

PEOPLE, PLACE AND PROSPERITY

Details of Integrated Impact Assessment

1: Proposal

IIA on Chiltern and South Bucks District Councils' Joint Business Plan 2015-20

2: Lead organisation/partnership

South Bucks District Council

3: IIA Lead Person

Rachel Prance

6 Apr 2011 for former SBDC Corporate Plan, reviewed/refreshed on 19th January 2012, reviewed May 2014 for replacement Joint Business Plan 2014-19. And further reviewed following the refresh of the Joint Business Plan in August 2015.

People

Original: Rachael Winfield (Communications and Partnerships); Ian Motuel (Planning Policy); Laura Campbell (Policy); Alex Rowland (Policy, Performance & HR)
Reviewed by Laura Campbell (Policy) 19th January 2011 & 23rd May 2014.
Reviewed by Laura Campbell (Policy) 1st September 2015.

Relations between local groups

5: What impact will the proposal have on relations between local groups? (changes to demographics or profile of the population, neighbourliness, community participation, cultural participation, religious participation, inter-generational activities, social and community cohesion and fear of discrimination and level of discrimination)

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

6: How do you know? (Evidence base)

Plan includes actions around accessibility, promoting good community relations, cohesion, supporting the community, voluntary sector, reducing crime and fear of crime, support to individual Councillor engagement with their communities to feedback needs, Cohesion and Inequalities forum encourages positive community relations, including monitoring the press, promoting equalities and meeting duties of Equalities Act 2010.

7: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Performance data on crime provided by Thames Valley Police, Chiltern and South Bucks Strategic Partnership feedback, Cohesion and Inequalities feedback, Equality monitoring, Analysing IMD and other stats.

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Can Voluntary & Community sectors work across whole area?
- There needs to be realism around the level of community involvement
- Acknowledge the need to invest resources in local communities
- Community engagement can set unrealistic expectations
- Some groups do not take the wider view of community needs.

Equality of opportunity

8: **What impact will the proposal have on equality of opportunity?** (people not being excluded from the activities of society on the basis of traits that cannot change)

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

9: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Priorities for both Councils are based on extensive and varied engagement and consultation e.g. shared evidence base with LDF and SCS - detailed equality impact assessment and sustainability appraisal, workshops with hard to reach groups (SBDC), mind the gap workshop (SBDC), revitalisation groups (CDC), Supporting those with a vulnerability workshop (SBDC), Focus groups with key community groups verifying needs for particularly services. Service Plans are based on customer needs through a "know your customer" analysis based on KnowledgeSource data and consultation and engagement.

10: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Need to use better strategic intelligence from equalities mapping processes to plan youth activities
- Danger of focussing on just one part of the community
- Danger of those who shout loudest getting services
- Urban areas prone to heavy development to protect green belt
- Reducing health inequalities will lead to longer lives and the subsequent increase in pollution, use of services etc.

Access to information

11: **What impact will the proposal have on access to information?** (access to information about public services)

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

12: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Key priority is to improve access to Council services including encouraging use of website whilst improving other means of access for those without computers. Both websites have been refreshed for ease of accessibility, with the new South Bucks website launched in April 2014.

13: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

District magazine stopped being delivered to each household during 2011/12. E-magazine being looked at as possible replacement. Self-help access to information is going to be more important in the future with reduction in funding across all public services. This is a high priority for both Councils, hence the use of leafleting important issues separately to with Council Tax leaflets, e.g. new waste services, aims & objectives leaflets.

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Impact of libraries facilities should they reduce access to the internet due to costs.

Range of and access to facilities and services

14: **How will the proposal impact on the range of, and access to, facilities and services?** (services such as health and wellbeing crime reduction, training, education, leisure)

Please tick one option only in each row

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Positive | No impact | Negative | Don't know |

15: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Local Plan seeks to improve access to and protect existing infrastructure and services. Planning strategies encourage development in sustainable locations that are accessible. Community infrastructure levy will have a longer term positive impact. Aim to provide additional support for communities suffering from cuts to youth and library services.

16: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Issues with rural bus services being lightly used, yet a reduction in service can leave areas isolated
- More connections/better frequencies will increase our already high carbon footprint
- Bringing services to communities e.g. mobile libraries can increase cost and carbon footprint
- Changing demographics may increase demand
- Stronger economy may drive up house prices even further, making them less affordable for young people, families and key workers.

Community engagement and inclusion

17: What impact will the proposal have on community engagement and inclusion?

