could also sign up for Alerts on the BCC website on the following link: www.buckscc.gov.uk/democracy. Meetings would also be advertised in the press if it was felt necessary.</p> <p>Meetings would be open to the public as were the Local Committees. The public would be able to put forward questions in the allotted slot.</p> <p>If there were issues which affected more than one area, joint forums could be held in order to have a full debate.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>ISSUES OF INTEREST</p> <p>Members noted the previous issues which had been discussed at meetings of the Forum and were asked to send any other items to Brenda Jennings, David Rowlands or Freda Ackroyd.</p> <p>A suggestion was put forward that the Forum may like to receive presentations from other services within the County Council and District Council in order to get a better understanding of their work. This could inform any other issues which were presented at the meetings and could speed up the consultation process if stakeholders were better informed.</p> <p>The Chairman stated that he would ask John Byrne, from Aylesbury Vale District Council to give an update on the Local Growth Agenda as a future item.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Chairman/Freda Ackroyd</p> <p>Mrs Jennings commented that the East/West Rail presentation would have been interesting to the Wing/Ivinghoe area and it may be useful to have joint Forums for such issues.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>PETITIONS</p> <p>There were no petitions.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE</p> <p>This item was deferred to a future meeting.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>POLICE SERVICE</p> <p>The forum was informed that with effect from 19 September 2008 the police had received a new power through a Dispersal Order which allows the Police to disperse groups of two or more people who may be likely to cause anti-social behaviour between the hours of 9.00pm and 6.00am. Any people under the age of 16 can be escorted home if not under supervision. Officers from Aylesbury will assist if necessary. The Order will be in place for six months and would be reviewed</p>

	<p>at the end of that period. Concern was expressed that this may displace the problem.</p> <p>Discussion took place about whether the Churchyard was covered under the Dispersal Order but it was noted that not enough evidence had been obtained to include Winslow Town centre. The Churchyard is private property and it may be that the Police would not be able to use their powers.</p> <p>Sgt Andy Jones stated that they would police as much of Winslow as they could and if they were occupied, Neighbourhood teams from Aylesbury and response teams would step in.</p> <p>NAGs</p> <p>PCSO Wendy Taylor updated the meeting about the NAG and the following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The police are enforcing speeding limits in Newton Longville • Five Parish Councils have joined together for Speedwatch • The Fire Station is arranging a date for loud noise vehicles for children • With regard to farm theft, they were still awaiting Countrywatch • The Horsecatch meeting was successful. Courses for police officers on horse handling were being piloted in Amersham.
<p>13</p>	<p>EAST/WEST RAIL</p> <p>The Forum received a presentation from Patrick O’Sullivan, a rail consultant with Milton Keynes Partnership, who is the client group’s project manager for East/West Rail. The presentation focused on the Western Section of the East West Rail programme and the Aylesbury spur.</p> <p>In the ensuing discussion the following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chiltern Rail could complete the section without East/West Rail and run it independently, but it would need a joint agreement. • Regional tariffs could be put in place but a community infrastructure levy may be more favourable. • Land is already available to put twin tracks in place. Most of the work can be completed without the need to purchase any more land unless there was a need to put in bridges. • The Winslow Town Plan expressed strong support for the return of a passenger rail service, but the inclusion of freight transportation may raise opposition. However, it was noted that until with 1980’s freight trains ran through Winslow. The benefit of a passenger route will far outweigh any problems regarding freight. • The business case for the railway line is based on two trains per hour therefore the East/West Rail is not reliant on freight to justify it. • The trains will run on diesel, but the routes are also being cleared for overhead power lines. <p>The Chairman thanked Patrick O’Sullivan for his update. Copies of the presentation can be obtained from the clerk.</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>TRANSPORTATION ISSUES</p> <p>The member from Great Horwood raised the issue of diversion regarding the A421 closure and the diversion of traffic through Great Horwood. Complaints had been received, asking for the 30mph speed limit to be extended when diversions were in place. It was noted that this route would continue to be a diversion route in the future, but it was not possible to use TSIDs or temporary speed limit signs because of the narrow width of the verge.</p> <p>The Forum also noted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaflets warning the public about parking on narrow roads and thus reducing access for emergency vehicles. It was agreed that all Parish Councils should receive the leaflets. • Care should be taken regarding use and placement of signs when advertising events.

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DATES OF NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Forum will be held on Wednesday 3 December 2009 at 7.00pm at a venue to be advised.

