



Budget Scrutiny Select Committee Inquiry agenda

Date: Thursday 13 January 2022

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: The Oculus, Buckinghamshire Council, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury HP19 8FF

Membership:

R Bagge (Chairman), D Anthony, M Ayub, S Chhokar, T Dixon, T Egleton, D Goss, G Harris, I Macpherson, J Ng, W Raja, M Walsh and S Wilson

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Agenda Item	Time	Page No
1 Apologies for absence / Changes in membership		
2 Declarations of interest		
3 Background Papers Please find below links to the Cabinet papers for 6 th January 2022, which provide information on the draft budget. There is also a link to the Council Tax Base report.		

Draft Budget Report

<https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s37120/Draft%20Budget%20and%20Capital%20Programme.pdf>

Appendix 1 – Buckinghamshire Council Revenue Budget 2022/23 to 2024/25

<https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s37121/Appendix%201%20-%20Draft%20Revenue%20budget.pdf>

Appendix 2 – Buckinghamshire Council Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2025/26

<https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s37122/Appendix%202%20-%20Draft%20Capital%20Programme.pdf>

Appendix 3 – Proposed Budget Changes

<https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s37123/Appendix%203%20-%20Draft%20Revenue%20budget%20changes.pdf>

Appendix 4 – Budget Consultation Results

<https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s37124/Appendix%204%20-%20Budget%20Consultation%20Results.pdf>

Council Tax Base report

<https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s37118/Council%20Tax%20Base%202022-23.pdf>

Appendix to Council Tax Base report

<https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s37119/Appendix%202%20for%20Council%20Tax%20Base%202022-23.pdf>

4	Communities (Councillor Steve Bowles) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome by the Chairman to the Cabinet Member, Deputy Cabinet Member and supporting officers• Introduction by Cabinet Member of their priorities and the overarching strategy for the budget• Inquiry group questioning of the Cabinet Member	10:00	5 - 24
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5	Culture & Leisure (Councillor Clive Harriss)	11:15	25 - 46
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome by the Chairman to the Cabinet Member, Deputy Cabinet Member and supporting officers • Introduction by Cabinet Member of their priorities and the overarching strategy for the budget • Inquiry group questioning of the Cabinet Member 		
6	Lunch	12:15	
7	Leader (Councillor Martin Tett)	13:00	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome by the Chairman to the Leader and supporting officers • Closing comments from the Leader in respect of priorities and the overarching strategy for the budget • Closing Inquiry group questioning of the Leader 		
8	Next Steps	14:00	
	The Chairman to advise of the next steps following the conclusion of the individual sessions with portfolio holders.		

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

For further information please contact: Leslie Ashton on 01895 837227, email leslie.ashton@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

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Medium Term Financial Plan Budget

Communities Portfolio

Budget Scrutiny
13th January 2022



Agenda

- Overview of the Portfolio
- Portfolio Priorities
- Revenue 2021-22
- Revenue Budget - Proposed Changes
- Proposed Revenue Budget 2022-25
- Challenges, Risks and Opportunities
- Top 5 Contracts
- Fees and Charges
- Capital Forecast 2021-22
- Proposed Capital Programme
- Questions
- Appendix 1 Detailed breakdown of Revenue Budget
- Appendix 2 Special Expenses

Overview of the Portfolio

Cabinet Members: Steve Bowles and Arif Hussain (Deputy)

The Communities Portfolio makes an important contribution to all of the Corporate Plan themes. It has a particular focus on:

- Strengthening our communities
- Protecting the vulnerable.

The responsibilities of the Communities Portfolio are delivered through the following services:

- **Localities and Strategic Partnerships** (Service Director – Claire Hawkes) which is responsible for: Community Boards, Town & Parish Liaison, Voluntary and Community Sector, Local Devolution, Helping Hand, Community Safety, Domestic Abuse, Afghan refugees
- **Business Operations** (Service Director – Lloyd Jeffries) which is responsible for the Civil Contingencies Unit
- **Policy and Communications** (Service Director- Roger Goodes) which is responsible for the Armed Forces Covenant.



Overview of the Portfolio



16 Community Boards



169 Parish Councils



2,400 voluntary sector organisations



12,000 children eligible for free school meals



£12.3m[^] of grants that support vulnerable people through Helping Hand



£154,000 of Lottery funds (both community funds and good causes fund)



92 Business Continuity Plans across the Council



[^]£7.5m of government grants over the last 2 years to support the vulnerable and those self-isolating. £2.4m worth of government grants to support the financially vulnerable residents. Now in the process of delivering a further £2.4m through the Household Support Fund

*Statistics from internal monitoring systems (data from 2021)

Portfolio priorities

Champion the Council's commitment to Localism

- *Ongoing development of our 16 Community Boards*
- *Deliver at pace the local Devolution programme*

Work with local community groups, voluntary groups and town & parish councils to support local communities and build effective relationships

- *Promotion of the Town & Parish Charter*
- *Support the VCSE recovery group and delivery of the action plan*
- *Review the Council's voluntary and community sector grants*
- *Deliver our Armed Forces Covenant commitments*
- *Promote the Council's engagement with diverse communities to encourage cohesion*

Collaboratively deliver a community 'helping hand' offer for vulnerable residents.

