



## **Council**

**Tuesday, 19 November 2019 at 6.00 pm**

**Council Chamber, Capswood, Oxford Road, Denham**

### **A G E N D A**

#### Item

1. Evacuation Procedure

2. One Minute Silence

To hold one minute's silence in memory of past Councillors Janet Simmonds and Julian Wilson.

3. Presentation from Chief Constable and Deputy PCC

To receive a presentation from the Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police, John Campbell, who will also be accompanied by the LPA Commander, Superintendent Amy Clements and Matthew Barber, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner.

4. Apologies for absence

5. Minutes (*Pages 5 - 14*)

To approve the minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 17 July 2019.

6. Declarations of Interest

7. Announcements

*(a) Chairman's Announcements (Pages 15 - 16)*

To receive announcements by the Chairman of the Council, if any, and any communication he/she may desire to lay before the Council.

*(b) Announcements from the Leader of the Cabinet*

To receive announcements from the Leader of the Cabinet, if any

*(c) Announcements from the Head of Paid Service*

To receive announcements from the Head of Paid Service, if any.

8. Committee Recommendations

There are recommendations from the Audit and Standards Committee which met on 10 July 2019 for consideration at this Council meeting.

Members are asked to note that the following meetings have taken place since the last Council meeting, and that the Minutes are available to view in the supplement: Minute set.

1. Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 1 October 2019
2. Audit & Standards Committee – 10 July 2019 and 23 October 2019
3. Governance & Electoral Arrangements Committee – 10 October 2019
4. Licensing Committee – 25 September 2019 cancelled due to lack of business
5. Planning Committee – 24 July 2019, 21 August 2019, 18 September 2019 and 16 October 2019
6. Joint Staffing Committee – 9 September 2019 and 4 November 2019
7. Cabinet – 9 October 2019

8.1 Amendment to the Code of Conduct for Members *(Pages 17 - 20)*

*Appendix 1 (Pages 21 - 28)*

9. Cabinet Recommendations

There are no recommendations from Cabinet and the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2019 are included in the supplement pack for information.

10. Report on Special Urgency *(Pages 29 - 30)*

11. Verbal Reports from the Leader, Cabinet Members or Chairman of a Committee

To receive and consider verbal update reports (if any) from the Members listed above, and to answer questions on any of those reports from any Member of the Council in accordance with Rule 10.1 of the Procedural Rules.

12. Questions with Notice

To answer questions with notice (if any) from

- (a) Members of the Council; and
- (b) Members of the public

which have been put under Procedure Rules 10 and 11.

13. Members' Reports

To receive reports from members:

*Dr Matthews - Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee held on 2 July and 19 September 2019 (Pages 31 - 48)*

*Dr Matthews had been unable to attend the meeting on 19 September 2019 so the minutes have been attached for information.*

*Mr Pepler - Meeting of the Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust held on 25 September 2019 (Pages 49 - 50)*

14. Motions

15. Exclusion of Public (if required)

To resolve that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**Note:** All reports will be updated orally at the meeting if appropriate and may be supplemented by additional reports at the Chairman's discretion.

**Membership: All Members of the Council**

**Date of next meeting – Wednesday, 15 January 2020**

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## SOUTH BUCKS DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Council - 17 July 2019**

Present: Councillors D Pepler (Chairman), T Egleton (Vice-Chairman), D Anthony, R Bagge, S Chhokar, D Dhillon, , B Gibbs, P Hogan, P Kelly, M Lewis, J Lowen-Cooper, Dr W Matthews, N Naylor, J Read, R Reed, R Sangster, D Smith and L Sullivan

Apologies: Councillors P Bastiman, M Bezzant, M Bradford, B Harding, G Hollis, J Jordan, G Sandy and D Saunders

### 9. **PRESENTATION FROM ANDREW SMITH, CHAIRMAN OF THE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP**

Andrew Smith, Chairman of the Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (BTVLEP) gave a presentation on building conditions for sustainable economic growth in the entrepreneurial heart of Britain which covered the following points:-

- In 2019 there was a Government Review of LEPs and Buckinghamshire was very highly rated with the three main delivery criteria being Strategy Development (Good), Governance and Accountability (Good) and Programme Delivery (Outstanding).
- In terms of governance and accountability the LEP was incorporated in April 2019 and had got newly extended private sector membership which now included Eman Martin-Vignerte (Robert Bosch) and Adrian Brown (Berkeley Group).
- The leverage achieved through the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and the LEP was £30.73 for every £1 cash that was awarded to Bucks Business First Growth Hub which was all aimed at economic development stimulating growth and improved productivity.
- The LEP were producing the Buckinghamshire Local Industrial Strategy which particularly focused on the partnership with the Oxford-Cambridge ARC, although equally important was the North – South connectivity between Richings Park and Peterborough. The Strategy was based on key economic assets within the County and using those to drive future productivity.
- The Arc which was the heart of the economic vision of Buckinghamshire would be the test bed for innovations which would shape the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and produce an environment where ideas would be rapidly transformed into high growth ventures.
- In terms of those assets particular reference was made to the Pinewood Studios and the National Film and TV School Creative Cluster. Pinewood Studios, of whom Andrew Smith was Director of Corporate Affairs and had

been influential in the development of the Pinewood Site, lay at the heart of the cluster with the skills base supported by the world's best film school, the National Film School and TV School in Beaconsfield and Buckinghamshire New University.

- Bucks Skills Hub was the top ranked skills programme according to the Careers and Enterprise Company and Members were welcome to go and view the facility. New entrants were critical to support the future growth of the area.
- Silverstone Park and technology cluster had over 4000 businesses and had world leading technologies in light-weighting, composites, aerodynamics and power train. 300,000 square foot of Enterprise Zone development was planned at Silverstone.
- Westcott Space Propulsion Cluster had the highest proportion of rocket engineers in the UK. Upstream Space was to increase in value from £13.7bn to £40bn by 2030. It was also the 5G testbed extension to support rural economy innovation.
- Digital Health and Medical Technologies – 28,000 were already employed in the Health Sector and Buckinghamshire was home to global innovators such as GE Healthcare and Johnson and Johnson and Buckinghamshire New University Health and Social Care Programme – the first new medical school for over a century.
- There were a number of local growth funded schemes in the South Bucks area such as the A355 Beaconsfield Relief Road, National Centre for Immersive Technologies and studio facilities, Taplow Sustainable Transport Scheme and in addition they would also like to help support the Iver Relief Road.

A Member enquired about Membership of the LEP as she was employed by InterContinental Hotels Group and wondered how the LEP select their Members. Andrew Smith commented that they had advertised for and needed more Board Members, particularly female. The LEP welcomed new private sector board members who would bring further commercial experience and insight to the board and help generate new ideas and who would best reflect the communities across Buckinghamshire.

A Member asked how the LEP liaised with Heathrow and was informed that they were Members of the Heathrow Consultative Group and Transport Forum and that they would ensure that Heathrow played its part in mitigation with regard to their expansion.

With regard to Beaconsfield Relief Road and the southern section of the Beaconsfield Relief Road the first part of this access road from Pyebush roundabout to the planned southern onsite roundabout had already been constructed and now provided the sole means of vehicular access into the Wilton Park site. The previous vehicular access via Minerva Way was no longer possible although the route was still open to pedestrians and cyclists. Further work would

## Council - 17 July 2019

be undertaken on the relief road when this was commercially viable in terms of number of houses sold.

Andrew Smith congratulated the Planning and Environmental Health Team for providing an excellent service who had provided good advice on a complex planning application and their good practice was being disseminated to other Councils.

Members thanked Andrew Smith for an excellent presentation and they wished him well with his future leadership of the LEP.

10. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings of Full Council held on 14 May 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. Cllr Dhillon raised a point of accuracy but after checking the Minutes they correctly recorded attendance at Annual and Ordinary Council.

11. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

12. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman reported on recent functions and events he had attended on behalf of the Council. He also informed Members of the Charity Golf Event in aid of the South Bucks Hospice, which was the charity he supported on 13 September and a possible quiz evening in January also in aid of his charity.

