

**MINUTES** of the Meeting of the  
**CHILTERN & SOUTH BUCKS STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**  
held on **16 NOVEMBER 2016**

**PRESENT**

Cllr Ralph Bagge (Chairman)	Leader of South Bucks DC
Cllr Isobel Darby	Leader of Chiltern DC
Natalie Judson	Prevention Matters, Bucks CC
Pam Warren	Bucks Vision
Marion Seneschall	CAB
Ann Whiteley	Carers Bucks
Dr Dave Furze	Community Transform
Yvette Hitch	Thames Valley Police
Vinny Patel	Little Chalfont Parish Council
Nicola Lester	NHS Chiltern Clinical Commissioning Group
Cllr Paul Kelly	South Bucks DC
Anita Cacchioli	Interim Director of Services CDC/SBDC
Jennifer Woolveridge	Gerrards Cross Town Council
Rachel Prance	Manager Communications, Performance and Policy
Sarah Woods	Performance and Policy Officer
Gillian Quinton	Bucks CC
Michael Saxby	Fulmer Parish Council
Dianne Rutter	Community Impact Bucks
Sue Lynch	Stoke Poges Parish Council
Alistair Pike	Beaconsfield Town Council
Paul Hodson	Bucks CC
Jacqueline Austen	Bucks CC
Valerie Bruce	L&Q
Jim Sims	Bucks Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership

**18 APOLOGIES**

Faye Ewing, Simon Kearey, Jim Burness, Martin Phillips, Mike Appleyard, Beverley Underwood, Alan Finch, Jonathan Rush, David Montague, Mimi Harker, Sian Chattle, Cathy Colsell, Andrew Smith, Bob Smith, Katie Galvin, Conan Hassim, Elaine Hassall, Trevor Boyd, Barbara Poole, Linda Walton, Marilyn Heath, David Wight.

**19 NOTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PARTNERSHIP MEETING ON 18 MAY 2016**

The minutes of the Chiltern and South Bucks Joint Strategic Partnership meeting held on 18 May 2016 were received; copies of which had been previously circulated.

**RESOLVED** that:-

The minutes were approved and accepted by Councillor Ralph Bagge as a correct record.

## **20 MODERNISING LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN BUCKS**

Councillor Ralph Bagge and Councillor Isobel Darby delivered the presentation.

The key challenges for Buckinghamshire were highlighted. The revenue support grant will be reduced to zero by 2018/19. The population will grow and there will be a 75% rise in over 65s by 2037 which will put additional pressure on already stretched adult social care services. Demand for children's services will increase, between 2011 and 2015 there was a 12% increase in looked after children. Housing demand is predicted to increase by 21% between 2013 and 2033. The county needs 9,000 new affordable homes. This will impact on other services such as Waste.

Reorganisation of local government in Bucks should be designed to sit at the heart of wider reform and transformation in the county. Without this, consolidation of local government into a single tier, (whilst providing some short term savings), will not create the improved outcomes and long-term sustainability that our residents require. Unless this happens there is real danger that an inward-focused reorganisation of local government will get in the way of much needed integration and transformation in the health and care system and other key aspects.

There is an increasing demand on expensive services. There is a need for integration and transformation in the health and care system and other key aspects of public sector reform. Without reform, the savings associated with becoming a unitary council will be consumed by cost pressures elsewhere. We need to find a better way to do the existing better first otherwise there is a risk that the underlying issues will not be addressed.

The emphasis should be on improved outcomes for our residents. This can be achieved by building a broad consensus, placing greater emphasis on early intervention and prevention, building new relationships with communities at a local level and having visible and accountable leadership, engagement in decision-making and resource allocation.

Radical change is required to ensure local government in Buckinghamshire is sustainable and meets the changing needs and aspirations of our residents and their children in the long term.

The Districts' shared vision is built on the following principles:

- Financially sustainable matching the needs and aspirations of residents now and in the future.
- Rooted in communities - involvement and engagement with residents in the design and delivery of local services.
- Services and functions designed and delivered across optimum geographies – both within and beyond Buckinghamshire.
- Reframing our relationship with people to promote independence.
- Securing the best outcome for people while effectively managing demand.
- More collaboration, partnership working and community leadership - within and beyond Buckinghamshire.

Deloitte were commissioned to carry out an independent strategic level analysis of alternative governance arrangements for Buckinghamshire. The purpose of this report was to help the district councils form a view of which option best serves the interests of residents and will secure improved outcomes. They looked at options for one, two and three unitary models. We also asked them to look at alternative delivery models for services and functions that are best delivered on a larger area to achieve economies of scale and secure better outcomes for our residents i.e. potential for delivering big ticket services at greater scale beyond Buckinghamshire to achieve better outcomes for our residents.

Nine criteria were set in the brief given to Deloitte. Eight of the nine have been considered. Each option was scored. A single unitary model was scored the lowest at 13/21. A two and three unitary model both scored 16/21 so are both financially viable options.

Savings over a five year period would be £80.7 million for a single unitary, £66.6 million for two unitary and £63.4 million for three unitary.

