



## High Wycombe Community Board agenda

Date: Wednesday 13 March 2024

Time: 7.00 PM

Venue: Hilltop Community Centre Crest Road High Wycombe, Bucks, HP11 1UA

### BC Councillors:

L Clarke OBE (Chairman), M Hussain OBE JP (Vice-Chairman), A Hussain, A Alam, M Angell, M Ayub, S Barrett, K Bates, A Baughan, T Green, S Guy, D Hayday, O Hayday, I Hussain, Majid Hussain, Maz Hussain, M Knight, S Raja, N Rana, M Smith, N Thomas, P Turner, J Wassell and K Wood.

### Attendees:

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: Fay Ewing (Community Board Manager) on 01296 531282 or email [hwcb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:hwcb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk).

Item No	Item	Time	Page No
1	NETWORKING	19:00	
2	CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME	19:15	
3	APOLOGIES /MINUTES OF LAST MEETING/ DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	19:20	3 - 8
4	COMMUNITY MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Petition - Parking Nicholas Gardens, High Wycombe <a href="https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx?ID=96&amp;RPID=22274645&amp;HPID=22274645">https://buckinghamshire.moderngov.co.uk/mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx?ID=96&amp;RPID=22274645&amp;HPID=22274645</a></li></ul>	19:25	9 - 12

	<p>To record receipt of the petition and advice from the Parking Team to progress this through the parking control request form process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions from members of the public can be submitted in advance of the meeting to <a href="mailto:hwcb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk">hwcb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk</a></li> <li>• HWCB summary of 2023-24 engagement and projects</li> <li>• Buckinghamshire Council update</li> </ul>		
<b>5</b>	<p><b>WORKSHOP /TABLE DISCUSSIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o What is working well?</li> <li>o Where are the gaps in provision?</li> <li>o Potential project ideas</li> <li>o Relevant stakeholders / delivery partners</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Current Community Board priorities - <a href="https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-and-safety/improving-your-local-community/high-wycombe-community-board/">https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-and-safety/improving-your-local-community/high-wycombe-community-board/</a></p> <p>Local Insight ward profiles <a href="https://bucksdataexchange.org/resources/opportunity-bucks/local-insight-ward-profiles-may-2022/">https://bucksdataexchange.org/resources/opportunity-bucks/local-insight-ward-profiles-may-2022/</a></p>	<b>19:30</b>	<b>13 - 68</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>MEETING SUMMARY AND CLOSE</b>	<b>21:00</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING (TBC)</b>	<b>21:05</b>	



# High Wycombe Community Board

## Minutes

**Minutes of the meeting of the High Wycombe Community Board held on Wednesday 13 September 2023 in Wrights Meadow Centre, Wrights Meadow Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1SQ, commencing at 6.30pm**

### Members present

L Clarke OBE, M Hussain JP, A Hussain, A Alam, M Ayub, K Bates, A Baughan, T Green, S Guy, D Hayday, O Hayday, I Hussain, Majid Hussain, M Knight, S Raja, N Rana, M Smith, N Thomas, P Turner, J Wassell and K Wood

### Others in attendance

Fay Ewing – Community Board Manager – High Wycombe  
Makyla Devlin – Senior Community Board Manager  
Lizzie Wright- Community Board Manager (note taker)  
Kate Walker – Localism Manager (Service Development and Engagement) Buckinghamshire Council  
Matt Everett – Service Director - Business Intelligence & Community Support – Buckinghamshire Council  
Nick Graham – Service Director – Legal & Democratic Services  
Penelope Tollitt – Marlow Film Studios, Planning Consultant  
Jules Robinson – Marlow Film Studios  
Simon Barrowcliff – Marlow Film Studios  
Jenny Craig – Principal and CEO, Buckinghamshire College Group  
Neil O’Leary – Network Safety Team Leader – Buckinghamshire Highways  
Rose Simkins – CEO, Stop Hate Crime  
Heather Morley – Vice Chair, HWCB Recovery & Regeneration Action Group  
Peter Cartwright - Resident  
Colin Hingston - High Wycombe Society  
Martyn Dey – Resident of West End Road  
Ian Whyte - Resident of West End Road  
James Kent - Resident of West End Road  
Florence Pritchard - Resident of West End Road, Lead Petitioner  
John Shaw – Chiltern Rangers  
Brian Lewis – Wycombe Multi Cultural Organisation

### 1 CHAIRMAN’S WELCOME

Cllr Lesley Clarke

Welcome to everyone to High Wycombe Community Boards face to face meeting at Wrights Meadow Centre.

## **2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- Cllr Paul Turner
- Cllr Nathan Thomas
- Cllr Katrina Wood
- Cllr Matt Knight
- Steve Baker MP
- Sue Hynard Parliamentary Office of Steve Baker MP
- Louise Hurst, Buckinghamshire Council
- Layla Ravey, Buckinghamshire Council
- James Boulton, Wycombe Homeless Connection
- Acting Inspector Daniel Crook, Thames Valley Police
- Nick Braisby, Buckinghamshire New University
- Charmaine Fyffe, Khepera
- Helen Mee, The Clare Foundation
- Simon Kearey, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board
- Jacque Roberts, SV2G
- Adam Cheyo, Buckinghamshire Council
- Joanne Fowler, Buckinghamshire Council
- Jo Belshaw, One Can Trust

## **3 MINUTES**

All agreed the notes from the meeting held 25 April were a true record

## **4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

A number of members on the planning committee were advised to declare their interest in regard to item 6 Marlow Film Studios.

Councillor Arman Alam

Councillor Mohammed Ayub

Councillor Andrea Baughan

Councillor Steve Guy

Councillor Imran Hussain

Councillor Sarfaraz Khan Raja

## **5 COMMUNITY MATTERS**

**Summary** A petition regarding West End Road was presented by Florence Pritchard, lead petitioner, on behalf of a number of residents present at the meeting, she thanked members for their support so far. The residents were looking to address safety concerns through unclear road markings, the structure of the road, poor visibility, parking issues, and speeding (exacerbated by the steep decline of the hill). Concerned by the data provided by Network Safety team, residents had created a report of their own knowledge of accidents in the past 9 months (which they identified on a map for members in the room), and were looking for the board to intervene and introduce preventative measures, such as improved signage, speed measures and road closure at the junction of West End Street onto Desborough Road. The residents requested an investigation these and into other possible measures; they explained that the diversion for drivers would not cause inconvenience due to suitable alternative routes available.

Members agreed the change could improve the flow of traffic in the area; some were keen to address the behaviour of road users as well as or instead of engineered solutions. Others wanted to see the scheme coupled with an improvement to the Desborough Avenue roundabout/junction and some noted that the road closure could potentially lead to increased anti-social behaviour.

Neil O’Leary provided background from the network safety team and explained that data sets were provided by DfT and could be delayed and only include reports where injury occurred rather than damage to property. The proposal did not meet criteria for action within the network safety team but if available, alternative funding or resources could be used to support a scheme (e.g. Opportunity Bucks, Parking, enforcement cameras.)

Members were keen to see increased enforcement presence and immediate action of repainting the yellow lines to improve their visibility.