LDF Update Note Rest of District Strategy

Introduction

The Local Development Framework (LDF) will incrementally replace the Local Plan. The best way of thinking about the LDF is as a folder or suite of documents that sit together to form the overall LDF, these documents are developed separately from each other over time, but the documents have to work together to form the LDF.

The Core Strategy is the first of these, with its job being to deal with the ‘big’ decisions first, before other documents in the LDF ‘folder’ progressively add detail. In effect it leads the process. This has changed from our original approach as the rules set out by government have enabled us to put more information in the Core Strategy. Taking this into account, for our LDF we have the following parts :

- Core Strategy – which deals with the big decisions
- Allocated Sites Document – which identifies the non strategic sites
- Supplementary Planning Documents – which provides even more detail on specific issues – for example developer contributions
- Development Management policies – the very detailed policies that are used in judging planning applications

Housing is perhaps the biggest issue that we deal with through the LDF. In terms of Aylesbury Vale, as part of a growth area, our numbers are set by the South East Plan (the Regional Spatial Strategy). In July this year the government published its proposed modifications following an independent panel examination. This confirmed our housing numbers are follows:

- District Total - 26,800, made up of ;
- 16,800 homes around Aylesbury (unchanged from panel report)
- 5,390 homes to the South West of Milton Keynes (unchanged from panel report)
- 4,700 homes in the rest of the district (unchanged from panel report)

We anticipate that these figures will be stable for the next few years, however the South East Plan is starting a process of review, part of which will include testing higher housing figures. Should the housing requirement significantly increase this will trigger a review of the Core Strategy and a possible reconsideration of the approach set out below.

Role of Core Strategy

The core strategy deals with the very ‘big’ decisions for the district up to 2026. These are principally focused on where new homes and employment are provided and how these will be delivered.

In terms of housing growth the core strategy will only allocate (ie clearly identify where the growth should take place on the ground) major development – that is

developments over 2,000 homes. This means the growth around Aylesbury on greenfields will be identified, and so will the growth to be delivered to the south west of Milton Keynes but in our District. It will not allocate any other specific housing sites, eg those in the rest of the district.

However the Core Strategy does have to set out how the rest of the districts housing numbers will be apportioned (ie a broad split of delivery), this is explored in more detail below. The actual allocation (ie clearly identify sites where the growth should take place on the ground) for this apportioned growth will take place in a separate part of the LDF – called the Allocated Sites Document. This will be subject to much more detailed work and consultation, which is not due to commence until 2010.

How is the Core Strategy Developed

The core strategy goes through a number of formal and informal consultation stages. The last formal stage was the preferred option in Summer last year. This included a broad indication of housing split across the district, and identified a direction for housing growth at Aylesbury (southern growth arc) Since then there has been reconsideration about what direction of growth Aylesbury should take, and hence more consultation is ongoing about this particular issue at the moment. No other issues are addressed by this consultation as it was the only area of major dissent indicated by the consultation last summer. This level of response combined with deliverability concerns regarding the southern growth arc means that we can not proceed without additional consultation.

Turning back to the core strategy as a whole, the next formal opportunity to comment will be following the council deciding to agree the Core Strategy for examination by an independent inspector. The decision to submit will be taken in April 2009, and the time to comment will be May/July 2009. We expect that the examination will take place in Winter 2009/10 and adoption of the core strategy is likely in Spring 2010.

What Settlement Hierarchy are we considering for the Rest of the District

For clarification the rest of district means everything apart from Aylesbury and the growth in our district derived from Milton Keynes. As noted above, the housing figures for the district (and these areas) are set out by government, we only have the decision on where these should go – not how many.

The consultation on the core strategy last year set out our intended approach to use a settlement hierarchy on which to base our apportionment of growth. The hierarchy takes into account all the towns and villages that we have in the district and groups them by those that are the most sustainable (ie those with the most services or where services can be supported, as well as trying to minimise the need to travel).

The responses to the consultation last year broadly supported this approach, whilst saying that Buckingham should be treated as a different tier to the other smaller towns (ie Winslow Haddenham and Wendover). It is also suggested that the original list of

19 villages is reduced so as to ensure that areas such as Stoke Mandeville, Stone and Newton Longville do not get affected by both larger nearby growth proposals and smaller levels of growth from the “rest of the districts” figures.

A further suggestion is that the remaining original third tier settlements (now fourth tier) could be grouped into clusters to enable a more sustainable form of development, e.g. by concentrating services at main (fourth tier) settlements in each cluster. All these modifications to the original approach have been discussed at our Environment Scrutiny committee and were supported in principle.