**Engagements May 2019 – July 2019**

<b>Royal Garden Party – Buckingham Palace</b>	15/05/19	Chairman attended
<b>Investiture Ceremony – Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire</b>	16/05/19	Chairman attended
<b>Club Games – GLL</b>	17/05/19	Chairman attended
<b>Mayor’s Reception – Mayor of Beaconsfield</b>	17/05/19	Chairman attended

<b>County Jamboree Mission:00Bucks – Buckinghamshire Scouts &amp; Girlguiding Buckinghamshire</b>	25/05/19	Vice Chairman attended
<b>Annual Visit to Burnham Beeches followed by Lunch at Dorneywood – City of London Corporation</b>	05/06/19	Chairman attended
<b>Annual Summer Garden Party – Universal Care Limited</b>	12/06/19	Chairman attended
<b>Annual Reception – SGI UK</b>	13/06/19	Chairman attended
<b>Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Armed Forces Briefing – South East Reserve Forces &amp; Cadets’ Association</b>	18/06/19	Chairman attended
<b>Informal Lunch – Chairman of Bucks County Council</b> Judges Lodgings, Walton Street, Aylesbury	19/06/19	Chairman and Vice Chairman attended
<b>Official Opening Bierton Crematorium – Cllr Mike Smith Portfolio Holder for Environment Chiltern District Council</b>	19/06/19	Chairman attended
<b>Summer Reception – High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire</b> MK Gallery 900 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 3QA	20/06/19	Chairman attended
<b>Marlow Regatta – President, Marlow Regatta Ltd</b>	22/06/19	Chairman attended
<b>Armed Forces Day Flag Raising – Chairman of Buckinghamshire County Council</b>	24/06/19	Chairman attended
<b>AGM – Samaritans</b>	26/06/19	Chairman attended



<b>Armed Forces Day – Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire</b>	29/06/19	Chairman attended
<b>School Games Final – Bucks &amp; Milton Keynes Sports Partnership</b>	04/07/19	Chairman attended
<b>Awards Ceremony &amp; AGM – Buckinghamshire Scouts Council</b>	14/07/19	Chairman attended
<b>Civic Service – Mayor of Beaconsfield</b>	14/07/19	Vice Chairman attended

The Leader reported that following the Motion presented by Councillor Bezzant at the last full Council Meeting, regarding EU citizens resident in the UK retaining their right to vote in local elections in the event that the UK left the EU before May 2020, Members were sent a copy of his letter to the Rt. Honourable David Lidington, Minister for the Cabinet Office.

The Leader also reported that he attended the LGA Annual Conference earlier this month and the LGA passed a motion on the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to address the global challenges being faced.

Finally the Leader advised Members that Cabinet, at its meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> June, agreed to support the Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Charter which recognised and respected the rights of people with MND as set out in the Charter and also that the Council would work towards the Charter's vision of the right care, in the right place at the right time. All Buckinghamshire District Councils were in the process of adopting the Charter.

The Chief Executive reported that there would be a Cross Council debate on 25 July from 11.30am to 1pm at the Oculus, Aylesbury on the future of local service provision for Buckinghamshire residents. Members were asked to inform the Democratic Services Team if they wished to attend.

### 13. **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members noted the Minutes of Committee meetings which were included in a supplement pack separate from the main agenda. There were recommendations from the Joint Staffing Committee on 9 July 2019 which were being considered in a separate exempt report.

**14. CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

There were no recommendations from Cabinet and Members noted that the last meeting was held on 27 June 2019 and were included in the minute supplement pack.

**15. VERBAL REPORTS FROM THE LEADER, CABINET MEMBERS OR CHAIRMAN OF A COMMITTEE**Network Rail

Councillor Read, the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development gave an update in relation to issues raised at Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 19 June 2019 on the presentation given by Network Rail. He reported that the Network Rail led Western Rail Link scheme was a nationally important project, but it must have local benefits too and no local costs. The central objective as a Council was to manage and mitigate the impact of all growth proposals on all local communities. This included addressing the cumulative impact of different schemes - the Western Rail Link, the Heathrow Expansion, HS2 and Smart Motorways. It was also important that HGV traffic was reduced during the construction phase.

The Council were working with Network Rail on managing the impacts of the Western Rail Link ahead of the submission of its Development Consent Order later this year. The Council had also been working closely with Bucks County Council on the Western Rail Link for some time, with joint meetings with Network Rail to resolve matters of concern. In addition there was partnership working with Slough Borough Council on the Western Rail Link.

Network Rail had recently made a commitment to contribute to a replacement North- South link for when Hollow Hills/Mansion Lane closed to avoid additional traffic flowing through the Richings Park and Langley areas. However the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development reported that the Council urgently needed an agreed Iver Relief Road scheme that worked for the three Councils and benefited the local communities. The Council were pressing Bucks County Council for a scheme that met the needs of South Bucks District and which developers and Network Rail could fund.

In addition the noise implications of the Western Rail Scheme need to be addressed to avoid impacts on neighbouring communities. He welcomed the commitment by Network Rail to use rail for the transport of spoil waste from the Western Rail Link scheme and the Cemex quarry works itself which would bring relief to local communities by reducing HGV movements.

Planning consultations

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development reported that the consultations on the Local Plan, Community Infrastructure Levy and Sustainability Appraisal have been extended to 23 August. This ensured that planning regulations were fully complied with and importantly to provide more time for representations to be submitted. Any comments already submitted were valid so there was no need for people to resubmit their comments. The timetable for the submission of the documents for examination was not affected by this extension.

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development commented that the Council held an informative Member Briefing on the consultation being undertaken by Heathrow. In addition to South Bucks District Council (SBDC) Members other Members were welcomed from Chiltern District Council and Buckinghamshire County Council. Members were reminded that there were further consultation events and the information in connection with Heathrow's consultation was available in the reception at SBDC. Two upcoming events were highlighted on 1 August in Beaconsfield and on 22 August in Richings Park from 2pm to 8pm; at Richings Park there would be a sound demonstration lab.

### Enforcement

The Chairman of the Planning Committee reported that on 5 June they had received a verbal report which set out the up-to-date position relating to Enforcement. Members had welcomed the positive work being undertaken by the Enforcement Team as follows:-

- There was a new approach to Temporary Stop Notices which had proved successful in airport parking matters in South Bucks District Council in the first half of 2019.
- Up until last year there had been a year on year increase in new SBDC enforcement investigations logged in the past 5 years which resulted in a 35% increase in SBDC cases over that period.
- All new allegations of breaches of planning control were logged and acknowledged within 5 working days.
- In 2018/19 in terms of formal notices issued, there have been 12 planning enforcement notices (most in the last 5 years), 1 section 215 notice and 5 Temporary Stop Notices.
- The Planning Inspectorate have determined 8 appeals against enforcement notices during the last financial year which has resulted in an 81.25% success rate at enforcement appeals with 18 appeals currently in progress.
- In 2018/19 the Team secured its first ever Proceeds of Crime Act Confiscation Order for CDC as part of an associated prosecution. The Order was made in the sum of £17,000 along with a £21,000 fine (6x 3500) and a £23,000 costs award.

- In 2018/19 770 cases were closed this financial year, resulting in a net reduction of cases of 257. The Team have managed to close more cases than it opened in April and May 2019.

## 16. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Notice having been given under Council Procedure Rule 10, the following questions were put by Members of the Council. There were no questions from the public.

### (Councillor Sangster Questions)

1. What is the total cost of redundancies to SBDC and will there be any restrictions attached to the Redundancy Agreements?

The Leader responded that during the current financial year there were no anticipated redundancies other than that detailed in the exempt report later on the agenda. Directors, Heads of Services and Statutory Officer posts in the Councils were impacted during the transition period as the new Council Tier 2 and 3 level posts were filled. However, at the current time it was expected that these posts would remain until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 and it was not anticipated that there would be any redundancies in the senior management team before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. All other employees within the Councils would TUPE transfer to the new Council on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. With respect to restrictions on payments these would be made in accordance with the contractual and statutory requirements without any discretionary enhancements.

Councillor Sangster asked a supplementary question on whether a precedent would be set by the recommendations in the private report for voluntary or compulsory redundancies in Tiers two and three of the organisational structure for the new Buckinghamshire Council and whether officers could apply in the same timeframe.

The Head of Human Resources responded that from 1 July 2019 a formal consultation process had commenced on the current senior leadership team structure to seek the view of colleagues in tiers 2 and 3. This was not a formal redundancy process and no-one had been placed at risk of redundancy and the focus was on appointing to the new senior leadership structure.

2. Given the number of major infrastructure projects across The Ivers, does the cabinet feel that we and BCC have enough resources to address all matters arising fully and professionally?

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development reported that the major infrastructure projects in the area were Heathrow, Western Rail Link to Heathrow HS2, M4 smart motorway and Crossrail. As well as this there were key infrastructure projects important to the Council including the Iver Relief Road. The

Council had specific teams in place dealing with the third runway for Heathrow linked with the Western Rail Link to Heathrow and the Iver Relief Road and a separate team dealing with HS2. The Council also was working closely with Bucks County Council on these infrastructure projects. He therefore considered these projects were adequately resourced in order to deliver positive outcomes for residents, communities and businesses.