Actions            To consider potential options and schedule further discussion with relevant parties

## **6      MARLOW FILM STUDIOS - JOBS AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Summary            A presentation was given about the background and vision for Marlow Film Studios. The main aims were to provide a local creative hub and house other creative industries. They engaged with the public early before applying for planning and bought the land to demonstrate their commitment. Ecology was a key consideration, as was working with high profile partners in the design and architecture. Transport routes had been considered, including an active travel cycleway and offroad links as well as a 20% biodiversity net gain through additional land purchased for that sole purpose. Solar panels would power 105% of the business’s needs.

The ambition was to create opportunities for employment in the creative screen industry which was seen as a top ‘dream’ industry to work in for young people and there were many various job roles which would sit within this. Streaming had increased demand for content which the UK industry needed to meet, including more space for production. A full plan was being considered for skills and development with various cohorts (schools, HE/FE, re-skilling, transferrable skills, and community involvement). A taskforce was setup with key partners involved, looking to offer open days to the public and local schools, providing links with apprenticeships, training programmes, bursaries, working with businesses, skills hubs, youth councils and encouraging a very inclusive and accessible opportunity for all.

The proposal was fully supported by the Bucks College Group who estimated approx. 400 students per year were leaving with skills related to the film industry. The proposal would provide a way of offering employment within Buckinghamshire and keeping young people in county after completing qualifications.

The studios were expected to be up and running in 2027.

## **7      STOP HATE CRIME - 24 HOUR PHONE LINE**

Summary            Rose introduced the charity Stop Hate UK, the vision, mission and patron Baroness Doreen Lawrence and defined hate crime for the members, explaining the law around it and the impact of it. The project objectives included raising awareness, reducing barriers to reporting, providing access to support, recruiting and training ambassadors, establishing a network of signposting centres, and focusing on crime prevention.

Further information was provided in packs for attendees to take away and more could be provided for promotion via digital resources and online.

The charity were able to work with schools separately to raise awareness and provide resources.

Under 18s could access support via a separate helpline.

Members were asked to support the promotion of the charity and could be given resources to do so. National Hate Crime awareness week was due to take place between 14th - 21st October

Actions All to share resources and promote the service

## **8 PLAY STREETS**

Louise Hurst was unable to attend and sent a video which could be watched outside of the meeting.

All to access the video provided by Public Health

## **9 COMMUNITY BOARD UPDATES**

Summary Mahboob, chair of the Recovery and Regeneration Action Group provided an update. The group had been discussing issues around antisocial behaviour in public toilets, speeding in the town centre, and infrastructure such as shop fronts. They were looking to make the town safer for everyone.

Julia, chair of the Health & Wellbeing Action Group provided an updated. The group had made contact with, supported and funded many local charities and had met many of their agreed targets. They had been attending and holding events to increase engagement with the board. They had been focusing on projects around Gypsies, Romanies and Travellers, LGBTQ+, and Stop Hate Crime and advised the date of the next meeting on 14 September where they would be discussing a new topic: Housing and Health. Julia thanked Fay Ewing, Board Manager, and Louise Hurst in Public Health, and vice-chair Jackie Roberts for their support.

Tony, chair of the Transport Action Group provided an updated. They were awaiting feedback from council services about specific schemes in order to progress. They had raised concerns about lack of awareness about local consultation activity.

Sarfaraz, chair of the Environment Action Group provided an update. They had been looking at introducing air quality monitors in the town, an idling campaign and encouraging more walking and cycling, work on chalk streams, litter picking, bee squared seed packets, Electric Vehicle points, the warm in Wycombe draft excluders project, and working with the environment centre. Sarfaraz made tribute to the late Steve Morton who had sadly passed away.

Fay provided an update on funding. More information was available in the agenda pack including the allocations and pipeline projects for the 23/24 financial year, current allocations were at around £14,000. Projects (both funded and non-funded) included the recent BOPAG event, Public Health's Smoke Free Parks delivered with Millbrook School, and soon also The Rye, plus working with Neighbourhood Watch groups to encourage more work in the area. The board were calling for volunteers to get involved and put forward ideas and highlighted the bid writing course available through the Clare Foundation.

Community Engagement events throughout the summer, with thanks to local partners for their facilitation, had enabled conversations with around 130 different residents and partners to discuss priorities.

Finally, Fay thanked all those who had supported the Proud of Bucks Awards and a final well done to all nominees and winners/highly commended. With thanks Wycombe Arts Centre for hosting, and all the community groups who attended with stalls on the day.

Upcoming events noted were:

Jobs Fair at the Elgiva in Chesham on 23 September.

Wycombe Christmas light switch on 18 November– with a call for volunteers to get involved.

The Chairman thanked officers for their support with the meeting.

Actions            To come forward with project ideas and to volunteer to help at upcoming events

## **10 CORPORATE UPDATE**

Summary        Nick Graham provided an update from the standards committee on the High Wycombe Community Governance Review, looking at the unparished area and establishing a town and / or parish councils in various areas within the Community Board boundary, which had been deferred by Wycombe District Council to the Unitary Council, and also paused during the county's boundary review.

The committee had not agreed to take the original proposal forward due to various reasons but would commission a new review. A working group had been formed to look at the options, consultation plan, and timings.

Matt Everitt provided the corporate update on behalf of Buckinghamshire Council, highlighting the budget consultation which was currently live for submitting views, and cost of living welcoming spaces, whereby the council were looking to encourage these to take place again during the winter.

Kate Walker provided an update on Opportunity Bucks. The team were making good progress across 6 wards, including community days, engagement, community clean-ups. Another event was taking place the following week and leaflets were provided to promote this. The Abbey Ward visit was due to take place soon. Projects were starting to take place around traffic calming measures in Castlefield, public art in West Wycombe, family support in Abbey, health checks in Cressex/Booker, a Mindfulness trail in Totteridge, mental health café in Millbrook, Portland house site visit, and conversations with housing associations.

Public questions – Peter raised the issues with bus services in Wycombe, advising that Carousel bus services were looking to source a further single-deck vehicle to fill a gap in service. Arriva routes had been renumbered in an online system, causing issues with reduced bus services, particularly around secondary school journeys. Members were keen to understand the council's policy on this and why were members not informed of changes in service. Officers from the Council and Arriva had been asked to attend the High Wycombe Town Committee to discuss the issues.

Actions            To follow up with officers and arrange further discussions

## **11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

## **12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

13th March 2024

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## Community Boards – Corporate Update – January 2024

### Could you or someone you know foster?

With a national and local shortage of Foster Carers, coupled with an increase in demand, Buckinghamshire Council has set up a dedicated task force to look into how we can improve our support to Foster Carers as well as review our processes and procedures to increase the number of people applying, being approved and staying as a Buckinghamshire Council Foster Carer.

The task force are looking into all options and are working on a package of incentives which will make fostering for Buckinghamshire Council a unique and favourable option in a very competitive market. Following feedback from our current Foster Carers one quick win before Christmas was the issuing of larger size wheely bins to all current foster carers which was a welcomed support for fostering families.

We will also be reaching out to our local community partners and would welcome your insight and help too, to ensure we are reaching more of the right people who could care for our children.