- *Helping Hand programme*
- *Tackling food poverty and financial insecurity*
- *Afghan refugee programme*

Work with the Police & Crime Commissioner & key partners to help prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime

- *Delivery of priorities in the Safer Bucks Plan*
- *Focus on Counter Terrorism through Prevent and Channel, through the development of closer working relationships with communities at risk*
- *Early intervention programme to prevent Domestic Violence and Abuse*
- *Support tackling offences like speeding, illegal parking and rural crime.*

Community resilience to prepare and recover from community incidents and emergencies e.g flooding

Revenue Qtr2 2021/22

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	14,200	14,400	200	100
Income	(3,300)	(4,300)	(1,000)	(900)
Communities	10,900	10,100	(800)	(800)

Communities Revenue: Budget £10.9m, Forecast £10.1m, Var **-£0.8m**

Covid Var £0.0m

- a) Communities Portfolio is forecasting an underspend £0.800m, the majority is due to a lower than expected spend on Community Board Schemes. This forecast is based on an estimate of community board projects in the pipeline; a detailed review of potential schemes is currently taking place and a firmer estimate will be available at Q3.
- b) In addition, although a net NIL variance overall, there is £1.000m additional income and corresponding costs for Grants relating to the Covid pandemic, such as Practical Support Grant.

To note: the budget reported at Qtr 2 Cabinet is £0.555m less than the 21-22 base budget in the previous slide because there was a realignment of budgets from the Communities Portfolio after Qtr 2 reporting.

Revenue Budget 2021/22

The table below breaks down the budget into the service areas that support the Communities Portfolio, showing the gross baseline budget for the current year (2021-22).

Further detail on each baseline budget is provided in Appendix 1

	2021-22		
	Income £000	Expense £000	Net Budget
Community Boards		3,900	3,900
		3,900	3,900
Emergency Planning	-	295	295
	-	295	295
Community Grants (VCS)	(67)	1,331	1,264
Community Safety	(509)	2,452	1,943
Community Support (Local Emergency Support)		204	204
Localities & Strategic Partnerships (General)	40	1,729	1,768
Total	(536)	5,716	5,180
Special Expenses	(349)	1,319	970
	(349)	1,319	970
	(885)	11,230	10,345

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* Community Grants (VCS) £0.417m requires budget re-alignment from Premises to Supplies and Services.

** Localities and Strategic Partnerships – General £0.040m requires budget re-alignment from Income to Supplies and Services

Proposed MTFP Changes

The table below shows the breakdown of proposed budget changes between financial years, split into Savings, Growth, and removal of one-off 'special items'. All the budget changes are compared to the 2021-22 baseline. All the savings are considered deliverable (albeit with implications to be noted and discussed) and there are no known funding pressures.

Typet of Change	Description of Change	Service Area	Change 2022-23 £000's	Change 2023-24 £000's	Change 2024-25 £000's
Savings	Deliver staffing efficiencies through Localities Service Review	Community Boards	-	(150)	(150)
	Reduce the funding available for Community Boards		(1,900)	(1,900)	(1,900)
Growth	Provide continued funding for Street Wardens (Wycombe)	Community Safety	105	100	100
	Inflation	Special Expenses	11	11	11
Special Items	Remove temporary project capacity	LSP - General	(122)	(122)	(122)
Total Movement			(1,906)	(2,061)	(2,061)