Councillor Sangster asked a supplementary question relating to a recent meeting with Heathrow where Bucks County Council had advised that there was not enough resource across all the projects. Councillor Read, the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development reported that it was difficult to comment as he was not present at that meeting and he would follow this up and provide a written response.

#### 17. **MEMBERS' REPORTS**

The Chairman reported that as meetings have been held recently of the Bucks Health and Social Care Select Committee and the Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust these will be reported to the next meeting of the Council.

#### 18. **MOTIONS**

No Notices of Motion had been received.

#### 19. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

#### 20. **STAFFING**

With the dissolution of the Councils' on 31 March 2020 the Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service post would cease to exist. Since the announcement from the Secretary of State on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018 and with the escalation of the implementation work, the substantive role of the Chief Executive had significantly diminished, particularly since the Structural Change Orders were put in place in May 2019.

The Committee considered a report on the compulsory redundancy and the proposed exit date of the Councils' Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service, and the division of his responsibilities between the existing Directors and Head of Legal and Democratic Services. A Member queried the word 'dismissal' which had been used in the report and was informed by the Human Resources Manager that a compulsory redundancy was a form of dismissal in law.

After due consideration, it was proposed by Councillor Naylor, seconded by Councillor Read and unanimously

**RESOLVED** that

1. the Council agreed the proposed delegation of duties and interim structural changes for the roles of Chief Executive Officer, Head of Paid Service, Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer, for the period from 1st September 2019 to 31st March 2020 following the compulsory redundancy of the Chief Executive on 31st August 2019, as set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report.
2. that from 1 September 2019 to 31 March 2020 the Director of Resources, Jim Burness, be appointed as the Council's statutory Head of Paid Service, the Director of Services, Steve Bambrick, be designated as Acting CEO and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer, Joanna Swift, be appointed as the Council's statutory Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer.
3. the costs for SBDC associated with the compulsory redundancy of the CEO be noted.

The meeting terminated at 6.40 pm

## Engagements July 2019-November 2019

<b>Engagement</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Chairman/Vice Chairman Attendance</b>
<b>90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Bekonscot Model Village and Railway</b>	03/08/19	Chairman attended
<b>Steam Train Journey &amp; Lunch – Mayor of Windsor &amp; Maidenhead</b>	03/09/19	Chairman attended
<b>Big Night Out – Action4Youth</b>	11/09/19	Chairman attended
<b>Chairman’s Charity Golf Day</b>	13/09/19	Chairman attended
<b>People Awards Ceremony – BBC Three Counties Radio</b>	25/09/19	Chairman attended
<b>Mayoral Charity Coffee Morning – Mayor of Windsor &amp; Maidenhead</b>	26/09/19	Chairman attended
<b>Justice Service – High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire</b>	29/09/19	Chairman attended
<b>Musical Evening – Mayor of Newport Pagnell</b>	03/10/19	Chairman attended
<b>50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Community Outreach Thank you- Samaritans</b>	11/10/19	Chairman attended
<b>Induction of new Vicar – St Peter’s Church</b>	16/10/19	Chairman attended
<b>Charity Afternoon Tea – Mayor of Windsor &amp; Maidenhead</b>	17/10/19	Chairman attended
<b>Tour of the Battle of Britain Operations Room (The Bunker) at the former RAF Uxbridge – Mayor of Hillingdon</b>	23/10/19	Chairman attended
<b>Supper – BCC Cabinet &amp; Chairmen Judges Lodgings, Aylesbury</b>	23/10/19	Chairman & Vice Chairman attended
<b>Presentation of Awards Ceremony</b>	29/10/19	Chairman attended
<b>Gala Dinner Dance</b>	08/11/19	Chairman attended

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<b>SUBJECT</b>	Changes to the Constitution- Amendment to the Members Code of Conduct
<b>RELEVANT MEMBER</b>	Chairman of Audit & Standards Committee – Councillor David Anthony
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	Monitoring Officer- Joanna Swift <a href="mailto:joanna.swift@chilternandsouthbucks.gov.uk">joanna.swift@chilternandsouthbucks.gov.uk</a> Tel : 01494 732761
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	Edwina Adefehinti:edwina.adefehinti@chilternandsouthbucks.gov.uk Tel : 01895 837377
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED</b>	All

### 1. Purpose of Report

To report a recommendation from Audit & Standards Committee on 10 July committee meeting amend paragraph 8 of the Council's Code of Conduct.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The Council adopts the amended code of Conduct attached at Appendix 1.
2. The Council authorise the Council's Monitoring Officer to make the necessary changes to the Constitution, including any consequential amendments, to reflect the adoption of the amended Code.

### 2. Reasons for Recommendations

To clarify the effect of paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct in respect of Members who sit on policy advisory groups.

### 3. Content of Report

3.1 On 10 July 2019, the Audit and Standards Committee considered the annual report of the Monitoring Officer about Member complaints received in the financial year 2018/19. In relation to one particular complaint the Deputy Monitoring Officer identified a need to consider clarifying the circumstances when a Councillor had to declare a prejudicial interest at Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) under paragraph 8 of the Code. It was considered that this paragraph could be ambiguous in that it refers to decisions and actions taken by Policy Advisory Groups (PAGs). However, PAGs are not decision making bodies and it was therefore recommended that reference to PAGs in paragraph 8 is removed. A Member asked if there was any conflict of interest between sitting on a PAG and being a Member of Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC). The Monitoring Officer reported that there was no conflict of interest and that the constitution (Protocol for the operation of PAGs) stated that to strengthen the relationship between the PAGs and the OSC each PAG would include at least one Member from the OSC.

3.2 The Act gives the Council discretion over the contents of their code of conduct provided that it accords with the following 7 principles of conduct in public life:-

- selflessness
- integrity
- objectivity
- accountability
- openness
- honesty
- leadership

3.3 The Council's current code of conduct was adopted on 24 July 2012 and is attached at Appendix 1 with the recommended amendment shown in bold type.

#### 4. Consultation

Not applicable.

#### 5. Options (if any)

5.1 The Council has the option of refusing to agree the proposed amendment to paragraph 8 of the code at Appendix 1 but this would remove the current ambiguity around when members who sit on PAGs must declare a prejudicial interest. .

#### 6. Corporate Implications

Reports must include specific comments addressing the following implications:

- 6.1 Financial- None
- 6.2 Legal – As set out in the report
- 6.3 Risks issues – None
- 6.4 Equalities - None

#### 7. Unitary Implications (if applicable)

The standards arrangements for the new unitary District Council are being developed and will form part of the Constitution.

#### 8. Links to Council Policy Objectives

Whilst there is no direct link to the Council's main objectives the Council has a statutory obligation to adopt a Code of Conduct.

#### 9. Next Steps

The Code of Conduct will be updated if Full Council approves the recommended amendment to paragraph 8.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	None except those referred to in the report
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**Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Amended Code of Conduct

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## SOUTH BUCKS DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Code of Conduct for Members Adopted on 24 July 2012 Amended 27 February 2019

#### Part 1 - General Provisions

##### Introduction

1. (1) The Council has adopted this Code of Conduct pursuant to section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 (the Act) to promote and maintain high standards of behaviour by its members and co-opted members whenever they conduct the business of the Council including the office to which they were elected or appointed or when they claim to act or give the impression of acting as a representative of the Council
- (2) This Code of Conduct complies with Section 28 the Act and is consistent with the principles of selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

##### Scope

2. (1) This Code of Conduct applies to you whenever you are acting in your capacity as a member of South Bucks District Council, including: -
  - (a) at formal meetings of the Council, its Committees and Sub-Committees, its Cabinet and PAG's
  - (b) when acting as a representative of the authority
  - (c) in taking any decision as a Cabinet member or a Ward Councillor
  - (d) in discharging your functions as a Ward Councillor
  - (e) at briefing meetings with officers
  - (f) at site visits and
  - (g) when corresponding with the authority other than in a private capacity
- (2) Where you act as a representative of the Council: -
  - (a) on another authority, you must when acting for that authority, comply with that other authority's code of conduct; or
  - (b) on any other body, you must, when acting for that other body, comply with this Code of Conduct, except and insofar as it conflicts with any other lawful obligations to which that other body may be subject

##### General obligations

3. You must -
  - (1) provide leadership to the council and communities within its area, by personal example and
  - (2) respect others and not bully any person

- (3) recognise that officers (other than political assistants) are employed by and serve the whole council
- (4) respect the confidentiality of information which you receive as a member -
  - i. not disclosing confidential information to third parties unless required by law to do so or where there is a clear and over-riding public interest in doing so; and
  - ii. not obstructing third parties' legal rights of access to information
- (5) not misconduct yourself in a manner which is likely to bring the council into disrepute
- (6) use your position as a member in the public interest and not for personal advantage
- (7) act in accordance with the council's reasonable rules on the use of the resources of the council for private or political purposes
- (8) exercise your own independent judgement, taking decisions for good and substantial reasons -
  - i. attaching appropriate weight to all relevant considerations including, where appropriate, public opinion and the views of political groups
  - ii. paying due regard to the advice of officers, and in particular to the advice of the statutory officers, namely the Head of Paid Service, the Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer and
  - iii. stating the reasons for your decisions where those reasons are not otherwise apparent
- (9) account for your actions, particularly by supporting the council's scrutiny function
- (10) ensure that the council acts within the law.