With over 500 Buckinghamshire children needing; caring, supportive and loving homes on long and short term basis we're committed to building our fostering community and taking good care of our fostering families. As our unique offer is developed we will keep you updated and seek your support in reaching your local residents and communities.

If you, or someone you know would like to find out more about Fostering, please visit: [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/foster](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/foster)

### Regeneration framework – what it means for our towns

Our regeneration framework sets out an over-arching approach to deliver our vision to create places where people want to be, driving local revitalisation and creating vibrant, thriving spaces for people to live and work across the county. It sets out the opportunities to build on our strengths as well as the economic and social challenges we need to respond to.

As well as setting out our vision for three town centres – Aylesbury, High Wycombe and Chesham – the regeneration framework provides a toolkit to enable areas to develop and progress their own plans for renewal.

[Buckinghamshire Regeneration Framework guidance](#)

In addition to the Regeneration Framework we set out we have set out more detailed regeneration strategies for our three biggest towns:

View the [Aylesbury Regeneration Strategy](#) (PDF, 11.6 MB)

View the [Chesham Regeneration Strategy](#) (PDF, 8.41 MB)

View the [High Wycombe Regeneration Strategy](#) (PDF 7.87 MB)

## **Our Local Plan: what, why and how**

Local plans are at the heart of the planning system and are the main consideration used in deciding planning applications. A local plan sets out the long-term vision and framework for future development of an area – the Local Plan for Buckinghamshire will go up to 2045.

It will look at future needs for housing and employment across the county, identifying where development should take place and protected places where it needs to be carefully controlled.

The Local Plan is our opportunity to set out how we intend to manage and accommodate future growth, meet our local social, economic and environmental needs and get the right infrastructure in place. We have already started preparatory work with two recent public consultations covering an [Attitudes Survey](#) and our [draft vision and objectives](#).

Our next consultation will invite people to have their say on a selection of different strategic growth scenarios for how we can accommodate new homes and jobs throughout Buckinghamshire. This will help establish the guiding principles which will help to shape where and how we will plan to deliver new housing in the next Local Plan. This is likely to take place in spring this year.

[The Local Plan for Buckinghamshire | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

## **Housing Strategy – vision for future housing supply**

We have recently completed a public consultation on our first Housing Strategy. The strategy sets out how all the partners involved in delivering housing in Buckinghamshire will work together to ensure that the housing offer delivers the housing our residents need. It focuses on three main priorities:

- Responding to the needs of our diverse population
- Better homes which are good quality, sustainable and matched to need
- New homes which are affordable, accessible and appropriate

It sets out the challenges we face, the opportunities we can use and how we are responding to these.

## **Buckinghamshire all-age autism strategy**

Buckinghamshire Council is launching its first autism strategy, bringing together an all-age plan of lifelong support for autistic people in Buckinghamshire. The strategy has been co-produced with autistic people, their families and professionals in Health and Social Care.

Our vision is to help autistic people live as independently as possible and have the same life opportunities and experiences as everyone else. We want to ensure autistic people can

access the right support whenever they need it and contribute to shaping how the council works.

The all-age autism strategy focuses on the following areas:

- Improving awareness and understanding of autism
- Tackling health and social care inequalities
- Developing a needs-based approach so that autistic children and young people get the best start in life
- Developing better support for employment and meaningful activities
- Ensuring more adults with autism maintain their independence

The strategy has been consulted on and is looking to be adopted in March – subject to Cabinet approval.

## Support for residents following King George V House closure

Amersham now has a new Library Council Access Point located in the Chilterns Lifestyle Centre. Chesham Library Council Access Point is also available for residents to visit. At the libraries residents will be able to find out about council services, report, pay or apply for services themselves using our computers, or use our telephones to contact the Council Customer Services team.

For residents looking for more personal support, such as needing assistance to report, pay, or apply for a service, or needing to talk to an advisor in person, our offices in High Wycombe and Aylesbury offer a Council Access Point+ service to help customers with more complex enquiries.

Our Council Access Points offer face-to-face support for residents who need support to access services. For customers who can, contacting the council online or over the phone remains the easiest and quickest way to contact us.

## Consultations

### Happening soon

Activity name	Start date	End date	Community Board
RAF Halton SPD	Monday 22 January	Monday 4 March	Wendover
Penn Neighbourhood Plan	Thursday 25 January	Thursday 7 March	Beaconsfield and Chepping Wye
All Age Carers Strategy engagement	End of Jan/ Early Feb	TBC	County-wide
High Wycombe Community Governance Review	Monday 12 February	Sunday 7 April	High Wycombe

## Looking ahead


We have a number of county-wide activities currently scheduled for Spring/Summer 2024:

- Local Plan growth scenarios
- Local Transport Plan 5
- Buckinghamshire Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan
- Housing Allocations Policy
- All Age Carers Strategy consultation
- Leisure Strategy
- Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy
- Street Trading Policy



# Community Board Profile

Board Name

High Wycombe 



Overview



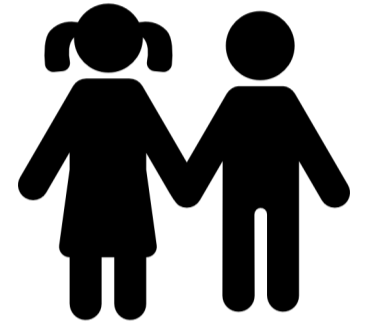
People in your community



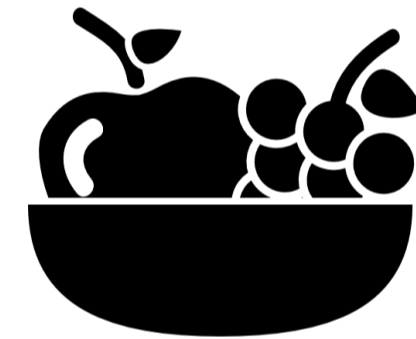
Life expectancy



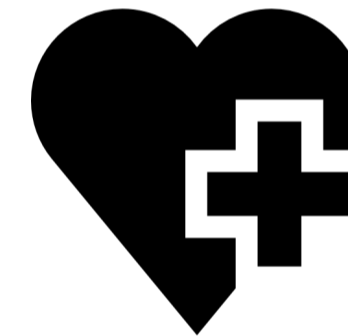
Growing up in your community



Health behaviours



Long term conditions and healthcare usage



Disease registers



Vulnerable groups



Natural built environment



Increasing our prosperity



Improving community safety



References



# Overview

## Why are communities important for our health?

The community we live in is one of the most important factors for our health. We thrive in communities with strong social ties, a feeling of togetherness and a sense of belonging. Our local social, economic and physical environment can affect our health directly, the health behaviours we adopt such as being physically active, and sometimes whether we access health and care services. The local environment we live in is vitally important throughout the whole of our life course. In addition, strong communities will be a key driver for recovery from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The indicators included in this Community Board Profile are all important markers of the health and wellbeing of your community and provide a high level overview from existing data. They highlight areas where things are going well but also importantly where improvements can be made. Some data is provided at geographic levels smaller than community board. For further data please see Local Insight ([Local Insight \(communityinsight.org\)](https://communityinsight.org)) and Local Health ([Local Health - Public Health England](https://www.localhealth.org.uk))

**Please note: If an indicator flags as higher or lower than a comparator this does not suggest statistical significance for that comparison unless stated, therefore will be indicative only.** Future refreshes of this profile will hopefully include more of this detail. The data is mostly pre-COVID and provides a useful baseline of the population needs before the pandemic which can also be used to look at the impact of Covid-19 over time. Communities will have more intelligence on local issues and assets which can be incorporated into the full picture of local needs and how they can best be met.