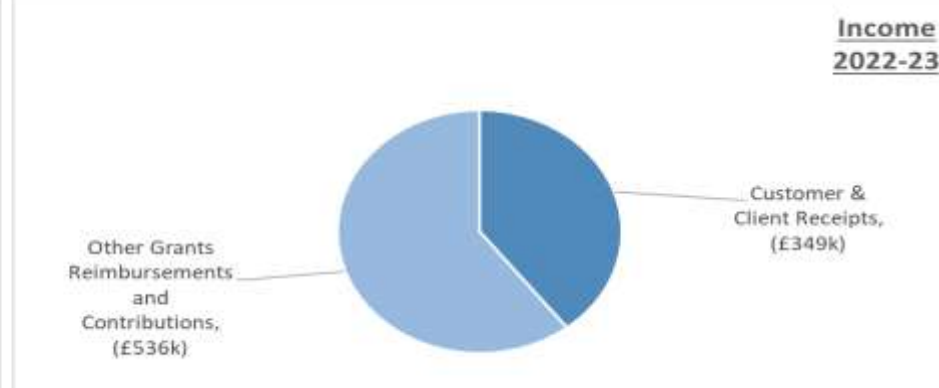
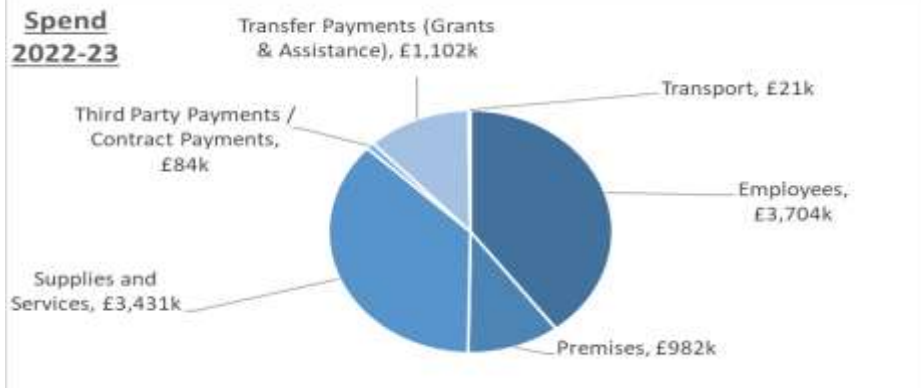
In addition to the above table, there will be a release of £3.489m Community Board earmarked reserves to Corporate Reserves

Proposed Revenue Budget 2022/23

The table below breaks down the budget into the service areas that support the Communities Portfolio, showing the baseline budget from the current year (2021-22) to the proposed baseline budget 2022/23 to 2025/26

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	2021-22			2022-23			2023-24 Net Budget	2024-25 Net Budget
	Income £000	Expense £000	Net Budget	Income £000	Expense £000	Net Budget		
Community Boards		3,900	3,900		2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
		3,900	3,900		2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Emergency Planning	-	295	295	-	295	295	295	295
	-	295	295	-	295	295	295	295
Community Grants (VCS)	(67)	1,331	1,264	(67)	1,331	1,264	1,264	1,264
Community Safety	(509)	2,452	1,943	(509)	2,557	2,048	2,043	2,043
Community Support (Local Emergency Support)		204	204		204	204	204	204
Localities & Strategic Partnerships (General)	40	1,729	1,768	40	1,607	1,646	1,496	1,496
Total	(536)	5,716	5,180	(536)	5,699	5,163	5,008	5,008
Special Expenses	(349)	1,319	970	(349)	1,330	981	981	981
	(349)	1,319	970	(349)	1,330	981	981	981
	(885)	11,230	10,345	(885)	9,325	8,439	8,284	8,284



Challenges, Risks and Opportunities

- In response to the Covid-19 Pandemic services were supported with Government Grant funding such as Household Support Grant and Practical Support Grant, this provided vital support for our vulnerable residents. The continued affects of the pandemic are unknown, should the government grants not continue our ability to respond will be limited.
- Funding from External bodies has been significant in 2021/22 ie Domestic Abuse Bill, Police and Crime Commissioner, any changes in funding will require services to adjust delivery plans accordingly. For example the Home Office have recently announced the withdrawal of Prevent Funding
- Collaboration with key partners in particular Town and Parish Councils, Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector and Thames Valley Police provides an opportunity for an improved focus on collectively understanding and shaping local places.
- There are continued exploration of the Council's approach to Electronic Surveillance, a task and finish group are evaluating the findings from a diagnostic and will shortly be making recommendations around essential commitments required.

Top 5 Contracts

Vendor	Description	End Date
Aylesbury Women's Aid	Contract for DA services across the whole of Buckinghamshire	31/03/2022
Community Impact Bucks	Contract, funded by the Council that will develop, promote and support the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector, enabling the sector to strengthen its role as strategic partner with the Council.	31/07/2024
Thames Valley Police Authority	Contract for the supply of staffing and operating costs for CCTV services	31/03/2022
Aylesbury Women's Aid	Contract to supply of 1 x Youth Worker attached to a school to address issue of DA	31/03/2022
Wycombe Women's Aid	Contract to supply of 1 x worker attached to health centre to train/support health professionals in relation to DA disclosures	31/03/2022

Fees and Charges

Each year, as part of the MTFP, we review the schedule of Fees and Charges

The majority of Fees & Charges are amended by an inflationary increase (confirmed in September, typically between 2%-3%).

There are no fees and charges published for this portfolio

Capital Forecast Quarter 2 2021-22

Communities Capital Table

	Actuals to Date £000	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's	% Slippage	RAG Rating
Cabinet Portfolio						
Communities	112	133	133	0	0.0%	Green

Communities Capital: Budget £0.1m, Forecast £0.1m, Var **£0m**

- a) Nil variance overall. However, there is a detailed project review in progress to re-profile the project budget, (total capital scheme £343k) which may impact the outturn.

To Note: any unspent capital project budgets in 21/22 ('slippage') will be reprofiled into future years as part of the annual year end process, and approved via the Corporate Capital Investment Board.