## **Part 2 - Interests**

### **Personal interests**

4. In addition to the statutory requirements under the Act in relation to DPI's and as set out in Paragraph 10 below and save for the subject interest already having been declared as a DPI and the statutory provisions complied with, the following Paragraphs 5 to 9 shall also apply.
5. (1) You have a personal interest in any business of the council where either—
  - (a) it relates to or is likely to affect—
    - (i) any body of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management and to which you are appointed or nominated by the council;
    - (ii) any body—
      - (aa) exercising functions of a public nature;
      - (bb) directed to charitable purposes; or
      - (cc) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union),of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management;
    - (iii) any person or body who employs or has appointed you;

- (iv) the interests of any person from whom you have received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £50;
  - (b) a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting your well-being or financial position or the well-being or financial position of a relevant person to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision;
- (2) In sub-paragraph (1)(b), a relevant person is—
- (a) a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association; or
  - (b) any person or body who employs or has appointed such persons, any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are directors;
  - (c) any person or body in whom such persons have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000; or
  - (d) any body of a type described in sub-paragraph (1) (a) (i) or (ii).

### **Disclosure of personal interests**

6. (1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) to (5), where you have a personal interest in any business of the council and you attend a meeting of the council at which the business is considered, you must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.
- (2) Where you have a personal interest in any business of the council which solely relates to a body of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management and to which you are appointed or nominated by the council, you need only disclose to the meeting the existence and nature of that interest if that interest is prejudicial.
- (3) Where you have a personal interest in any business of the council of the type mentioned in paragraph 5(1) (a) (iv), you need not disclose the nature or existence of that interest to the meeting if the interest was registered more than three years before the date of the meeting.
- (4) Sub-paragraph (1) only applies where you are aware or ought reasonably to be aware of the existence of the personal interest.
- (5) Subject to paragraph 9(1) (b), where you have a personal interest in any business of the council and you have made an executive decision in relation to that business, you must ensure that any written statement of that decision records the existence and nature of that interest.
- (6) Having declared a personal interest you may continue to speak and vote on the item of business concerned.

### **Prejudicial interest generally**

7. (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), where you have a personal interest in any business of the council you also have a prejudicial interest in that business where the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

- (2) You do not have a prejudicial interest in any business of the council where that business—
- (a) does not affect your financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in paragraph 5;
  - (b) does not relate to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to you or any person or body described in paragraph 5; or
  - (c) relates to the functions of the council in respect of—
    - (i) an allowance, payment or indemnity given to members;
    - (ii) any ceremonial honour given to members; and
    - (iii) setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

### **Prejudicial interests arising in relation to overview and scrutiny committees**

8. You also have a prejudicial interest in any business before an overview and scrutiny committee of the council (or of a sub-committee of such a committee) where—
- (a) that business relates to a decision made (whether implemented or not) or action taken by the cabinet, **PAG's** or another of the council's committees, sub-committees, joint committees or joint sub-committees; and
  - (b) at the time the decision was made or action was taken, you were a member of the cabinet, **PAG's**, committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee mentioned in paragraph (a) and you were present when that decision was made or action was taken.

### **Effect of prejudicial interests on participation**

9. (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), where you have a prejudicial interest in any business of your council—
- (a) you must declare the existence and nature of your interest and withdraw from the room or chamber where a meeting considering the business is being held—
    - (i) in a case where sub-paragraph (2) applies, immediately after making representations, answering questions or giving evidence;
    - (ii) in any other case, whenever it becomes apparent that the business is being considered at that meeting;unless you have obtained a dispensation from your council's monitoring officer;
  - (b) you must not exercise executive functions in relation to that business; and
  - (c) you must not seek improperly to influence a decision about that business.
- (2) Where you have a prejudicial interest in any business of the council you may attend a meeting (including a meeting of the overview and scrutiny committee of the council or of a sub-committee of such a committee) but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the business, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise.

### **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest**

10. A Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) is as defined in 'The Relevant Authorities



(Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012' (The Regulations) and the categories of interest are set out in Appendix A.

**Note:** In addition to the statutory requirements under the Act, Council Procedure Rules require you to withdraw from the room or chamber where the meeting is being held if you have a DPI in an item of business being considered at that meeting unless a Dispensation has been granted pursuant to and in accordance with Section 33 of the Act.

### **Part 3 - Registration of Members' Interests**

#### **Registration or Disclosure of members' interests**

11. (1) Subject to paragraph 12, you must, within 28 days of—

- (a) in relation to a DPI, the Regulations coming into effect namely 1.7.12
- (b) in relation to Personal Interests, this Code being adopted by or applied to the council; or
- (c) otherwise your election or appointment to office (where that is later),

register in the council's register of members' interests, maintained under Section 29 of the Act, details of any DPI which you or your spouse or civil partner (or person with whom you are living as spouse or civil partner) may have, together with your personal interests where they fall within a category mentioned in paragraph 5(1) (a), by providing written notification to the council's monitoring officer.

- (2) Failure to register or disclose any DPI in accordance with section 30(1) or 31(2), (3) or (7) of the Act, or participating in any discussion or vote in contravention of section 31(4) of the Act, or taking any steps in contravention of section 31(8) of the Act, is a criminal offence and risks a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale (currently £5,000) or disqualification as a member for a period not exceeding 5 years.
- (3) Subject to paragraph 12, you must, within 28 days of becoming aware of any new DPI and/or personal interest or change to any DPI and/or personal interest registered under paragraph (1), register details of that new DPI and/or personal interest or change by providing written notification to the council's monitoring officer.
- (4) Subject to Paragraph 12, you are required to disclose the existence and nature of any DPI when it arises at a meeting even where already registered in the Register or pending registration so the minutes can be duly noted.

#### **Sensitive interest**

12. (1) Where you consider that you have a sensitive interest (whether or not a DPI), and the council's monitoring officer agrees, if the interest is entered in the Council's register, copies of the register that are made available for inspection and any published version of the register, must not include details of the interest (but may state that the member has an interest the details of which are withheld under section 32 (2) of the Act) and any public declaration required need only state the fact an interest arises without further detail.

- (2) You must, within 28 days of becoming aware of any change of circumstances which means that information excluded under paragraph (1) is no longer a sensitive interest, notify the Council's monitoring officer asking that the interest be included in the Council's register of members' interests.
- (3) In this Code, "sensitive interest" means an interest, the nature of which is such that you and the Council's monitoring officer consider that disclosure of the details of the interest could lead to you, or a person connected with you, being subject to violence or intimidation.

### **Dispensations**

13. On a written request made to the Council's Monitoring Officer, the Council may grant a dispensation for you to participate in a discussion and vote on a matter at a meeting even if you have a DPI or a prejudicial interest and that you be relieved of the obligation to otherwise withdraw from the room in which the matter is being considered if the Council considers that the number of members otherwise prohibited from taking part in the meeting would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business that it would impede the transaction of the business; or the representation of different political groups on the body transacting any particular business would be so upset as to alter the likely outcome of any vote on the business; or it is in the interests of the inhabitants in the Council's area to allow you to take part or that without the dispensation the Councils Executive would be prohibited from participating in the matter or it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.

## Appendix A

### Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

The duties to register, disclose and not to participate in respect of any matter in which a member has a DPI are set out in Chapter 7 of the Act.