### Population



There are 75,814 people living in the High Wycombe Community Board area

### Vulnerable groups



15.3% of children are living in poverty in the High Wycombe Community Board area, compared with 9.5% across Buckinghamshire

### Housing



2.1% of households lack central heating in the High Wycombe Community Board area, compared with 1.4% across Buckinghamshire

### Crime and safety



). N.B. A higher number indicates a lower level of Crime deprivation.

### Health and wellbeing



High Wycombe Community Board has a lower life expectancy for men (79.8 years) compared to the Buckinghamshire average of 81.8 years (England average 79.8). The life expectancy for women is lower (83.8 years) compared to the Buckinghamshire average of 85.1 years (England average 83.4).

### Education and skills



19.6% of people have no qualifications in the High Wycombe Community Board area compared with 16.8% across Buckinghamshire

### Economy



8% of people are in receipt of unemployment benefit (JSA and UC) in the High Wycombe Community Board area compared with 4.6% across Buckinghamshire

### Access and transport



20% of households have no car in the High Wycombe Community Board area compared with 12.6% across Buckinghamshire

Return to...

# People in your community

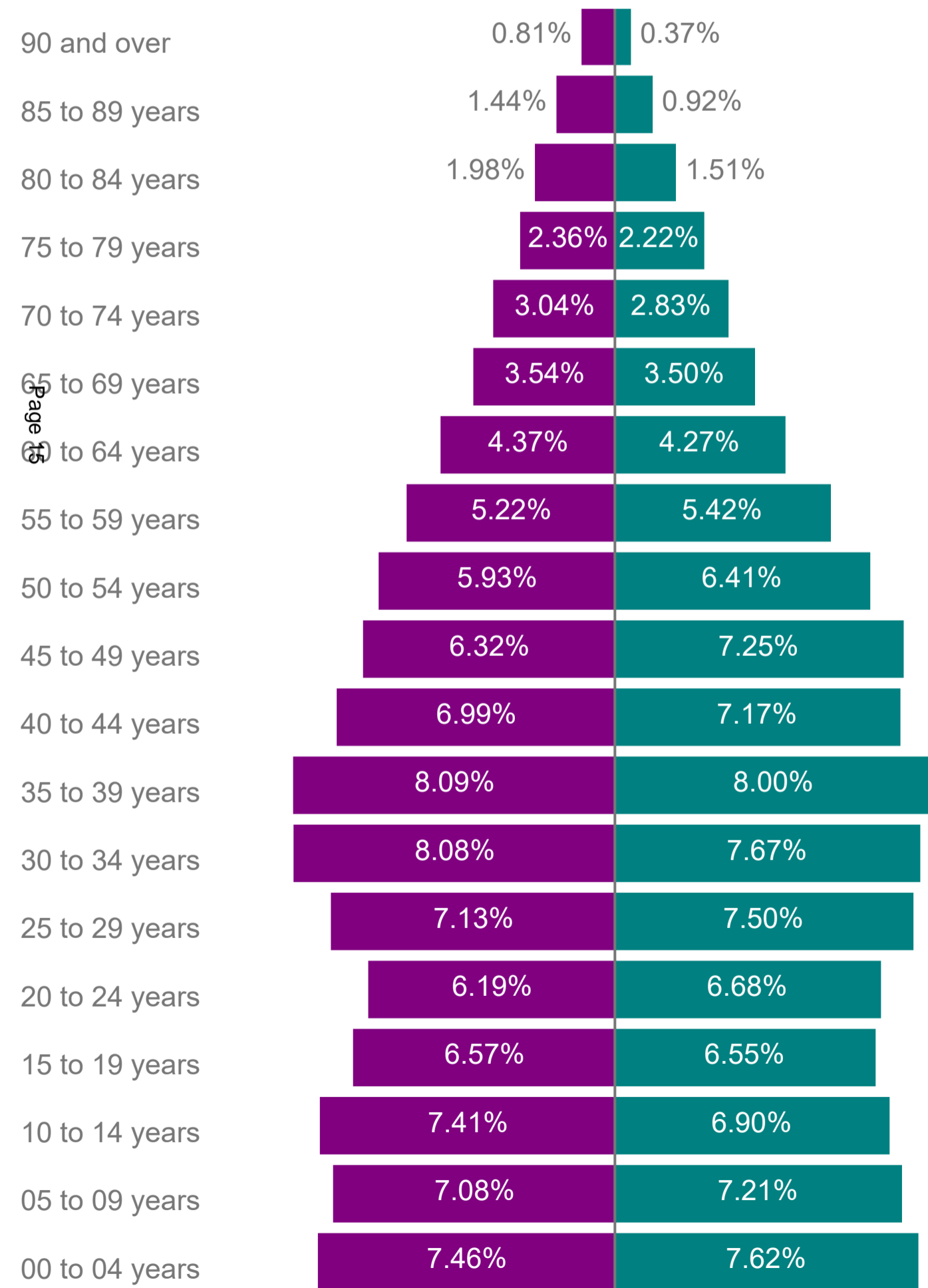
Board Name

High Wycombe

It is important to understand who lives in your community to understand their health and wellbeing. Factors such as age, ethnicity and level of deprivation influence our physical and mental health. Understanding these factors may help decide which interventions may be needed to improve the overall health and wellbeing of the community. For example, areas with higher levels of deprivation are at higher risk of developing multiple long term conditions at a younger age so preventative interventions are needed earlier in the lifecourse.