Capital Programme

The table below shows the Capital Programme budget for the Communities Portfolio, there is current one scheme covering CCTV delivery of upgrade to the existing asset estate.

Service Area	Project Group / Project	2022/23 £000's	2023/24 £000's	2024/25 £000's	2025/26 £000's	MTFP Total £000's
Localities & Strategic						
<input type="checkbox"/> Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Safety					
	CCTV Projects	210	0	0	0	210
	Community Safety Total	210	0	0	0	210
Localities & Strategic Partnerships Total		210	0	0	0	210
Total Expenditure		210	0	0	0	210



Questions



Appendix 1 – Detailed Breakdown of Revenue Budget 2021-22

The table below shows the budget for Leader’s portfolio for 2021-22 with a detailed split on spend and income by service area.

	Expenditure							Income			Net Total
	Employees	Premises	Supplies and Services	Third Party Payments and Contract Payments	Transfer Payments (Grants & Assistance)	Transport	Expense Total	Customer Receipts	Other Reimbursements and Contributions	Income Total	
Community Boards	-	-	3,900	-	-	-	3,900	-	-	-	3,900
Community Grants (VCS)	-	417*	3	-	911	-	1,331	-	(67)	(67)	1,264
Community Support (Local Emergency Support)	96	-	108	-	-	-	204	-	-	-	204
Community Safety	1,509	28	660	84	161	9	2,452	-	(509)	(509)	1,943
Localities and Strategic Partnerships - General	1,714	1	8	-	-	7	1,729	(0)	40**	40	1,769
Civil Contingencies Unit	259	-	26	-	7	4	295	-	-	-	295
Special Expenses	143	532	619	-	23	2	1,319	(349)	-	(349)	970
Grand Total	3,721	978	5,324	84	1,102	21	11,230	(349)	(536)	(885)	10,345

The following Better Buckinghamshire Savings Targets are allocated across Localities service areas: Grants £100k, General £160k and Community Safety £132k to be delivered in 2022/23.

* Community Grants (VCS) £0.417m requires budget re-alignment from Premises to Supplies and Services.

** Localities and Strategic Partnerships – General £0.040m requires budget re-alignment from Income to Supplies and Services

Appendix 2 : Special Expenses (1/3)

- Special Expenses cover Aylesbury Town, West Wycombe Church Yard and High Wycombe Town.
- Details of the activity covered by Special Expenses is outlined in the Appendix.
- The Next steps to confirm Special Expenses is for High Wycombe Town Committee Budget Sub-Group (six Members nominated with Officers) to meet on 5th January 2022 to review the updated proposed budget after taking into account recent cost changes in the Wycombe Grounds Maintenance contract and the two cemeteries (Wycombe cemetery and Penn Road cemetery) as well as the inclusion of the precept amount for the unparished area. The Budget Sub-Group will then recommend the budget to the High Wycombe Town Committee on 18th January 2022, who will in turn recommend the budget to Cabinet and Full Council in line with the MTFP timelines.
- For Aylesbury Town Expenses an inflationary amount will be applied to the 2022/23 budgets using 2021/22 base budgets.
- A breakdown of the proposed Special Expenses will be presented for agreement alongside the Final Budget and MTFP in February.

Appendix 2 : Special Expenses (2/3)

Aylesbury Town Special Expenses

- Recreation Grounds : Alfred Rose Park, Bedgrove Park, Edinburgh Playing Fields, Meadowcroft Playing Fields, Vale Park, Walton Court Sports Ground, Fairford Leys Sports Ground;
- Public Halls : Bedgrove Community Centre, Southcourt Community Centre, Alfred Rose Community Centre, Prebendal Farm Community Centre, Quarrendon & Meadowcroft Community Centre, Haydon Hill Community Centre;
- Aylesbury Market.

West Wycombe Church Yard Special Expenses

- Closed Churchyard: St Lawrence Closed Churchyard

Appendix 2: Special Expenses (3/3).

High Wycombe Town Committee Special Expenses

- Public Halls: Hilltop Community Centre;
- Cemeteries: High Wycombe Town Cemetery and Penn Road Cemetery;
- Recreation Grounds : Booker (Fernie Fields), Shelley Road (QEII) and Totteridge;
- All Saints Closed Churchyard;
- Allotments : Back Lane, Bassetsbury Land (Closed), Desborough, Castle Green Hill, Hicks Farm Rise, Hughenden Park, Lime Avenue, Totteridge and Queensway;
- Footway Lighting : Colville Road, Halifax Road, Loakes Road, Rupert Avenue, Verney Avenue, Bowden Lande, Cressex Road, Perth Road and South Drive;
- Grants to voluntary organisations : Town Twinning, Community Buildings in High Wycombe Town and Local communities for small projects;
- War memorials : Maintenance costs for those communities they commemorate (except memorials of a national nature, costs for which are borne by the Council as a whole).