This means that the settlement hierarchy in the emerging core strategy looks like :

Tier	Settlement	Description
First	Aylesbury	The main town in the district, and the focus for the majority of the district’s growth.
Second	Buckingham	The second largest town in the district that acts as a focus for many smaller settlements in the north of the district.
Third	Winslow Haddenham Wendover	The next largest villages in the district that act as focal points for smaller villages in the vicinity.
Fourth	Other sustainable settlements ¹ (see map)	Larger, more sustainable settlements in the district that have better access to services and facilities and public transport. Divided into clusters to enable the most effective provision of services.
Fifth	Other rural settlements (shown as white areas on the map)	The remainder of settlements that will accommodate only limited development (e.g. no specific allocations), however new limited housing will be permitted on a case by case basis (e.g. as existing practise now).

What Housing Apportionment are we considering for the Rest of the District

Having set the settlement hierarchy we then look at the principle of how we apportion potential growth between them. This is based on sustainability principles, which have been agreed in principle through the Environment Scrutiny committee.

The suggested apportionment of the rest of district figure is shown in the table below. It is important to note that the core strategy will only contain a percentage figure. This is because the actual process of finding sites where these houses may go on the ground is not done in the Core Strategy but the later Allocated Sites document – therefore the Core Strategy only sets the principle. We are doing a high level study of these areas and we are sure that these numbers can be accommodated (this is known as the SHLAA – Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment).

The percentage figure is also important as this will allow us to take into account new homes being built between now and when the allocated sites document is developed, and hence minimising the number of new homes we have to allocate.

¹ Brill, Cheddington, Edlesborough, Great Horwood, Grendon Underwood, Long Crendon, Padbury, Pitstone, Steeple Claydon, Waddesdon, Whitchurch, Wing, and Wingrave.

The figures in the below table are based on the current position and not those in the future, hence they are at the top end of the figures we would have to finally allocate. They are also only based on simple division (ie the number of towns or villages in a group). In reality the allocated sites document will undertake detailed work and consultation on the actual numbers and sites in each town/village, this is so that individual circumstances can be taken into account. The final allocated sites document will undoubtedly have different numbers (although not in percentage terms) for each group than those set out below, however they are provided for context.

The approach of identifying a percentage split rather than an absolute number is being taken as it is the only way we can, under new planning rules, take into account unplanned growth which we know will be inevitable in a district our size (ie windfall sites where new homes are built which were not originally planned for), which in turn helps significantly in reducing the amount of new homes on greenfields we have to allocate.

	% split of Rest of District Figure	New homes – If the calculation was done now on the tiers as a whole*	New homes - If the calculation was done now on a simple division basis*
Buckingham	60%	1260	1260
Wendover²	20%	420	50
Winslow	Provided together by the three towns		185
Haddenham			185
Cluster 1 (N)⁺	20%	420	97
Cluster 2 (M)⁺	Provided together by the named villages in the four clusters		97
Cluster 3 (SW)⁺			65
Cluster 4 (SE)⁺			161

* 2,100 dwellings need to be delivered in the rest of the district through the LDF in the period to 2026. This comes from the starting point of 4,700 set out in regional policy, minus the remaining unbuilt on Local Plan allocations and existing commitments (ie where permission has been granted but the homes not yet built).

+ see map for villages within the clusters

Summary

The approach that will be taken in the final core strategy is very close to what was consulted upon in the summer last year, however there have been a few changes that reflect what the consultation told us. We have applied a proportionate split for the allocations document to eventually apply to the rest of the district (excluding Aylesbury, its immediate surroundings and the area of growth to the North of Newton Longville). This is not subject to additional consultation as we are following the process set out by government; the only reason that additional consultation is being

² Following initial appraisals, it is assumed that Wendover only has current capacity for 50 dwellings on allocated sites due to the national constraints (Green Belt and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) around the village.

undertaken around Aylesbury is due to the issues set out on page two of this note. Should these issue have not arisen there would have been no additional consultation on the direction of growth of Aylesbury either.

We appreciate that this does not provide absolute certainty to the number of homes which will eventually have to be found in the smaller towns, and villages in the district, however this uncertainty is balanced against being able to count future new windfall site homes that will come through the process, which in turn helps very significantly in reducing the amount of new homes on greenfields we have to allocate. It also has the advantage of setting out clearly the parameters for the allocations document to begin from in 2010.