Age Structure

Female Male

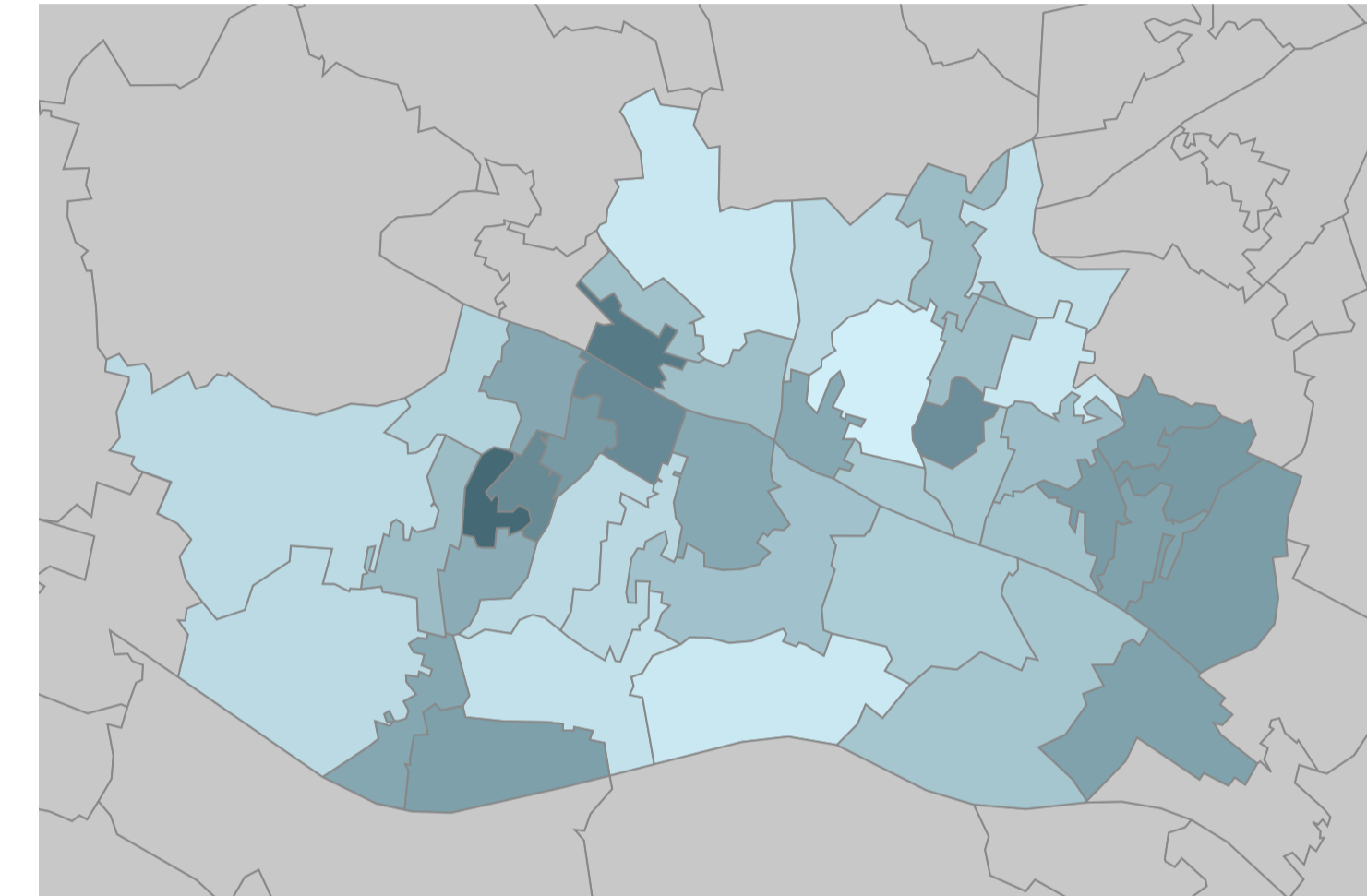
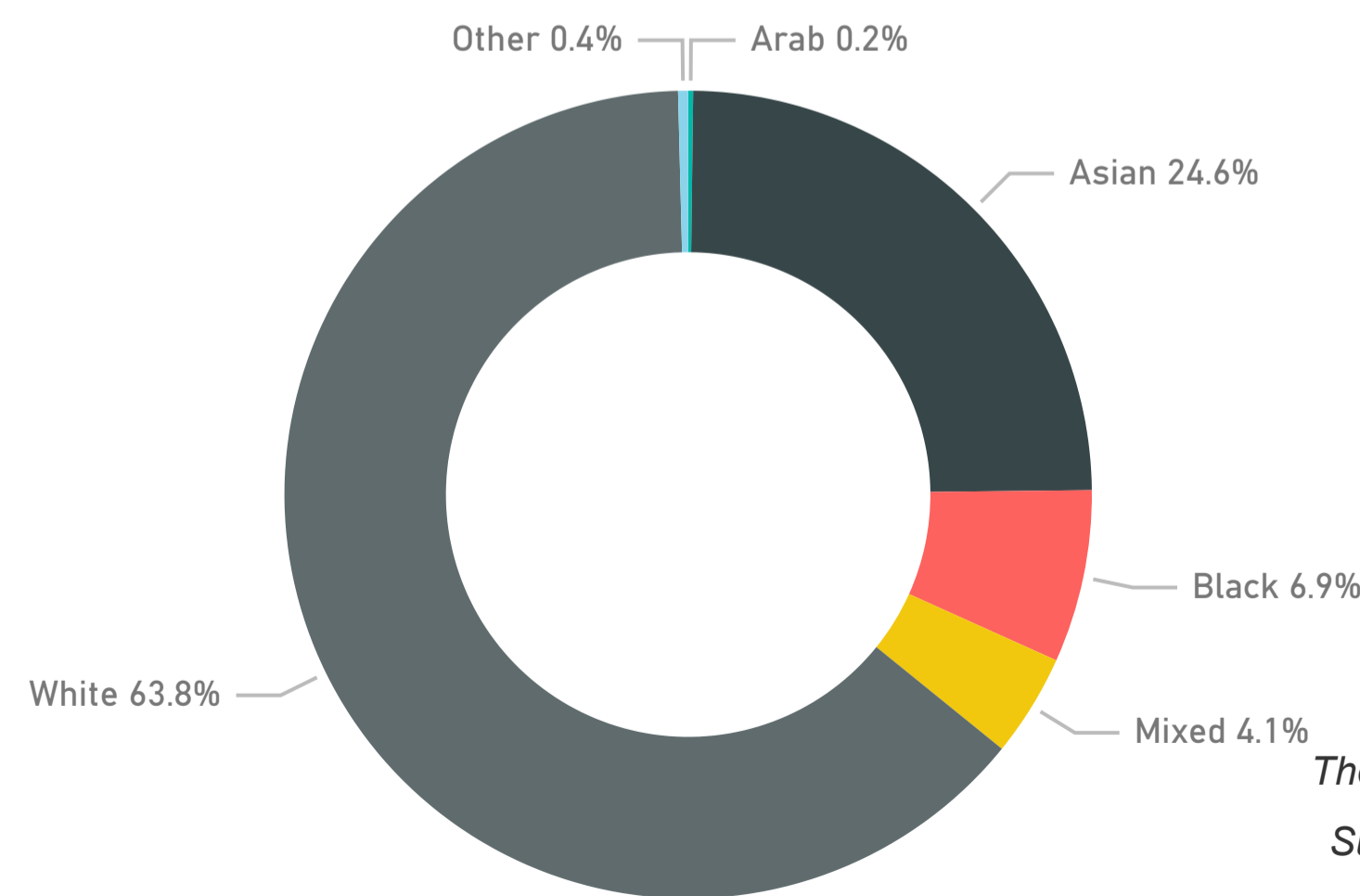


There are 75,814 people living in the High Wycombe Community Board area.

High Wycombe Community Board has more young people than the county average, with 23.2% of the population under 16 years of age (Buckinghamshire average 20.7%, England average 19.2%), and fewer older people than the county average, with 12.3% of the population aged 65+ (Buckinghamshire average 18.9%, England average 18.4%).