DPI's are defined in the Regulations 2012 as follows -

<i>Interest</i>	<i>Prescribed description</i>
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by M in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of M. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992).
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to M's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to M's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either—  (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or

- (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

For this purpose -

“body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest” means a firm in which the relevant person is a partner or a body corporate of which the relevant person is a director, or in the securities of which the relevant person has a beneficial interest;

“director” includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society;

“land” excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not carry with it a right for the relevant person (alone or jointly with another) to occupy the land or to receive income;

“M” means a member of a relevant authority;

“member” includes a co-opted member;

“relevant authority” means the authority of which M is a member;

“relevant period” means the period of 12 months ending with the day on which M gives a notification for the purposes of section 30(1) or 31(7), as the case may be, of the Act;

“relevant person” means M or any other person referred to in section 30(3)(b) of the Act;

“securities” means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

<b>SUBJECT</b>	Report on Special Urgency
<b>RELEVANT MEMBER</b>	Councillor N Naylor, Leader of the Council
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	Steve Bambrick, Acting Chief Executive
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	Mathew Bloxham, Democratic & Electoral Services Manager; <a href="mailto:Mathew.bloxham@chilternandsouthbucks.gov.uk">Mathew.bloxham@chilternandsouthbucks.gov.uk</a>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED</b>	Not Ward Specific

### 1. Purpose of Report

To report to Full Council the urgent implementation of a decision taken on 25 September 2019 by the Portfolio Holder for Resources on an Inter Authority Agreement for Buckinghamshire County Council Legal Services, as required by Section 4.2 of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

**That Full Council note the report.**

### 2. Reasons for Recommendations

As set out in section 4.2 of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, decisions implemented as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Cabinet and Council, together with the reasons for urgency. Cabinet noted the report at its last meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

### 3. Content of Report

Details of the decisions and reasons for urgency are included below. A notice has been published on the Council's website.

#### Decision:

**Having considered the advice of the PAG, the Portfolio Holder RESOLVED that South Bucks District Council enter into an Inter Authority Agreement with Chiltern District Council and Wycombe District Council, for the provision of legal services to Buckinghamshire County Council, from 1 October 2019 to 31 March 2020. The Head of Legal & Democratic Services be authorised to agree the final terms and conditions of the IAA.**

**Reasons for Urgency:** Under Rule 4.2 of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to the urgent implementation of the Portfolio Holder's decision without the call-in procedure applying because implementation was required from 1 October 2019 which was before the call in period was due to end. Implementation was required from 1 October 2019 because Buckinghamshire County Council's external legal services contract with HB Public Law was terminated on 30 September 2019.

#### 4. Consultation

In accordance with the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, as detailed above, the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee was consulted prior to the decisions being dealt with as a matter of urgency.

#### 5. Corporate Implications

Financial: None arising from this report, the report which went to the Resources PAG meeting on 24 September 2019 can be viewed on the Council's website.

Legal: This report has been provided in accordance with the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules which require decisions taken as a matter of urgency to be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for urgency.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	Report which went to Resources PAG meeting on 24 September 2019
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## **BUCKS HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SELECT COMMITTEE,**

**Update July 2019**

**Mike Appleyard** has been appointed as the new Chairman, with Patricia Birchley as Vice Chairman.

**Bucks Healthcare NHS Trust:** operational performance review 20 18/19.

The trust had a £31.6m deficit in 2018/19. Improvement contracts in place to address this.

There have been improvements in A&E provisions which resulted in a better performance although not hitting targets, but there are still big challenges with recruitment and retention of staff and increasing demand.

Targets for referral to treatment times and cancer treatment times had been met.

The Trust is championing the role of non-medical Associate Physicians to support and help senior medical staff. It has also created new roles of “trackers” to help monitor and action the flow of patients through the hospital.

The overall CQC assessment was good but there were still outstanding issues relating to surgery and community health services.

There had been a significant improvement in the results from the inpatient survey.

The Trust is working with Wexham Park hospital to try to improve the A&E performance by sharing best practise.

### **Integrated Care System Update**

The NHS long term plan sets out that Integrated Care Systems would be operational at Sustainable Transformation Partnership (STP) level and therefore the local Buckinghamshire Integrated Care System would become an Integrated Care Partnership (ICP).

The Cttee was concerned about the progress on the delivery of outcomes.

Locality profiles had been drawn up but a number of proposed pilots have still to be rolled out. These will be focussed on the local primary care networks working with local communities and voluntary services.

There are still questions around governance and scrutiny and the inclusion of the patient voice.

The issues around hospital discharge are still being worked on and the integration of hospital and social care teams into one should help drive improvement. There is still work to be done to address the discharge of Bucks patients from Wexham Park Hospital.

### **Adult Social Care Transformation**

Tier 2 of the ASC Transformation Plan focuses on “Regaining Independence”

and has a number of work streams identified to deliver this including short term support for people to help them live as independently as possible.

The Cttee were concerned about what outcomes have been delivered and the slow pace of change. There seemed to be a very poor comparative performance with the regional comparator group, a lack of help for vulnerable people and a need to involve the patient voice to help drive improvements. There is a lack of a clear action/delivery plan with a timescale.

It was accepted that a lot still needs to be done to make the system work more effectively.

It was claimed that the delivery of therapy will be the catalyst for change to enable social care packages to be reduced and deliver cost savings.

Wendy Matthews  
July 2019





**Buckinghamshire County Council**  
**Select Committee**  
Health and Adult Social Care

# Minutes

## *HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SELECT COMMITTEE*

Minutes from the meeting held on Thursday 19 September 2019, in Mezzanine Room 1, County Hall, Aylesbury, commencing at 10.02 am and concluding at 12.45 pm.

This meeting was webcast. To review the detailed discussions that took place, please see the webcast which can be found at <http://www.buckscc.public-i.tv/>  
The webcasts are retained on this website for 6 months. Recordings of any previous meetings beyond this can be requested (contact: [democracy@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@buckscc.gov.uk))

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

#### **Buckinghamshire County Council**

Mr M Appleyard (In the Chair)  
Mr R Bagge, Mr S Lambert, Mr D Martin and Julia Wassell

#### **District Councils**

Ms T Jervis	Healthwatch Bucks
Mr A Green	Wycombe District Council
Ms J MacBean	Chiltern District Council

#### **Members in Attendance**

Ms L Hazell, Buckinghamshire County Council  
Mr G Williams, Buckinghamshire County Council

#### **Others in Attendance**

Mrs E Wheaton, Committee and Governance Adviser  
Ms J Bowie, Director of Integrated Commissioning  
Dr J O'Grady, Director of Public Health  
Ms L Spencer, Lead Transformation Officer

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP**

Apologies were received from Mr W Bendyshe-Brown, Mrs P Birchley, Mrs L Clarke OBE, Mr C Etholen, Mr B Roberts, Ms S Jenkins, Dr W Matthews and Mr N Shepherd.

Ms J MacBean substituted for Mr N Shepherd.



**South Bucks**  
District Council



## **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Julia Wassell declared an interest in item 7 as she worked for Mind, mental health services in Wycombe.

Mr R Bagge declared an interest in item 8 as he was Chairman of a Public Health Advisory Committee at NICE which was investigating alcohol and the use of digital interventions.

Mr T Green declared an interest in item 8 as he was a designated supervisor for two licensed, charitable premises in Buckinghamshire.

## **3 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

Julia Wassell reported that a resident had further questions regarding ear operations and grommets and would send these to the Committee & Governance Adviser.

## **4 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no public questions.

## **5 CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE**

The Chairman updated the Committee on the following.

- Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust's Open Day and AGM would take place on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September between 11am-3pm at Stoke Mandeville Hospital;
- The Child Obesity RAG status would be attached to the minutes;
- An informal Scrutiny Chairman meeting was being arranged for the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West (BOB) Integrated Care System.

## **6 COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Ms T Jervis, Chief Executive, Healthwatch Bucks provided the following update.

- Two Healthwatch Bucks reports had been published – Outpatient services (feedback from Stoke Mandeville, Amersham and Wycombe Hospitals) and Live Well, Stay Well;
- Healthwatch Bucks had been shortlisted for a national award in recognition for their work around readability;
- Recruitment was underway for a new chief executive.

## **7 ADULT SOCIAL CARE TRANSFORMATION - TIER 3**

The Chairman welcomed Lin Hazell, Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing, Ms J Bowie, Service Director, Integrated Commissioning and Ms L Spencer, Lead for Transformation.

The following main points were made during the discussion.

- The transformation programme was organised into three tiers:
  - Living Independently (Tier 1);
  - Regaining Independence (Tier 2);
  - Living with Support (Tier 3).
- There were 9 workstreams within Tier 3, as follows:
  - Prevention Commissioning;
  - Mental Health services;

- Direct Care and Support;
  - Housing and Equipment;
  - Planned reviews of existing care packages;
  - Transport;
  - Direct Payments;
  - New Learning Disability service model;
  - Continuing Health Care – create a single point of access for providers and reduce duplication.
- A Member commented that the use of acronyms and structure of the report made it difficult to understand how many clients were affected by the proposed changes in services, what the actual spend was in each area and the impact of the service improvements on the clients. Ms Bowie agreed to look into this and come back with the number of clients and the actual spend in each area.