On balance it appears the three-model unitary is the most advantageous as it provides the greatest opportunity to transform local government to achieve long term financial and operational sustainability

The starting point for this journey needs to be about building a broad consensus, across public sector partners in Buckinghamshire on an ambitious vision for the future of public services.

The next steps are:

- Engagement with stakeholders to continue during November
- Feedback form can be found online - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/districtsMLG>

- Presentation of our stakeholder feedback to DCLG early December.

Jennifer Woolveridge asked what would future relationships with town and parish councils be like?

Councillors explained that the services provided by town and parish councils are valued. It is important that we work collaboratively with residents. It is also important that we deal with the issue of how expensive services for adults and children are dealt with in future.

Yvette Hitch asked how are we going to build community resilience?

Councillors explained this was a nationwide issue. Different schemes have been piloted and we should look to share those lessons learned. Councillor Darby directed people to look at the full report from Deloitte which looks to give the community more responsibility. Rather than being paternalistic, we should be more enabling.

Nicola Lester expressed her concern of moving from a single source of adult care to three. Councillors explained that as Bucks is a relatively small area with a population of 500,000, that there is no value in dividing adult social care and children's services. Instead, it is proposed that these services will be delivered at scale across the county so they will not be divided into three.

## **21 REPORT FROM THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AGEING POPULATION TASK & FINISH GROUP**

Natalie Judson from Prevention Matters, Bucks CC delivered the presentation.

The Ageing Population Task and Finish group was established at the Joint Strategic Partnership meeting in October 2015 when it was decided a working group would be set up to focus primarily on dementia. The group has an action plan which details the group's achievements and aspirations.

People can live well with dementia. There are around 850,000 people living with dementia in the UK. This will rise to over 2 million by 2051. Dementia which includes Alzheimer's disease has now overtaken heart disease as the leading cause of death in the UK.

Dementia costs £26.3 billion a year. Unpaid carers supporting people with dementia save the UK purse £11.6 billion a year. Carers Bucks support over 2,000 carers of people with dementia.

The group has had some significant successes since being formed in October 2015. These include:

- 34 GP practices across the CCG committed to become dementia friendly

- Trading Standards – Fire and Rescue have been installing CCTV cameras on behalf of Trading Standards in South Bucks for those at risk of becoming targets of fraud. Trading Standards have been raising awareness of rogue trading and related crimes.
- Community Safety team introduced a community cards scheme that aimed at raising awareness of dementia and encouraging intergenerational activities.
- Amersham Tesco held a Dementia friends information session and have two community champions in the Amersham and Gerrard's cross stores trained to deliver sessions to other employees. This has given them more confidence to interact with customers living with dementia.
- Amersham dementia alliance group was formed.
- Carers Bucks have developed a training programme for carers to help them manage on a day to day basis.
- All library staff will have attended dementia friend training by March 2017.
- Reading well books have been made available on prescription. The list includes a range of books offering information and advice about dementia and normal aging, support with living well after diagnosis, practical advice for carers, personal accounts, and suggestions for shared therapeutic activities.

The group organised a confronting dementia event in May 2016 which was very successful with lots of people attending to find out more about dementia.

There are lots of actions members of the Joint Strategic Partnership can do now to help people living with dementia. These include:

- Hold a dementia awareness day in your local community
- Encourage others to attend dementia friends training
- Influence decision makers on funding us to obtain a full time post to focus solely on dementia
- Talk to local businesses – look at changing physical environments
- Encourage hobby and interest groups

There are several organisations set up to help people living with dementia:

- Lindengate in Wendover offers a range of indoor and outdoor activities geared towards mental and physical stimulation.  
<http://www.lindengate.org.uk/>
- The Alzheimer's society offers memory support services. The service aims to offer one-to-one support for individuals and their carers, from their initial concerns about memory loss, through diagnosis, to planning for

the future. Anyone in Buckinghamshire who is worried about their memory or already has a dementia diagnosis can use the service as well as those caring for someone with a diagnosis

- Dementia alliance groups have been setup. Pilot sites include BCC Buckingham, Great Missenden and Stokenchurch.

## **22 DEMENTIA FRIEND TRAINING (INTERACTIVE TRAINING WORKSHOP)**

The training was led by Jacqui Sheppard from Home Instead. Each of the attendees committed to become a dementia friend at the end of the training. The training helped to explain more about what dementia is and what action we can take now to help those living with dementia.

## **23 AOB**

Nominations for the 2017 Chiltern District Council Youth Awards are currently being accepted. You can make a nomination here <http://www.chiltern.gov.uk/youthawards2017>

Buckinghamshire residents are being invited to come along to public information events to find out from local GPs what is happening with health services in their local area.

The sessions will include presentations from healthcare professionals about what's going on in the local area to meet people's health needs, and how this fits into wider plans across Buckinghamshire. People at the events will be able to ask questions and contribute their views as part of the continuing dialogue between the public and health and care services across the county. Details of when these sessions will take place can be found here <https://www.chilternccg.nhs.uk/events/>

## **24 CLOSE OF MEETING AND DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

**May 2017 and will be held at Chiltern District Council offices in Amersham.**