High Wycombe Community Board is more ethnically diverse than Buckinghamshire as a whole. Ethnic minorities (excluding white minorities) make up 36.3% of the population compared with 13.6% in Buckinghamshire overall, and 14.6% in England.

Ethnicity



less deprived more deprived

The Indices of Multiple Deprivation is a relative measure of deprivation of small areas. A higher score indicates an area is experiencing higher deprivation.

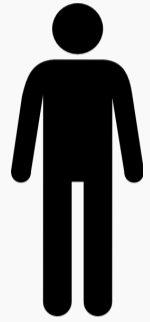
High Wycombe Community Board has a deprivation score of 15.7 within Buckinghamshire (Buckinghamshire as a whole is 10.1). The map shows the pockets of higher deprivation across this community board.

The maps do not match the Community Board boundary exactly. Data is being presented by the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) covering the Community Board. These are geographic areas with a mean population of 1,500 people and their boundaries can cross the Community Boards boundaries. The interactive profile will enable the maps to be explored in more detail.

Board Name

High Wycombe

Life expectancy at birth (males) by MSOA



This visual does not support exporting.

79.8

High Wycombe

81.8

Buckinghamshire

79.8

England

# Life Expectancy

Life expectancy is a summary measure of illness and death in an area. It provides an estimation of how many years a newborn baby would expect to live based on current death rates.

High Wycombe Community Board has a lower life expectancy for men (79.8 years) compared to the Buckinghamshire average of 81.8 years (England average 79.8).

The life expectancy for women is lower (83.8 years) compared to the Buckinghamshire average of 85.1 years (England average 83.4).

### Impact of COVID

Data presented here is pre-COVID and looks at life expectancy up to 2019. Given the very high level of excess deaths due to the COVID-19 pandemic, life expectancy fell in 2020 across the country.

Compared with 2019, life expectancy in England in 2020 was 1.3 years lower for males and 0.9 years lower for females. In Buckinghamshire it was 1.3 years lower for males and 1.5 years lower for females.

This drop in life expectancy has not been experienced equally across the country and national analysis shows more deprived areas have seen a larger drop which has resulted in greater inequalities in 2020.

The maps do not match the Community Board boundary exactly. Data is being presented by the Middle Super Output Areas (MSOA) covering the Community Board. These are geographic areas with a mean population of 7,200 people and their boundaries cross the Community Boards. The interactive profile will enable the maps to be explored in more detail.

Life expectancy at birth (females) by MSOA



This visual does not support exporting.

83.8

High Wycombe

85.1

Buckinghamshire

83.4

England



# Growing up in your community

Board Name

High Wycombe

What happens in pregnancy and early childhood impacts on physical and mental health all the way to adulthood. Important factors in the early years include being born at a healthy birth weight, growing up in a household with sufficient income, receiving a good education and adopting healthy behaviours from childhood.



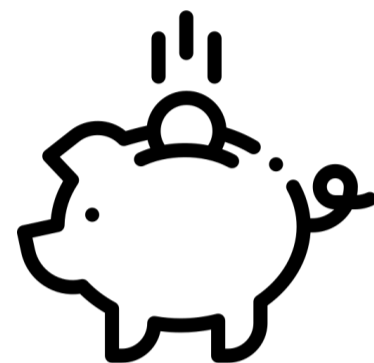
Births (2019)

## 1.109

Low Birthweight  
babies

## 10.6%

Low birthweight increases the risks of childhood death, developmental problems and is associated with poorer health in later life. High Wycombe Community Board had 1109 births in the latest year. Of these births 10.6% had a low birthweight, which is higher than the Buckinghamshire average of 6.8% (England average 6.8%).



Children aged 0-19 in  
absolute low income families

## 16.9%

There is a higher proportion of children in absolute low income families (16.9%) compared to the Buckinghamshire average of 9.9% (England average 15.9%).

Absolute low income is a family in low income Before Housing Costs (BHC). A family must have claimed one or more of Universal Credit, Tax Credits or Housing Benefit at any point in the year to be classed as low income.



Child excess weight Year 6

## 39.4%

39.4% of children in year 6 (ages 10 and 11 years), are overweight or obese compared to 31.1% in Buckinghamshire as a whole.

The risk of obesity in adulthood and future obesity-related ill-health are greater as children get older.



School Readiness and Attainment data is not currently available due to Covid-19

# Health behaviours

Board Name

High Wycombe

The four main health behaviours – smoking, physical inactivity, unhealthy diet and alcohol misuse - account for 40% of all years lived with ill health and disability. Addressing these four behaviours could lead to a reduction by up to 75% in new cases of heart disease, stroke and type 2 diabetes and a reduction of 40% in new cases of cancer.

The pandemic has led to a rise in unhealthy behaviours. A local survey in Buckinghamshire, following the first lockdown, found 22% of respondents said they were drinking more alcohol during lockdown, a fifth (20%) said they were eating less healthy and nutritious food and more than a third (38%) were doing less exercise. National surveys show 40% of the population gained weight during the pandemic and demand for drug and alcohol services increased. In Buckinghamshire, this demand increased by 15% for alcohol services over 2020.



Adult Obesity

Data will be added to this section once available



Adults who are physically inactive

## 24.5%

- higher proportion of adults who are physically inactive (24.5%) compared to the Buckinghamshire average (20.3%)



Smoking

Data will be added to this section once available



Treatment for drugs and alcohol (rate per 100,000 population)

## 181.2

- higher rate of residents (per 100,000 population) receiving treatment for alcohol and non-opiate misuse (181) than the county overall (134)

**Data on disease registers will be added to this section once available.**

# Long term conditions and healthcare use

Board Name

High Wycombe

Long term conditions not only cause significant amounts of poor health to individuals but they also lead to higher use of health care and social care. These conditions are often preventable by adopting healthy behaviours, but also through dedicated prevention strategies such as the NHS Health Checks programme. In addition, people with some long term conditions, such as heart disease, are at higher risk of poorer outcomes following infection with coronavirus (COVID-19).

## Emergency Hospital Admissions 2019/20 by illness - Directly Standardised Rate per 100,000 population

Board Name	All	Cancer*	Cardiovascular	Dementia	Mental Health*	Respiratory	Under 5 years
Amersham	8,690	148.4	642.1	566.3	83.8	1,110	19,786
Aylesbury	12,888	242.8	1,014.5	604.0	118.7	1,719	24,439
Beaconsfield and Chepping Wye	8,578	179.9	715.8	471.3	77.6	1,165	19,977
Beeches	10,896	182.0	870.8	586.1	88.9	1,501	19,811
Buckingham and Villages	9,083	230.0	824.3	560.2	75.5	1,293	24,213
Chesham and Villages	9,739	167.7	765.1	524.7	72.0	1,374	23,095
Denham, Gerrards Cross and Chalfonts	9,660	221.9	751.0	516.7	62.0	1,445	20,054
Haddenham and Waddesdon	10,243	193.3	779.7	558.3	48.7	1,238	24,004
High Wycombe	12,494	220.9	1,077.4	795.1	112.9	1,811	26,102
Missendens	9,119	152.8	721.5	420.5	77.5	1,068	25,942
North West Chilterns	10,116	169.4	738.2	477.6	82.0	1,262	23,716
South West Chilterns	8,981	141.6	744.9	481.0	50.7	1,236	20,943
Wendover	10,067	219.5	724.7	449.1	61.8	1,247	20,169
Wexham and Ivers	10,909	212.2	1,024.7	622.3	106.5	1,394	19,865
Wing and Ivinghoe	10,422	194.7	799.6	599.2	107.0	1,261	22,031
Winslow and Villages	9,288	184.2	676.8	606.8	64.7	1,473	27,156
Buckinghamshire	10,283	193.3	819.0	549.9	84.6	1,389	23,042