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Medium Term Financial Plan Budget Culture & Leisure Portfolio

Budget Scrutiny



Agenda

- Overview of the Portfolio
- Portfolio Priorities
- Revenue Budget 2021/22
- Revenue Forecast Quarter 2 2021/22 and Revenue Budget – Savings since April 2020
- Revenue – Proposed Changes

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Proposed Revenue Budget 2022/23 – 2024/2025

Challenges, Risks & Opportunities

- Top 5 Contracts
- Fees & Charges
- Capital Forecast Quarter 2 2021/22 and Current Proposed Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2025/26
- Questions
- Appendix 1 – Detailed Breakdown of Revenue Budget

Overview of the Portfolio

Cabinet Members: Cllr Clive Harriss and Cllr Paul Irwin (Deputy)

The Culture & Leisure portfolio is aligned to the Communities Directorate (Richard Barker - Corporate Director Communities), specifically Culture, Sports & Leisure Service Directorate (Sophie Payne – Service Director).

The portfolio helps to deliver all of the Corporate priorities and is principally responsible for:

- Local, community and country parks
- Leisure including sports and leisure centres, sports development, South Buckinghamshire Golf Course and Farnham Park Playing Fields
- Culture, including museums and libraries
- Archives
- Libraries

Overview of the Portfolio

- **Local, Community and Country Parks** – The service operates four Country Parks which, in 20/21, were visited by over 1.7 million people. Country Parks are self-financing; income generated from car parking and filming activities funds operations and maintenance, plus work to conserve the natural environment for future generations. A new Country Park in Stoke Poges is in development and due to open in 2023.
- The Culture, Sport and Leisure and Neighbourhood Services teams also work together to manage a number of local parks across the county. As well as capital projects to improve parks and play areas, this includes liaising with planning to make sure that alongside housing growth, we create facilities and green spaces that support the future health of our communities.
- **Leisure centres, sports facilities, and grassroots sport** – Buckinghamshire Council has 10 main leisure centre facilities, which are operated by a number of leisure providers under different contracts. Other facilities include the South Bucks Golf Course and Farnham Park Playing Fields.
- The current capital projects programme includes the completion of the new extended car park and outside play area for the recently opened Chilterns Lifestyle Centre, following the demolition of the old Chiltern Pools. Other recent investment includes a full replacement of the Chalfont Leisure Centre swimming pool plus refurbishment of the wider facilities; and significant enhancements to the Chesham Leisure Centre - all well received by our residents and users.
- The service also works in partnership on sports development and outreach to support people to become more physically active.

Overview of the Portfolio

- **Culture** – As part of the Buckinghamshire Cultural Partnership, we enable delivery of the Cultural Strategy, maximising investment and harnessing culture to support economic development, new housing and communities, health and wellbeing, education and skills; and coordinating key cultural events. The service manages relationships with the Wycombe Museum and the Discover Bucks Museum (formerly the County Museum), which are operated using trust arrangements, and with our main theatre operators.
- **Archives** – Buckinghamshire Archives provides a statutory archives service. The 3.5 miles of shelving hold collections of local and international importance (including records related to Stoke Mandeville’s role in the development of the Paralympic Games). Staff support volunteers, run outreach projects, and work on digital preservation, amongst other things.
- **Libraries** – Buckinghamshire Council has a statutory duty to provide a comprehensive and efficient library service. The public library service operates in 29 locations through a network of 9 County Libraries, 8 Community Supported Libraries and 12 volunteer-led Community Libraries. We also provide online, school, home and prison library services. The activities of our Libraries teams contribute to a wide range of council priorities, from early years outcomes to supporting people to live independently in their later years. A number of libraries are also Council Access Points, providing residents with local access to council services.
- **Tourism** – Support to the visitor economy as part of Economic Growth and Regeneration strategy.

Overview of the Portfolio



Portfolio Priorities

- Development of new visitor facilities at Black Park Country Park and a new Country Park at Stoke Poges
- Improvements to our local parks and play areas through continued capital investment
- Delivering a Leisure Facilities Strategy and implementing the capital programme to strategically invest in our leisure facilities
- Maximising walking and cycling tourist loops to make the most of the county's expanding cycle network
- Supporting delivery of the Buckinghamshire Cultural Strategy action plan
- Developing a countywide Storytelling festival and continuing to coordinate a range of cultural events
- Progressing the launch of a 'Bucks Card' for residents
- Securing future accommodation for Buckinghamshire Archives, in collaboration with key partners
- Developing a refreshed Libraries Strategy and continuing to roll out self-service technology