(e.g. social contact, networks and support; community severance (i.e. splitting communities / groups of people); community, cultural and spiritual participation; fear of discrimination and level of discrimination)

Please tick one option only in each row



Positive



No Impact



Negative



Don't know

18: How do you know? (Evidence base)

The Joint Business Plan has a strong commitment to engagement and user involvement in services, including regular focus groups and extensive consultation. Much of service delivery is focused on vulnerable and priority groups. Hard to reach consultation groups are in place. Smart survey system in place to improve survey accessibility.

19: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Community engagement can set unrealistic expectations
- Acknowledge the need to invest resources in local communities which may be less confident and vocal
- Risk of consultation fatigue
- Voting needs to be more accessible.

Protection of children and vulnerable adults from harm

20: What impact will the proposal have on the protection of children and vulnerable adults from harm? E.g. identifying vulnerable people and threats to health and wellbeing)

Please tick one option only in each row



Positive



No Impact



Negative



Don't know

21: How do you know? (Evidence base)

Services take full consideration of safe-guarding. Home Safety checks performed by Bucks Fire and Rescue as our partner identify and signpost those who are in vulnerable circumstances. Families First project run by County targets those families most in need of intervention. Health and Wellbeing Board set up across Bucks to deliver health and wellbeing. E-learning and training courses provided for relevant staff to educate on safe-guarding matters.

22: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Lack of numbers of volunteers with the right skill set in deprived areas means the needs of the most vulnerable aren't met (SCS SIA)
- Increases in the elderly population implies greater numbers of vulnerable residents – can needs be met? (SCS SIA)
- Need to understand and provide housing for those with alcohol and drug problems. (SCS IDEA)

Mental health and well being

23: **How might the proposal impact on mental health and well being?** (e.g. social inclusion, stigma, self-respect, self esteem)

Please tick one option only in each row

- Positive No impact Negative Don't know

24: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Representatives from a wide range of groups were included in initial SCS consultation (2008/09), mind the gap and supporting those with a vulnerability workshops (2011) MEND programme, get inspired Olympic programme (2012), support for adults and young people sports groups. Access group ensuring they have a voice (2012-2014). Work with older people groups. Reducing fear of crime can improve mental health.

25: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:
➤ More home-working could impact on mental health
➤ Need to improve mental health of offenders to reduce crime

Substance misuse

26: **Will the proposal have an effect on substance misuse: tobacco, alcohol and drugs?** (access to tobacco, alcohol and drugs [legal and illegal])

Please tick one option only in each row

- Positive No impact Negative Don't know

27: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Licensing work is very active in the community and links into Community Safety initiatives. Families First initiative (BCC).

28: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:
➤ Danger of not meeting the needs of people who have fallen outside the system due to substance misuse.

Lifestyle factors

29: **What impact will the proposal have on lifestyle factors?** (Physical fitness, health, diet, access to contraception, sexually transmitted disease, sex workers, teen pregnancy)

Please tick one option only in each row

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Positive | No impact | Negative | Don't know |

30: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Seek to increase physical fitness through leisure programme, MEND programme, simply walks, leisure activities for those with disabilities. Health and Wellbeing Board led work on sexual health, smoking cessation, teen pregnancy (2012).

31: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Poor and declining health may overload resources
- Lack of infrastructure e.g. safe cycle paths, has an adverse impact
- Increased development may have negative impact on wellbeing
- Impacts of an aging population.

Crime and/or fear of crime

32: **What impact will the proposal have on crime and/or fear of crime?** (Levels of crime, particularly domestic burglaries, violent offences and vehicle crime, fear of anti-social behaviour, levels of anti-social behaviour)

Please tick one option only in each row

- Positive No impact Negative Don't know

33: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Key priority to reduce crime and fear of crime: over the last few years crime has significantly reduced in the area (TVP stats).
Police resource has increased slightly.
Integrated Offender Management Programme has been successful.
Support for youth work and anti-social behaviour reduction.

34: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Community safety budget is at risk
Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Gated communities can segregate communities
- Building safety into new developments can drive crime to older areas and segregate into rich and poor areas
- Little local intelligence on how to minimise violent extremism.

Accidents

35: **What impact will the proposal have on accidents?** (road traffic accidents, accidents in the home, falls)

Please tick one option only in each row

- Positive No impact Negative Don't know

36: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Home safety checks. Good neighbour schemes. Local Plan looks to tackle congestion and HGVs.

37: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Most work to calm traffic and reduce future accidents are via Bucks County Council transport and social services. As spending cuts continue, this could impact delivery of services in these areas.