## NHS Health Checks



960

Uptake 2019/20

36.7%

NHS Health Checks (%)

High Wycombe Community Board (where a rank of 1 out of 16 indicates higher emergency admissions):

- Ranks 2 for emergency admissions overall
- Ranks 4 for cancer emergency admissions
- Ranks 1 for cardiovascular emergency admissions
- Ranks 1 for dementia emergency admissions
- Ranks 2 for mental health emergency admissions
- Ranks 2 for under 5 years emergency admissions
- Ranks 1 for respiratory emergency admissions

The admissions data in this profile is pre-Covid-19 and covers 2019/20 (\*due to smaller numbers for cancer and mental health emergency admissions, in a single year, data presented for these covers 2017 to 2019). Data is presented showing whether the rate is statistically significantly different to the Buckinghamshire average.

The NHS Health Check programme aims to help prevent heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease. A high take up is important to identify early signs of poor health leading to opportunities for early interventions. High Wycombe Community Board had a lower uptake of health checks (36.7%) compared with the Buckinghamshire average (43.8%).

The standardised rates used here are taking into account differences in ages of populations so comparisons across areas can be made. The rates above are based on number of admissions per 100,000 population - all age population is used for all except under 5 admissions. **Red** indicates the admission rate calculated is statistically significantly higher than the Buckinghamshire average, **Amber** indicates the rate is similar and **Green** indicates the rate is significantly lower.

Source: Long term conditions - HES data extracted from NHS Digital Data Access Environment (DAE) (2019/20); Office for National Statistics (ONS) mid-year population estimate for relevant year; TCR (Nottingham) Quest Health Checks Reporting; and Buckinghamshire Public Health Intelligence.

Board Name

High Wycombe

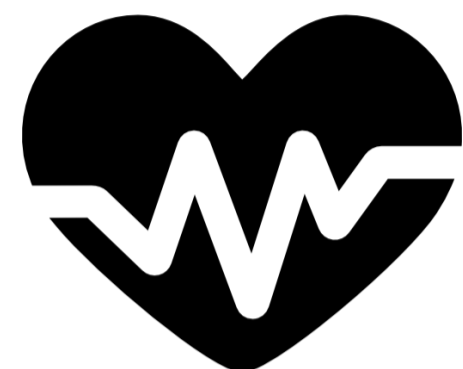
# Disease registers

Estimated % of people registered at GP practices on disease registers by community board (2021)



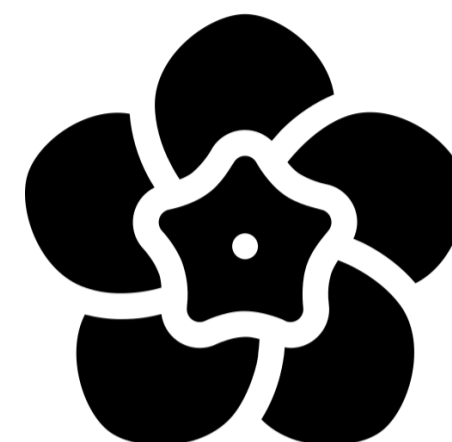
Cancer

2.7%



Coronary Heart Disease

2.6%



Dementia

0.6%



Depression 18+ yrs

12.6%



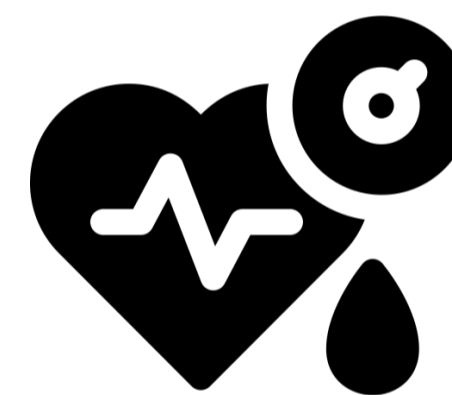
Diabetes 17+ yrs

7.7%



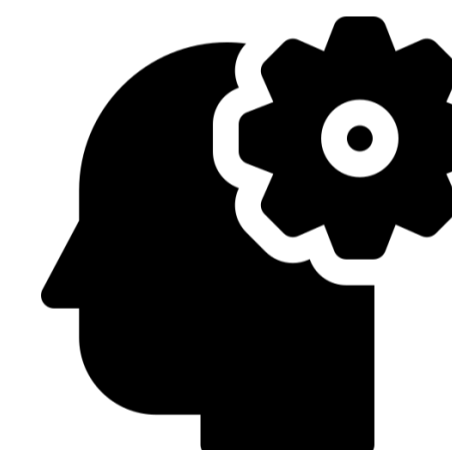
Heart Failure

0.6%



Hypertension

12.7%



Mental Illness\*

1.0%

This data represents estimates at a community board level based on published QOF disease register data at [GP level](#). The methodology uses this data to estimate at a community board level by looking at where the patients of each of those practices live across each community board.

These figures only represent the people who have been diagnosed by their GP. When comparing different community boards note that this figure doesn't take the age of the population into account. Boards with younger populations should have lower prevalences of most diseases.

High Wycombe Community Board has a higher proportion of adults diagnosed with Depression, Diabetes (age 17+), Mental Illness (schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses), and a lower proportion of adults diagnosed with Cancer, Coronary Heart Disease, De...

# Vulnerable groups

Board Name

High Wycombe

Individuals in certain vulnerable groups (e.g. those who are living on low income, socially isolated or unemployed) experience worse mental and physical health outcomes compared with the general population. For example, people living in more deprived circumstances are more likely to have multiple long term conditions and develop these at a younger age compared to those living in least deprived circumstances. The Covid-19 pandemic also continues to have wider impacts on communities including social, educational and economic impacts which affect health and wellbeing. These impacts have also not been experienced equally across the population and many have increased existing health inequalities.



Personal debt  
(unsecured loans) per  
person aged 18+

**£751.90**

Page 21

Personal debt in the High Wycombe Community Board area (£751.91) is greater than the Buckinghamshire average (£751.71), and greater than the England average (£661.90).



Unemployment Benefit  
Claimants

**7.0%**

High Wycombe Community Board has a higher proportion of unemployment benefit claimants (7.0%) compared to the Buckinghamshire average (3.9%), and a higher proportion than the England average (5.6%).



Food Insecurity

**13,136**

Residents living in households at higher  
risk of food insecurity (Dec 2020)

High Wycombe Community Board residents have an above average risk of food insecurity compared to the county overall. 13,136 residents are living in households at a higher risk of food insecurity (17.3% of the Community Board population). This compares with 72,275 people in Buckinghamshire overall (13.2% of the county population). Food insecurity encompasses both the affordability of food and its accessibility within local communities and this measure uses a range of data sources, more details in referen...