Key Elements of Portfolio Revenue & Capital Budgets

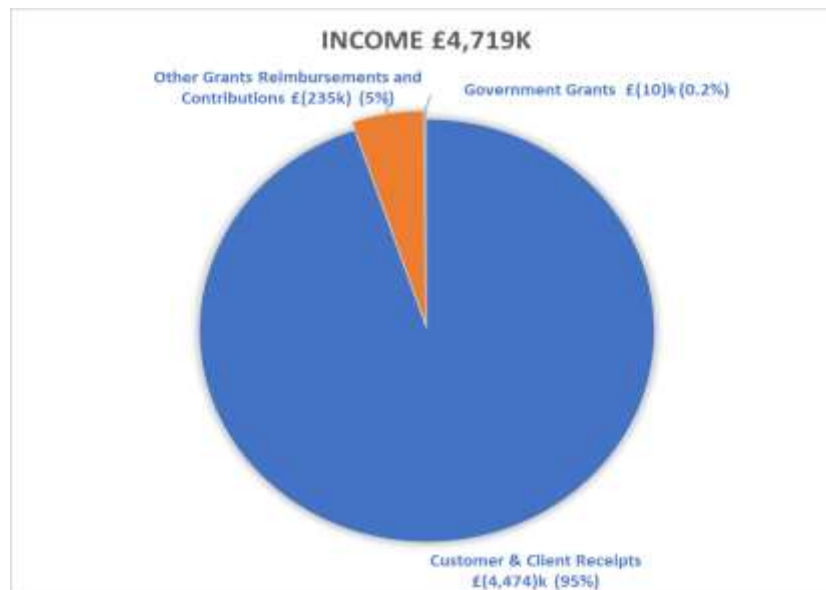
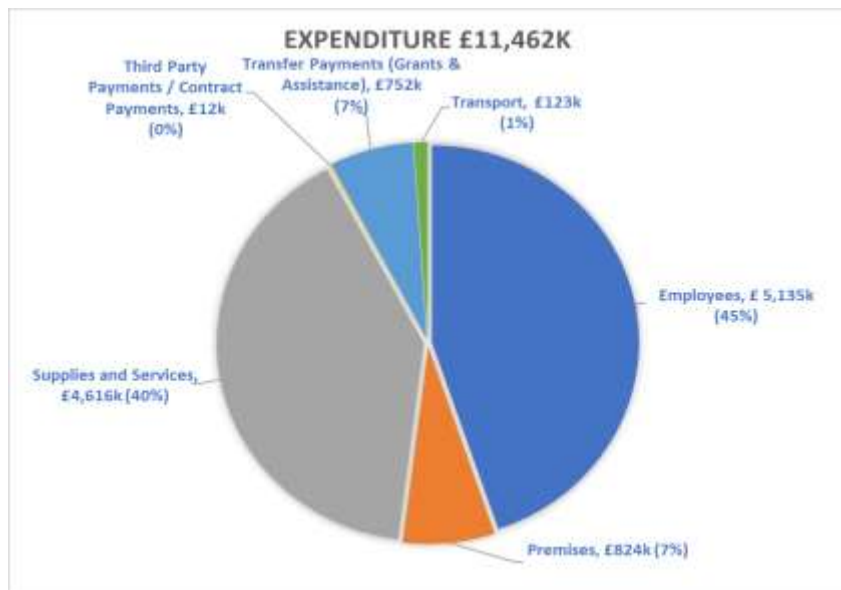
Slides 9 – 19 provide further information about the Portfolio’s 2021/22 controllable Expenditure budget (Employees, Supplies & Services), Income and Capital Programme.

Key Elements of the Portfolio Revenue Budget				
Revenue Expenditure	£'000	% of Total	Slide No.	Comments
Employees	5,135	45%	9	Direct costs of Employees is £5,08m (44% of expenditure budget)
Supplies & Services	4,616	40%	9	Mainly payments to contractors, equipment, furniture, tools, project work, communications and computing, community initiatives, events expenditure, grants to external bodies and advertising.
Revenue Income	£'000	% of Total	Slide No.	Comments
Customer & Client Receipts	4,474	95%	9	52% of income is generated from Leisure Centres and 28% from Country Parks, Parks & Play Areas.
Capital 2021/22 programme	£'000	% of Total	Slide No.	Comments
Country Parks	2,521	12%		
Leisure Centres	16,174	78%		
Libraries	580	3%		
Parks & Play Areas	1,493	7%		
Total	20,768	100%		

Revenue Budget 2021-22

The charts and tables below show the current revenue budget for the portfolio, split into different service areas, income and expenditure. For a more detailed breakdown, see Appendix 1 on slide 21.