**ACTION: Ms Bowie**

- The Better Lives Strategy was about making sure individual service users had better experiences.
- A Member sought assurance that the transformation work being undertaken was delivering the right level of care deemed acceptable by service users and families. The Member commented that it was not just about delivering financial savings, the Committee needed to know that the quality of services had not been adversely affected.
- Ms Bowie confirmed that the Transformation Board had requested evidence on the impact of the service changes, to include feedback from users and carers as well as measuring the impact via key performance indicators.

**ACTION: Ms Bowie**

- A Member expressed concern about delivering the savings in this tier and asked particularly about the living with dementia financial savings in light of an increase in demand on services and the complexity of peoples' needs. Ms Bowie explained that the £285k savings sat within the mental health project overview and the savings would come from reviewing existing service users plans and looking at alternative provision. The savings would be made from offering more independent tenancies to service users who are currently in residential homes and other types of support. There would also be a review of s117 after care packages to ensure these were aligned with current policies and procedures.
- A Member commented that it was difficult to see how the Better Lives Strategy was being delivered across all the tiers and suggested that future presentations needed to include action plans for each tier with deliverables and timeframes, as well as budget savings. Ms Bowie confirmed that there should be consistent approach to reporting on the transformation programme.
- It was agreed that representatives from the HASC Select Committee would meet with Adult Social Care Officers to help shape and structure future reports on Transformation.

**ACTION: Chairman/Committee & Governance Adviser/Jane Bowie**

- A Member commented that “cuckooing” (where drug dealers take over the home of a vulnerable person) was a real concern and having a consistent team of social workers was important so that signs of this criminal activity could potentially be spotted more easily. The Member asked what was being done to address vacancies in the team. Ms Bowie responded by saying that there were challenges around this and the service was working hard with the HR team to fill the vacancies. Within the occupational therapy team, there was a “try before you buy” initiative in place and 6 OTs had been recruited as a result.

- It was acknowledged that getting the workforce mix right was important and there were training programmes in place for social workers and OTs.
- Ms Bowie confirmed that all the work streams involved partnership working and cited, by way of example, the s75 agreement with Oxford Health in delivering the mental health work stream.
- In response to a question about gaining feedback from service users and carers, Ms Bowie explained that both qualitative and quantitative feedback was obtained via a number of different routes, including Healthwatch Bucks and complaints and compliments directly to the service – the results of all feedback was triangulated. Ms Spencer added that frontline staff were also being asked for their feedback to help shape the service redesign.
- In response to a question about the s117 after care packages, Ms Bowie confirmed that the Council was reviewing their arrangements against best practice elsewhere to better understand and improve the effectiveness of care packages.
- A Member asked whether there were any particular areas of concern/challenges within the work streams. Ms Bowie highlighted the work around prevention and the challenges around some of the smaller, less connected communities that exist across the County. She went on to stress the importance of having strong transport links and work to find solutions around community transport was on the agenda.
- The virtual wallet for Direct Payments (DP) provision was being decommissioned and a new system called iCares was being rolled-out. The savings in this area would be made by reviewing users of DPs to see who had not used their allocated funding. Reviews of DPs should take place annually and work was underway to prioritise clients requiring a review.

The Chairman thanked the presenters.

## **8 PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY - RE-PROVISIONING OF RESIDENTIAL SHORT BREAKS (RESPITE) FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

A Task & Finish Group was set-up to undertake pre-decision scrutiny on the proposals for the re-provisioning of residential short breaks (respite) for older people and adults with a learning, mental, sensory or physical disability.

Mr S Lambert, Chairman of the Task & Finish Group, updated the Committee on the key findings of the Group which were outlined in a letter to the Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing. The Cabinet Member responded by letter, both were attached to the papers for the meeting.

Committee Members thanked the Task & Finish Group for the work they had undertaken on this issue. Mrs Wheaton, Committee & Governance Advisor, was also thanked for her work in supporting the Task & Finish Group.

A Member asked for clarification around the recent decision to temporarily close Seeleys House and asked whether it included the Day Opportunities Centre. Ms Bowie confirmed that it was only the residential respite care service that was temporarily closed.

In response to a question about the level of involvement of the voluntary sector in the proposed changes, Ms Bowie confirmed that the key stakeholder groups had engaged in the process and had made a good contribution throughout the consultation. The service users and carers were thanked for providing valuable feedback during the initial consultation period. It was acknowledged that beneficial feedback had been gained as a result of extending the consultation for a further 6 weeks and focussing on the Aylesbury Opportunities Centre.

The proposal would be presented to Cabinet on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019 for a decision.

## 9 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman welcomed Mr G Williams, Cabinet Member for Community Engagement & Public Health and Dr J O'Grady, Director of Public Health.

The following main points were made during the discussion.

- 1 in 4 of Buckinghamshire residents were drinking at levels that could be harming their health. Most of the people drinking over the Chief Medical Officer's recommended weekly intake (14 units) were not dependent on alcohol.
- The proportion of people drinking over 14 units a week was highest in highest income households, older people (women 55 to 64 years and men 65-74 years) and men.
- The annual report provided an overview of alcohol in Buckinghamshire and the harms it can cause. It included stories from residents and frontline staff about the impact of alcohol on them.
- The report contained a number of recommendations to stimulate conversation and action across partners and communities in Buckinghamshire. The main aim was to increase awareness of safer drinking levels and what could be done to help reduce the harms from alcohol. There was a role for all partners in this, but particularly for frontline staff in health and social care to routinely ask the simple questions that might result in someone getting the help they need and changing their life for the better.
- In response to a question, Dr O'Grady confirmed that the Director for Public Health chose the topic for the annual report but used the priorities identified in the Joint Strategic Needs Analysis to highlight specific issues.
- A Member suggested "Nutrition and the effects of too much processed food" as a topic for a future annual report.
- Members discussed the benefits of lobbying Government and when the Government introduced policies around smoking, it had had an immediate effect.
- In response to a question around the social side of drinking, Dr O'Grady explained that her annual report was about helping people to make informed choices and to raise awareness around the safe levels of drinking alcohol.
- A Member suggested that leaflets should be sent to all households in Bucks informing people about the number of units and safe levels of alcohol.
- Concerns were raised around the effects of "hidden drinking" and it was acknowledged that this was a problem.
- Dr O'Grady explained that the annual report had been discussed and agreed at the recent Health & Wellbeing Board meeting so key partners were signed up to the recommendations. The report would also be discussed at the next Safer, Stronger Bucks meeting.
- The Cabinet Member said that partner workshops had been set-up to review the recommendations and develop specific delivery plans with timescales.
- A Member asked about the metrics being used to measure the success of the campaign. Dr O'Grady explained that data links were being developed, including capturing alcohol related admissions to A&E, deaths from cirrhosis of the liver and referrals to specialist services.
- In response to a question about the sustainability of funding for specialist services, Dr O'Grady clarified that the Government had committed to no cuts in Public Health funding and alcohol and substance misuse services were part of this funding.
- A Member commented that Buckinghamshire receives less funding than other areas due to its perceived affluence but there were still health inequalities across the County. The Member suggested lobbying Government for more funding to help address the inequalities.
- Dr O'Grady agreed to send the infographics to health partners to help publicise the key messages and provide signposting to specialist services.

**ACTION: Dr O'Grady**

The Chairman thanked the presenters.

## **10 COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee noted the items for the November meeting:

- Temporary closure of Chartridge Ward, Amersham Hospital;
- Support for Carers Inquiry – 6 month recommendation implementation monitoring.

Members discussed possible items for the February meeting (date to be agreed) as this would be the last formal meeting before the Unitary council comes into being on 1 April 2020.

- A composite report on ASC Transformation, which tells a story of the success of the transformation programme across the tiers, from a service user viewpoint;
- An update on the Primary Care Networks, including evidence of progress to date and patient improvements;
- Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West (BOB) Integrated Care System and the alignment of priorities within the long term plan;
- Community hubs – plans for further roll-out across the county;
- Digital strategy – how the improvement plans impact on Bucks residents.

## **11 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is due to take place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 10am in Mezzanine Room 1, County Hall, Aylesbury.