Eliminating discrimination

38: **What impact will the proposal have on eliminating discrimination?** (treatment taken toward or against a person of a certain group in consideration based solely on class or category)

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

39: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Service Planning incorporates considering inequalities with a view to highlighting and taking action against discrimination.
Many actions within the Joint Business work towards reducing inequalities.

40: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:
➤ The health of some BME groups is worse than the general population, need to link opportunities to reduce these inequalities. (See Health Profiles)

PLACE

Transportation

41: **What impact will the proposal have on transportation?** (infrastructure such as safe cycle paths and safe walking routes, public transport, actions which reduce the emissions from fossil fuels by using alternatives to the car.)

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

42: How do you know? (Evidence base)

Planning strategies aim to encourage a re-balancing of the transport system towards more sustainable forms of transport such as cycling, walking.

43: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Lack of infrastructure e.g. safe cycle paths, has an adverse impact
- Issues with rural bus services being lightly used, yet a reduction in service can leave areas isolated
- Building more infrastructure in the form of roads to ease congestion may have a negative effect on the built & natural environments
- Need to ensure that managing congestion doesn't simply move traffic around to other roads.

Natural environment

44: What impact will the proposal have on the natural environment? (design of public realm such as green and open spaces, level of biodiversity, quality of landscape, habitat and species for biodiversity (where plants and wildlife live))

Please tick one option only in each row

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Positive | No impact | Negative | Don't know |

45: How do you know? (Evidence base)

Planning policy seek to protect landscape areas such as local wildlife sites, such as Burnham Beeches, and the Chiltern Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Work continues with Groundforce Thames Valley to improve environmental improvement. Work in Colne Valley site, Littleworth Common- SSSI site, Burnham Beeches, SAC. Key policy is to protect the green belt, planning policies support the protection of open spaces.

46: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Development and housing growth is likely to impact on biodiversity and ecology of the area
- Development may impact on pollution.

Natural resource use or natural service systems

47: What impact will the proposal have on natural resource use or natural services systems? (natural resources that provide for human economic and social welfare e.g. raw materials, receptors for waste, carbon etc)

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

48: How do you know? (Evidence base)

Sustainability strategy. Promoting reduce, reuse, recycle policy. All new developments have to be energy and water efficient. New waste services rolled out to increase opportunity for recycling (2014/2016).

49: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:
➤ Energy from waste plants and wind turbines could have negative impact.

Built environment

50: What impact will the proposal have on the built environment?(including design of public realm, land use, employment and community buildings, housing tenure, housing density, location of housing, condition e.g. damp, mould, cold, over crowding, personal hygiene facilities)

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

51: How do you know? (Evidence base)

The planning strategies are fundamental to promoting a positive built environment. It is policy to promote increasing affordable housing including through use of commuted sums. Supporting people to stay in their own homes through disability grants and home repair grant. Commuted payments are being used to encourage people to move out of large rented properties into more suitable smaller properties. Support is provided for those who wish to move out of larger homes.

52: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Danger of providing low cost social housing outside the area via commuted sums
- Green belt policy will restrict land available for development, which may increase costs making housing even more unaffordable.

Waste minimisation and natural resource use

53: What impact will the proposal have on waste minimisation and natural resource use? (sewerage infrastructure, drainage, waste management, air quality (indoor and outdoor) i.e. odour, smells, water quality, light pollution, noise pollution, land contamination i.e. soil quality sewage, reduction of waste going to landfill through re – use of, reduction in use of, and recycling of raw materials.)

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

54: How do you know? (Evidence base)

Service plans feed into the corporate plan setting the priorities & strategic approach to permitting, enforcement and regulation as well as informing the approach to individual and community wide issues. Planning strategies seek to reduce land and air contamination and pollution. We promote the reduce, reuse, recycle policy.

55: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Initiatives to reduce waste may encourage fly tipping or people travelling to recycling centres
- Need to balance meeting aspirational targets with effective use of resources.

Pollution

56: What impact will the proposal have on pollution? (Contamination of the environment by toxic substances including solids, liquids and gases)

Please tick one option only in each row

Integrated Impact Assessment - Joint Business Plan.

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

57: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Setting corporate objectives enables targeting of resources and outlines a corporate commitment to monitoring and reporting on the threats to land and air quality across the districts.

58: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Building more infrastructure is likely to increase pollution
- Green belt restrictions limit opportunities to build businesses to reduce the high level of commuting out of the area
- Maximising employment opportunities and supporting businesses is likely to increase pollution.