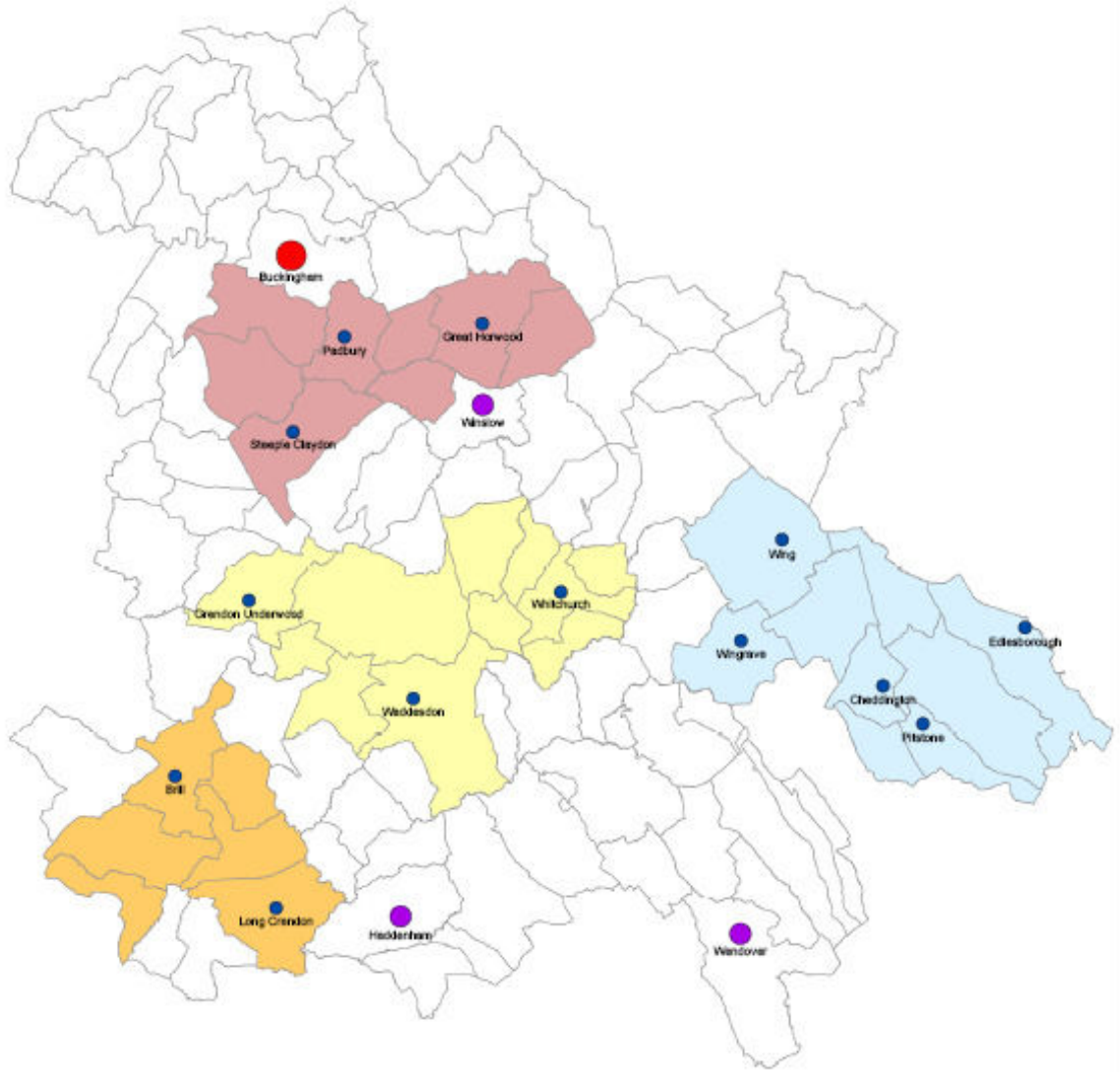
The process for approving the core strategy is set out below:

Cabinet – Direction of Growth of Aylesbury (10/3/09)
Environment Scrutiny – Core Strategy (24/3/09)
Cabinet – Core Strategy (21/04/09)
Council – Core Strategy (29/04/09)
Pre Examination Process - (May – July)
Examination - (late 2009 – Spring 2010)

If you have an queries or comments on the above please contact :

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Aylesbury Vale Potential Cluster Approach to Housing Distribution outside of Aylesbury



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LEGEND

	Cluster 1: Northern Vale		Cluster 3: South West Vale
	Cluster 2: Mid Vale		Cluster 4: South East Vale
	Second Tier		Third Tier
			Fourth Tier