**CHAIRMAN**

**Scrutiny Inquiry Progress Update on Recommendations made in the Child Obesity Inquiry report  
Interim Progress Report (9 months)**

**Select Committee Inquiry Report Completion Date:** October 2018

**Date of this update:** July 2019


**Lead Officer responsible for this response:** Lucie Smith (Rec 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c) , Nathan Whitley (Rec 3), Richard Nash (Rec 4), Sarah Callaghan (Rec 8, 9, 11a)




**Cabinet Member that has signed-off this update:**

Gareth Williams (Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Public Health) (seen at CHASC BU Board 30<sup>th</sup> May)



Anita Cranmer (Cabinet Member for Education & Skills)



Warren Whyte (Cabinet Member for Children’s Services)



Accepted Recommendations	Original Response and Actions	Progress Update	Committee Assessment of Progress (RAG status)
<p><b>1: That the Council develops a vision for tackling child obesity – “Everyone’s Responsibility” to include:</b></p> <p><b>Setting-up a Healthy Communities Partnership sub-group to develop a co-ordinated “Child Healthy Eating Action Plan” with a 1-2 year delivery plan which aligns with the Government targets to reduce child obesity.</b></p>	<p>The Council will request that partners on the Health and Wellbeing Board commit to developing a multiagency action plan via the Healthy Communities Partnership (HCP). However this will also need to involve schools and early year’s settings.</p> <p>The development of a plan depends on the capacity of partners and internal stakeholders to support it. Any plan will take account of available resources to ensure the action plan is realistic and achievable.</p>	<p>The Healthy Communities Partnership (HCP) agreed to develop a Child Healthy Eating Action Plan at their meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019.</p> <p>Work is currently underway to develop a draft plan. Meetings are taking place with partners outside of the HCP to ensure their contribution to this agenda is captured.</p> <p>The action plan will take a whole system approach in line with latest guidance, and will be an opportunity to identify gaps and areas for development taking account of available resources. The final action plan will be completed July 2019.</p>	<p align="center"></p> <p>(need to see evidence of a timeline for the action plan)</p>


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<b>2: That progress on delivery of the action plan be reported to the Health &amp; Wellbeing Board on an annual basis.</b>	This depends on whether partners agree to develop a children and young people healthy eating action plan.	Once the action plan has been developed progress will be reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board.	 (depends on the action plan)
<b>3: (As Corporate Parents) To develop a healthy eating/cooking section in the induction pack for all Fostering and Adoption Families and signpost to support services.</b>	Information on healthy eating, cooking and local services will be distributed to existing carers, parents and special guardians and included in the induction material for people newly approved. This information will be drawn from existing sources to ensure messages are clear and concise.	Information on healthy eating, cooking and local services is included in each edition of the biannual newsletter for foster carers. In addition, the fostering team are currently working with public health to agree the information to be included in induction packs.  <i>NB:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All foster carers and adoptive parents undergo thorough assessment and preparation training which includes reference to healthy lifestyles.</li> <li>• All BCC residential care homes are Ofsted inspected which includes assessment of how a healthy lifestyle is encouraged and supported. The first of our new children's home was inspected in May 2019 and inspectors reported that:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 'Children's health and well-being are promoted successfully and planned for well.'</li> <li>○ 'Healthy eating is promoted.'</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>4: (As Corporate Parents) To introduce a dashboard metric to show the proportion of children in care who are obese and overweight with regular reporting to the</b>	The Corporate Parenting Panel reviews the health of its children annually and will include a healthy weight as part of this.	All children and young people who are in care are weighed and measured as part of their regular health assessment, either six monthly (under the age of 5) or annually (between 5 and 18 years old). This is to ensure their height and weight progress as expected.  Children Services and LAC Health will collect all data about	 (need to see evidence)





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<b>Corporate Parenting Panel on progress on specific action plans.</b>		the weight of our children and provide the Corporate Parenting Panel with a yearly report on this subject. This will include information and actions regarding children who are overweight or obese.	
<b>5: To ensure that the work of the Prevention at Scale pilot be used to shape and inform the work of the Healthy Communities Partnership.</b>	The existing Prevention at Scale pilot is adult focused; therefore whilst not specific to children the key learning of Prevention at Scale may take families into account. Depending on the outcome of recommendation 1, any relevant outcomes will be shared with the Healthy Communities Partnership.	The experience and learning from the Prevention at Scale work demonstrates the importance of understanding the behavioural science and evidence of behaviour change related to obesity / healthy eating. By fully understanding this it will ensure the action plan can make a real difference. Desktop research is underway to gather insight from other regions to inform development of the action plan.	 (depends on an action plan being developed and agreed)
<b>6: To explore other innovative approaches to the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP), including Manchester's approach and consider the feasibility and benefits of such approaches for Bucks, whilst continuing to deliver the NCMP in accordance with national protocol.</b>	<p>The existing NCMP programme in Buckinghamshire meets the national operating guidance and data quality indicators as stipulated by Public Health England.</p> <p>Understanding innovative approaches to the NCMP is part of Public Health's horizon scanning remit. Public Health proactively searches for examples of good practice, including through participation in national and regional networks. Manchester's programme (where all primary aged children are measured and parents receive annual growth updates through an online feedback system) will be considered as part of this. All approaches will be reviewed in terms of the benefits to be gained and the resource implications of any new approach.</p>	<p>BCC continues to commission the NCMP programme within Bucks. The 2017-18 survey participation rates were 95.4% for reception children and 93.6% for year 6 children, which continue to be better than the national quality measures.</p> <p>Public Health participated in a Public Health England skype conference call on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 to further understand the NCMP Obesity Child Profiles and case studies of using the NCMP data in innovative ways.</p> <p>This has resulted in a number of actions being included within the HCP healthy eating action plan to review how the Bucks NCMP data is used and shared with partners to maximum effect.</p>	

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<p><b>7: To develop a “suite of projects with costs” which can be used by the Local Area Forums as part of their Local Priorities Funding discussions. The project list could include a series of cooking workshops for most deprived children to providing gardening tools and seeds for a community allotment.</b></p>	<p>Public health will develop a project list based on national best practice with indicative costs. The project list will be developed in consultation with stakeholders and across BCC business units. This will be done within existing resources.</p>	<p>A list of projects with costs is being finalised and will be available by the end of May 2019.</p>	
<p><b>8: To act as the co-ordinator/facilitator of the Healthy Pupils Capital Programme to ensure the money is allocated and used to make a difference. Provide guidance to schools on how the money can be used, based on the Government’s guidance.</b></p>	<p>The decision on the use of Healthy Pupil Capital Fund (HCPF) will be a Cabinet Member decision (Cabinet Member for Education and Cabinet Member for Resources) as it is an un-ringfenced capital grant. Initial options have been presented to Members and were considered by Asset Strategy Board in July but no final decision was made on a preferred option for the use of this grant. Until such time as Cabinet Members have agreed a preferred option and taken a formal decision the proposed use of the grant cannot be confirmed.</p>	<p>The monies for the Healthy Pupil Capital Programme have been allocated against major projects to support schools with improving outcomes for pupil activity. Projects have included, but are not limited to, playground refurbishment. The majority of works will take place during school holidays as they are very disruptive activities.</p>	

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<p><b>9: To write a letter to the Department for Education in support of introducing the new voluntary healthy rating scheme for primary schools as soon as possible and for it to be used by Ofsted as part of the inspection criteria.</b></p>	<p>In Buckinghamshire we are committed to supporting schools to make the most of their vital role in supporting healthy eating and physical activity. Children's Services will produce a letter in support of the introduction of the new voluntary healthy rating scheme, which was a commitment from the Governments first instalment of the Childhood Obesity Plan in 2016. Shaping healthy habits from an early age and the expedient implementation of these proposals will greatly support us in our endeavours.</p>	<p>The letter was agreed by Sarah Callaghan and sent as discussed.</p>	
<p><b>10: To support schools to deliver the PSHE curriculum in a consistent and coherent way across Buckinghamshire.</b></p>	<p>Health Education will become compulsory in all maintained schools from September 2020. This statutory requirement will provide the foundation for consistent and coherent delivery. Public health is already supporting this with a PSHE Lead in post. The PSHE Lead has developed school PSHE networks and forums. These will be used to support schools to develop and implement the new Health Education subject by September 2020.</p>	<p>The Public Health PSHE Programme Manager has established schools PSHE Forums as a means of engagement, communication and a development network for PSHE leads. Through these forums topical discussions/ updates are held which will be useful for developing Healthy Eating work. Promotion of the PSHE Association's Programme of Study and other quality assured materials are shared to support PSHE curriculum development; schools are being well prepared for statutory status. Public Health and PSHE initiatives are promoted via the forums, half termly PSHE newsletter, and articles placed on the school bulletin and cascaded to head teachers through school liaison groups. The Schoolsweb PSHE page and Public Health in Schools webpages contain advice, guidance and links to resources to support healthy eating and healthy lifestyles. Further work with schools to support engagement with parents is planned for the Spring term (2020). See also Recommendation 11c below regarding</p>	 (need to see evidence)