Sustainable procurement

59: **What impact will the proposal have on sustainable procurement?** (regard for social, environmental and economic impacts now and in the future when making a purchase)

Typical sustainability objectives for procurement:

- Protecting human health
- Promoting fair working conditions
- Promoting social enterprise and improving local skills
- Reducing soil, water and air pollution
- Reducing energy consumption and climate change
- Reducing water consumption
- Reducing material, packaging and waste

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

60: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

We have, within our approach to procurement, elements that aim to try and make any sizeable procurement we undertake consistent with the aims of sustainability. For example our supplier qualification questionnaire covers issues such as employment policies, environmental policies, relationship with small businesses.

61: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

N/A

Energy

62: **What impact will the proposal have on energy?** (affordable warmth, water use, energy use i.e. consumption, conservation and efficiency, energy sources) increasing energy efficiency, reducing the use of energy from fossil fuels and increasing use of energy from a renewable source)

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

63: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Joint work with United Sustainable Energy and Home Safety Checks Work with Energy Savings Trust to reduce energy (2009-2012). Planning strategies seek that all new development is energy efficient and uses renewable energy where applicable.

64: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:
➤ An aging population may mean that fuel poverty becomes more prevalent.

Climate change mitigation

65: **What impact will the proposal have on climate change mitigation?** (Stopping the activity or reducing the use of energy, or seeking alternatives such as the installation of renewable energies, solar panels)

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

66: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Planning strategies seek that all new development is either adapted to, or helps to mitigate climate change.

67: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Economic development could take over from the focus on climate change
- There are some negative impacts from renewables such as on biodiversity.

Climate adaptation

68: **What impact will the proposal have on climate adaptation ?** (Changes in weather patterns over a prolonged period of time caused by global warming).

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

69: **How do you know?** (Evidence base)

Individual impacts were previously identified in service plans and are now covered by emergency operations and guidance and business continuity plans.

70: **Notes** (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

N/A

Prosperity

The Business plan seeks to maintain and enhance the districts' assets critical to attracting inward investment such as attractive small settlements set within a high quality landscape and high educational achievement, improve vitality and viability of town and village centres and support local economies.

Education, skills and lifelong learning

71: What impact will the proposal have on education, skills and lifelong learning (availability of education opportunities)

Please tick one option only in each row

- Positive No impact Negative Don't know

72: How do you know? (Evidence base)

Planning strategies seek that new development contributes towards educational facilities via S106 agreements. Secure a balanced local economy which can continue to thrive in terms of jobs, skills and local labour supply.

73: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- There is a need to focus on improving educational and vocational training for non-academic children and adults with no qualifications
- Post-recession 2009, there is a national issue around young people not in employment, education or training which needs to be addressed.

Employment

74: What impact will the proposal have on employment? (Availability of employment opportunities in different sectors, Working conditions and health and safety)

Please tick one option only in each row

- Positive No impact Negative Don't know

75: How do you know? (Evidence base)

Planning strategies seek to protect important employment sites and encourage the better use of existing employment sites.

76: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Green belt restricts land available for employment use
- Need better information on skills gaps
- Lack of links with schools to build skills for the future.

Business development

77: What impact will the proposal have on business development (Number of business start-ups, creation of employment opportunities)

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

78: How do you know? (Evidence base)

Joint Business Plan includes the aim to maintain and enhance the districts' assets critical to attracting inward investment such as attractive small settlements set within a high quality landscape and high educational achievement. The main vehicle for this is the Bucks Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership.

79: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Green belt restricts land available for business use
- The Council can only have a limited influence on local businesses
- Developing businesses may increase travel emissions
- Need to balance the need for homes with land for business use.

Economic investment

80: What impact will the proposal have on economic investment?

Please tick one option only in each row

Positive No impact Negative Don't know

81: How do you know? (Evidence base)

Protect current employment and encourage small businesses start-ups and home working. Supporting broadband roll out across the districts to more rural areas.

82: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst overall there is no impact, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Need to focus on the legacy of 2012
- More investment could mean more inward travel.

Financial inclusion

83: What impact will the proposal have on financial inclusion (Household income and disposable income levels, benefit levels and entitlement.)

Please tick one option only in each row

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Positive | No impact | Negative | Don't know |

84: How do you know? (Evidence base)

Extending support for CAB (SBDC). Supporting those affected by Welfare Reform.

85: Notes (such as quantifying significance or extent of impact)

Whilst impacts are positive overall, the following negative aspects were highlighted:

- Stronger economy may drive up house prices even further, making them less affordable for young people, families and key workers
- If not managed properly, there could be a danger of increasing the gaps between communities.