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		2021-22		
		Income £000	Expense £000	Net Budget
Culture & Leisure	Arts & Culture	(303)	1,588	1,286
	Country Parks, Parks & Play Areas	(1,368)	1,345	(23)
	Leisure Centres	(2,474)	3,446	972
	Libraries	(575)	4,517	3,942
	Museums & Heritage		566	566
Culture & Leisure Total		(4,719)	11,462	6,743
Grand Total		(4,719)	11,462	6,743

Revenue Forecast Quarter 2 2021/22

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	11,500	10,300	(1,200)	(1,000)
Income	(4,700)	(2,700)	2,000	(800)
Culture & Leisure	6,800	7,600	800	(1,800)

Budget £6.8m, Forecast £7.6m, Var +£0.8m

- **Arts & Culture - Budget £1.3m, Favourable Var £0.1m** - Reduced costs for Summer events and Theatres plus staffing vacancies within Archives.
- **Libraries - Budget £3.9m, No Variance** - The service is mitigating its Covid losses by closely controlling income & expenditure and is anticipating a breakeven position at year end.
- **Museums & Heritage - Budget £0.6m, Favourable Var £15k** - Agreed grant and management fees have been forecast with an underspend anticipated.
- **Country Parks, Parks & Play Areas - Budget £-20k, Adverse Var £3k** - Variance relates to extra cleaning costs and events income shortfall due to Covid, offset by additional income from car park and filming.
- **Leisure Centres - Budget £1m, Var Adverse £0.9m** - Variance relates to reduced income from leisure due to Covid and restrictions in operations resulting from the Government roadmap. The favourable movement from Q1 is due to improvement in the forecast arising from recent reviews of operators' financial assumptions and the funding provided to operators through the Government's Leisure Recovery Fund. A specific contingency of £2m for leisure recovery also forms part of the Council's agreed budget for 2021/22 and the £0.9m variance is therefore mitigated through the partial use of this contingency.

* Note: the net 2021/22 Revenue Budget reported for Quarter 2 monitoring is higher than the MTFP base budget on slide 9 due to the inclusion of various one-off budgets changes.

Revenue Budget: Savings since April 2020

The 2021-22 budget set out in the previous slide incorporate the following savings which have been made since the Unitary vesting day in April 2020:

	2020/21	2021/22
	£'000	£'000
Contract Harmonisation		0
Better Buckinghamshire		
Culture, Sport & Leisure:		
Service efficiencies from new technology		-30
Strategic review/additional income		-15
		-45
Libraries Book Fund	-40	
Libraries service review	-212	
	-252	

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TOTAL SAVINGS MADE	-252	-45
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Revenue – Proposed Changes

The table below details the proposed budget changes – split into increased income, growth areas, and savings proposals. All changes are cumulative, to be compared to the 2021-22 base budget.

Culture & Leisure			Change	Change	Change
			2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
			£000's	£000's	£000's
Culture & Leisure					
Arts & Culture	Change in Income	Archives additional income	(23)	(23)	(23)
	Savings	Efficiency savings following service reviews	(42)	(103)	(177)
	Special Items	Home Working	14	14	14
Country Parks, Parks & Play Areas	Change in Income	Country Parks; Review of fees and charges	(10)	(13)	(13)
	Growth	South Bucks Country Park	-	50	50
	Savings	Reduction to Farnham Park Sports Fields Trust - net on-going operational costs	-	-	(67)
	Special Items	Short term Income from Soil disposal at new Country Park	(125)	200	200
Leisure Centres	Change in Income	Changes in management fee income - Leisure	(1,298)	(1,764)	(2,333)
Libraries	Change in Income	Recovery of events, activities and Libraries income post-Covid	(80)	(80)	(80)
	Savings	Libraries Efficiencies from staffing and new technologies	(180)	(255)	(330)
Museums & Heritage	Savings	Museums: reductions in the management fee	(1)	(10)	(19)

Proposed Revenue Budget 2022-2025

The table below shows what the Revenue budget will be after the proposed budget changes.

Changes Summary	2022-23 £000	2023-24 £000	2024-25 £000
Change in Income	(1,411)	(1,880)	(2,449)
Growth	3	53	53
Savings	(223)	(368)	(593)
Special Items	(111)	214	214
Grand Total	(1,742)	(1,981)	(2,775)

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		2021-22			2022-23			2023-24	2024-25
		Income £000	Expense £000	Net Budget	Income £000	Expense £000	Net Budget	Net Budget	Net Budget
Culture & Leisure	Arts & Culture	(303)	1,588	1,286	(303)	1,538	1,236	1,175	1,101
	Country Parks, Parks & Play Areas	(1,368)	1,345	(23)	(1,503)	1,347	(156)	216	149
	Leisure Centres	(2,474)	3,446	972	(3,772)	3,446	(325)	(791)	(1,361)
	Libraries	(575)	4,517	3,942	(655)	4,337	3,682	3,607	3,532
	Museums & Heritage		566	566		565	565	556	547
Culture & Leisure Total		(4,719)	11,462	6,743	(6,232)	11,233	5,001	4,762	3,968
Grand Total		(4,719)	11,462	6,743	(6,232)	11,233	5,001	4,762	3,968

Challenges, Risks and Opportunities

Risks

- Full recovery of leisure sector post-Covid, in particular leisure income over the MTFP period. Future leisure strategy and how operations will be taken forward within that strategy are dependent on recovery from Covid impact and the ability of leisure operators to modify their operations and adapt to prevailing conditions.
- Increased demand for green spaces post-Covid, creating additional maintenance costs.
- Libraries – risk around income as targets for the remainder of the year (and possibly future years) may prove unrealistic if visitor numbers and levels of sales are not restored to pre-Covid levels.