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	<p>The school nurse team will provide the opportunity to support a consistent and coherent approach to signposting and referring families to appropriate support.</p> <p>Responsibility to implement and deliver the Health Education curriculum sits with schools, whilst public health can support schools, they cannot take responsibility for the delivery.</p>	<p>PSHE training</p> <p>School Nurses have a comprehensive follow up pathway linked to the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP). This involves supporting families and referring or signposting to available support including the child weight management programme – Spark. During 2018-2019, 96% of all referrals to Spark came from school nurses, demonstrating that the pathway to support families, and refer to appropriate support, is working well.</p>	
<p><b>11:</b></p> <p><b>a) To create “Child Healthy Eating” ambassadors within the Early Years setting and in schools (with the help of the Early Years Providers and School Liaison Officers) who can drive the key messages around the health benefits of providing healthy food to their local communities</b></p>	<p>11 (a) Partially agreed</p> <p>The Education Service will champion healthy lifestyles to mitigate against obesity but cannot directly provide ambassadors. The withdrawal of the Education Support Grant has created considerable funding pressures within the Education Service and in response, we have created Side By Side, a schools led model for school improvement. In keeping with the principles of Side by Side, we will facilitate and support schools to help each other drawing from the expertise across our family of schools so that where good practice exists in all areas (including healthy lifestyles) we will build capacity.</p>	<p>Up until this point, the Side by Side initiative has focussed on academic support within schools. The plan for the academic year 2019-20 will include developing capacity around a variety of non-academic areas including the promotion of healthy lifestyles within enhanced profile Personal Social Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) leads in schools to support each other.</p>	

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	<p>In addition to this, the creation of school 'child healthy eating' ambassadors should utilise the existing network of PSHE leads within schools, which complements the Side by Side model, in order to avoid duplication of information and to ensure integration within a whole school approach.</p> <p>The Early Years' Service will encourage Early Years' settings to promote healthy eating to children attending these settings and their families</p> <p>The specific role and function of the ambassadors will depend on the successful development of a multi-agency Healthy Communities Partnership healthy eating action plan. The school ambassador's role will be further informed by the involvement and engagement of the PSHE network.</p>	<p>The network of PSHE leads continues to grow and the promotion of the school 'child healthy eating' ambassadors' role and key messages around healthy eating and healthy lifestyles can be effectively communicated to schools via PSHE leads.</p> <p>The Early Years service has engaged with settings in both the maintained and private, voluntary and independent (PVI) sectors and supported them in promoting healthy eating messages to parents that they support.</p> <p>The specific role will be picked up during the development of the multi-agency Healthy Communities Partnership healthy eating action plan. Discussions are currently underway with partners to shape and form this.</p>	
<p><b>b) To develop strong messages for specific communities, for example, Mosques, Churches, GP surgeries, Hospitals (pre-natal and antenatal</b></p>	<p>11 (b) – Yes</p> <p>Through the existing Prevention at Scale programme research is underway to understand the behaviour and insight of adults from key priority groups for two lifestyle areas including healthy weight. This will then be used to develop targeted communication campaigns. Whilst not specifically aimed at children, it will help to</p>	<p>In January 2019, Public Health delivered a Better you! Campaign which focused on adults losing weight. Whilst this was not focused on children, it did raise awareness of weight amongst adults in areas with high levels of obesity and overweight, as seen by an increase in referrals.</p> <p>These communications were available in GP surgeries and pharmacies. Generic <i>Live Well Stay Well</i> marketing materials are also being distributed amongst specific communities, but also through targeted events such as</p>	

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<p><b>clinics and maternity wards), Libraries, Parish and Town Councils;</b></p>	<p>support strong messages for the whole of these specific communities.</p> <p>Through the current Live Well Stay Well service specific communication messages for pre-natal and antenatal services, are being co-designed via the multi-agency Healthy Pregnancy Steering Group.</p>	<p>Health Checks at Mosques. The insight undertaken by Prevention at Scale shows that messages must also come from key influencers including community leaders and health professionals and these were targeted via the Better You! campaign and by the <i>Live Well Stay Well</i> outreach work.</p> <p>Health information is available within the maternity wards promoting the importance of healthy weight, alongside other lifestyle areas such as smoking.</p>	
<p><b>c) Work with the PSHE Leads in schools to devise a training module for Head teachers and School Governors around the importance of healthy eating/cooking and healthy choices in schools in conjunction with those who can deliver this.</b></p>	<p>11 (c) – Partially agreed</p> <p>Public health is already exploring the training needs of the PSHE network particularly with the introduction of compulsory Health Education.</p> <p>The feasibility of training head teachers and school governors, and the benefits of doing so will be considered as part of this work. Any training developed will link with the wider Health Education agenda and take a whole school approach, which will be sustainable and have a greater impact for the whole school community. This will be dependent on the resources available.</p>	<p>Two half day CPD sessions delivered by the PSHE Association have taken place for both primary and secondary PSHE leads.</p> <p>The first session (March 2018) focused on raising the quality of leadership and management of PSHE - 30 primary and 20 secondary PSHE leads were trained. The second CPD session (March 2019) focused on 'Preparing for statutory relationships education / Relationships and Sex Education' - 56 primary and 26 secondary PSHE leads were trained.</p> <p>The PSHE Association will deliver a half day CPD session for PSHE leads 'Preparing for statutory Health Education' on 5th and 6th June 2019 (60 spaces for primary, 30 spaces for secondary). A whole school approach to healthy eating and making healthy lifestyle choices will be promoted alongside relevant Public Health initiatives and resources. School leaders will be informed about this offer.</p> <p>For the summer term there is a focus on Health Education in both the PSHE forum meetings and the newsletters.</p>	

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		Requests from schools for further training and development in this area are anticipated, and will be explored following these events.	

*RAG Status Guidance (For the Select Committee's Assessment)*

	<i>Recommendation implemented to the satisfaction of the committee.</i>		<i>Committee have concerns the recommendation may not be fully delivered to its satisfaction</i>
	<i>Recommendation on track to be completed to the satisfaction of the committee.</i>		<i>Committee consider the recommendation to have not been delivered/implemented</i>





Report of the meeting of the Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019

I attended this meeting having been unable to attend the 2 previous meetings on 29<sup>th</sup> May and 31<sup>st</sup> July. The meeting started with the Patient's story which involved experiences from Trans Gender patients. There seemed to be health inequalities in Bucks with there being only 1 LGBT Support Group in Aylesbury. Delays had occurred in patients getting to the Transgender clinic.

A presentation was given by the Pharmacy Team. They spoke about the Antimicrobial Stewardship Scheme that was operating in Tansania, Ghana and Zambia where research was being carried out into resistance to Antibiotics.

This was followed by the Chief Executive's Report which showed that efforts were being made to mitigate the Deficit. There had been an improvement in the Nurse Vacancy rate.

On the Integrated Performance report in Emergency and Acute Care poorer performance had been caused more patients needing care. There was a need to focus on the following:- 1 What was on offer. 2 How working on pre and post hospital care is going 3 They are trying to find ways of managing patients discharge to see how they are working with social care. Occupational Therapists should accompany ambulances to see whether patients in their care can remain at home. It was also reported that there had been 20 incidents of pressure damage on patients.

Regarding the workforce as previously stated the nurse vacancy had reduced and they were maximising the use of people from the universities. The number of temporary staff employed was under 10%. Here had been an improvement on the number of appraisals that had been completed but the target of 90% had not been met

On Finance a plan was in place to reduce the deficit of £2million. A team was working on claiming money back from overseas visitors who had been treated by the Trust and they were trying to improve the processes involved,

Concerning Infection Control the total number of cases of C difficile since the start of April was 20 out of a target for the year of 65. 5 of the cases were reported in July.

Looking forward to the future regarding the nursing staff with there having been an underspend on nursing they are trying to find ways by which they can make use of the savings. They are needing to recruit 70 specialist nurses over the next 2 years and to ring fence funds for apprenticeship.

An innovations report was received. This referred to the growth in partnerships that the Trust has with Universities and industries which

was encouraged and they wanted to do more research with the aim of achieving University Status.

An update was then given on the Integrated Care System Long term Plan. Here the aims to improve the health and wellbeing of the citizens with the Final Plan being published in November. Concern was expressed about the lack of preventative plans. It was also felt that low life expectancy in some areas was caused to a large extent by people smoking.

Finally the meeting considered the Equality and Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan. This was approved and showed ways by which working conditions could be improved for the staff.

David Pepler

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2019