Challenges, Risks and Opportunities (contd.)

Opportunities

- The Fees and Charges have been reviewed across the service. The service will continue to explore whether there are any new or increased income opportunities, including further harmonisation where appropriate.
- Potential for more savings where other initiatives within the service are developed, however such initiatives would mean certain services currently offered to the public are scaled back.
- Activities aligned with addressing climate change/social value – Country Parks & Parks operations moving away from fossil fuels for vehicles and machinery; on-site renewable generation; waste reduction measures with on-site caterers; management of natural assets and growing/planting of trees.

Top 5 Contracts

Vendor	Description (inc. Contract End Date)
Sports & Leisure Management	Chiltern area - Leisure Centre Operating contract (income generating); start date 1 st April 2020; end date 31 st March 2035; no extension option used; extension length – 5 years review by 31 st Mar 2034 to be agreed.
Places for People Leisure Management	Wycombe area - Leisure Centre Operating contract (income generating); start date 1 st July 2014; end date 30 th June 2029; no extension option used.
Sports & Leisure Management	Aylesbury area – Leisure Centre operating contract (income generating); start date 2013; end date Mar 2023.
Buckinghamshire County Museum Trust	Provision of Museum Services; start date 1 st Aug 2014; end date 31 st July 2034.
Askews & Holts Library Services	Framework Agreement for the provision of library books, audio and visual materials; start date 1 st April 2020; end date 1 st April 2022, with extension option to April 2024.

Fees and Charges

Each year, as part of the MTFP, we review the schedule of Fees and Charges.

The majority of Fees & Charges are only amended by an RPI increase (currently at 3%).

The Fees and Charges schedule for Culture, Sports & Leisure has been reviewed in detail as part of the MTFP project timeline.

Capital Forecast Quarter 2 2021/22

Cabinet Portfolio	Actuals to Date £000	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's	% Slippage	RAG Rating
Culture & Leisure	9,910	17,360	14,180	-3,181	18.3%	Amber

Budget £17.4m, Forecast £14.2m, Var £-3.2m

- £2.4m slippage on Country Parks: the main works on the new Country Park in Stoke Poges are only due to commence in late 2022 once the soil importation is complete, with completion of the park in 2023; the Visitors Centre for Black Park is underway, however the majority of spend will happen in the next financial year.
- £0.2m slippage in Libraries: due to competing pressures on Library staff the Libraries Self-Service will not fully complete this year.
- £0.6m slippage in Parks and Play Areas: due to staff shortages there is a delay in relation to Higginson Park and the Rye NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play).

**Note: any unspent capital project budgets in 21/22 ('slippage') will be reprofiled into future years as part of the annual year end process, and approved via the Corporate Capital Investment Board.*

Current Proposed Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2025/26

Expenditure

Service Area	Project Group / Project	2022/23 £000's	2023/24 £000's	2024/25 £000's	2025/26 £000's	MTFP Total £000's
Culture Sport & Leisure	Leisure Centres					
	Chilterns Lifestyle Centre	1,987	0	0	0	1,987
	Leisure Centres Maintenance	500	500	500	500	2,000
	Leisure Centres Total	2,487	500	500	500	3,987
	Libraries					
	Libraries Enhanced Technology	210	0	0	0	210
	Libraries Total	210	0	0	0	210
	Parks & Play Areas					
	Parks & Play Areas	443	0	0	0	443
	Parks & Play Areas Total	443	0	0	0	443
Culture Sport & Leisure Total		3,140	500	500	500	4,640



Questions



Appendix 1: Detailed Breakdown of Revenue Budget

The table below shows the breakdown of the 2021-22 baseline Revenue budget into types of expenditure and income.

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	Expenditure						Income				Net Total	
	Employees	Premises	Supplies and Services	Third Party Payments / Contract Payments	Transfer Payments (Grants & Assistance)	Transport	Expense Total	Customer & Client Receipts	Other Grants Reimbursement s and Contributions	Government Grants		Income Total
Arts & Culture	836	217	416		106	13	1,588	(211)	(92)		(303)	1,286
Country Parks, Parks & Play Areas	727	168	413			36	1,345	(1,356)	(2)	(10)	(1,368)	(23)
Leisure Centres	331	285	2,736	12	80	2	3,446	(2,406)	(68)		(2,474)	972
Libraries	3,240	154	1,051			71	4,517	(501)	(74)		(575)	3,942
Museums & Heritage				0	566		566				0	566
Grand Total	5,135	824	4,616	12	752	123	11,462	(4,474)	(235)	(10)	(4,719)	6,743

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