# Vulnerable groups (2)

Board Name

High Wycombe

People who experience social isolation and loneliness are more likely to experience depression and anxiety, be physically inactive, smoke and drink alcohol, have an increased risk of heart disease and dementia, and die prematurely. Adults most at risk of being lonely, and increasingly over the pandemic, have one or more of the following characteristics: they are young, living alone, on low incomes, out of work and, or with a mental health condition.

Probability of loneliness (65+) by LSOA (a value closer to 0 predicts a greater prevalence of loneliness)



This visual does not support exporting.

Data is difficult to collect on social isolation and loneliness. The indicator presented on this page shows an estimate of risk of being lonely in the older age groups at small area geographies within the community board area.

Loneliness and social isolation can affect people of all ages though, including children, and can have a significant impact on health and wellbeing. Nationally, people aged 16 to 24 years were more likely to say they felt lonely than any other age group. During October 2020 and February 2021 an estimated 11.8% of the Buckinghamshire population (16+ years) reported feeling lonely.

The probability of loneliness in those aged 65 years and over in High Wycombe is higher (-3.97) than the Buckinghamshire average (-4.18). The average for England is -3.9. A value closer to 0 predicts a greater prevalence of loneliness.

In addition, the proportion of working age residents receiving personal independence payments (PIP) is higher (3.8%) than the Buckinghamshire average (3.2%) and lower than the England average (6.2%).



3.8%

Personal Independence Payment (PIP)

# Natural built environment

Board Name

High Wycombe

Being in contact with the natural environment is vital for our mental wellbeing and physical health at all ages. Air pollution contributes to a range of poor health outcomes including low birth weight babies, stroke, dementia, lung disease and heart disease. The environment affects our mental health and ability to adopt healthy behaviours such as being physically active.



Median house price

## £321,196

## Proportion of dwelling stock in each Council Tax band

Board Name	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	Band I
High Wycombe	2.9	21.6	41.6	18.8	8.4	4.4	2.3	0.0	0.00

## Total Carbon footprint per person (kg)



8,813kg

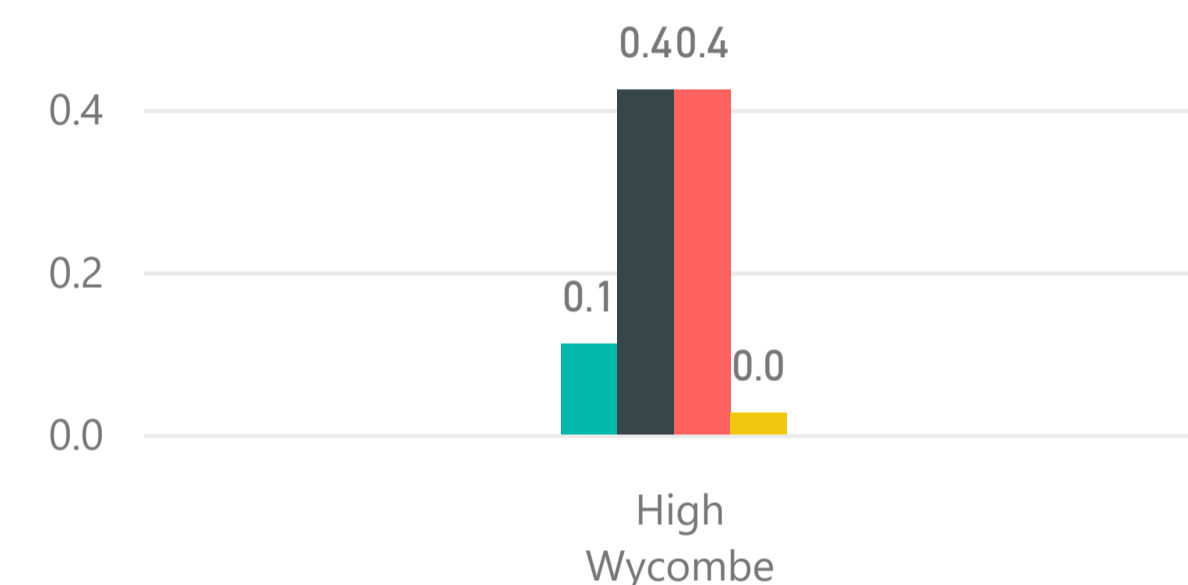
High Wycombe

11,166kg

Buckinghamshire

## Air quality deprivation score

● Benzene ● Nitrogen di... ● Particulates ● Sulphur dio...



The median house price in High Wycombe (£321,196) is lower than the Buckinghamshire average (£472,944), and higher than the England average (£297,067)

The Indices of Deprivation (IoD) 2019 Air Quality measure is an estimate of the concentration of pollutants. Overall, the High Wycombe Community Board Area has a higher concentration of air pollutants than the Buckinghamshire average, and a higher concentration than the England average.

- higher concentration of Benzene (0.112) than the Buckinghamshire average (0.093)
- higher concentration of Nitrogen Dioxide (0.424) than the Buckinghamshire average (0.377)
- higher concentration of Particulates (0.424) than the Buckinghamshire average (0.407)
- higher concentration of Sulphur Dioxide (0.027) than the Buckinghamshire average (0.026)

Board Name

High Wycombe

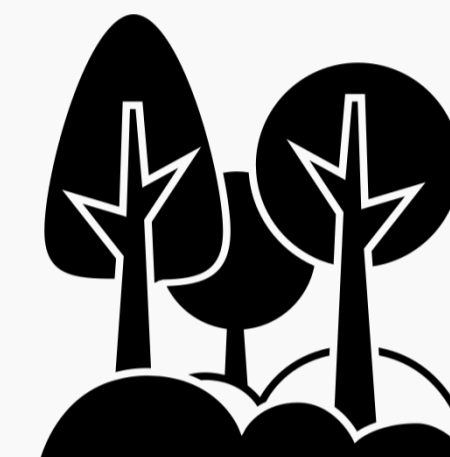
# Natural built environment (2)

The Office for National Statistics Health Index ([Health Index \(lcp.uk.com\)](http://lcp.uk.com)) measures how healthy people are today and also looks at wider social and economic circumstances that will influence peoples ability to live healthy lives. For Buckinghamshire as a whole the index highlights public green space and access to green space for residents below the national average. The two maps on this page show the council services and the accessible green space in this community board area.

Council services



Accessible green space



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- Allotments Or Community Growing Spaces
- Bowling Green
- Cemetery
- Golf Course
- Other Sports Facility
- Play Space
- Playing Field
- Public Park Or Garden
- Religious Grounds
- Tennis Court



# Increasing our prosperity

Board Name

High Wycombe



Broadband speed (Mbit/s)

34.0

Shows the average broadband download linespeed (Mbit/s) for connections in the area.

The broadband speed in High Wycombe Community Board is slower than the average for Buckinghamshire (39.9 Mbit/s) and slower than the national average (England, 45.1 Mbit/s).



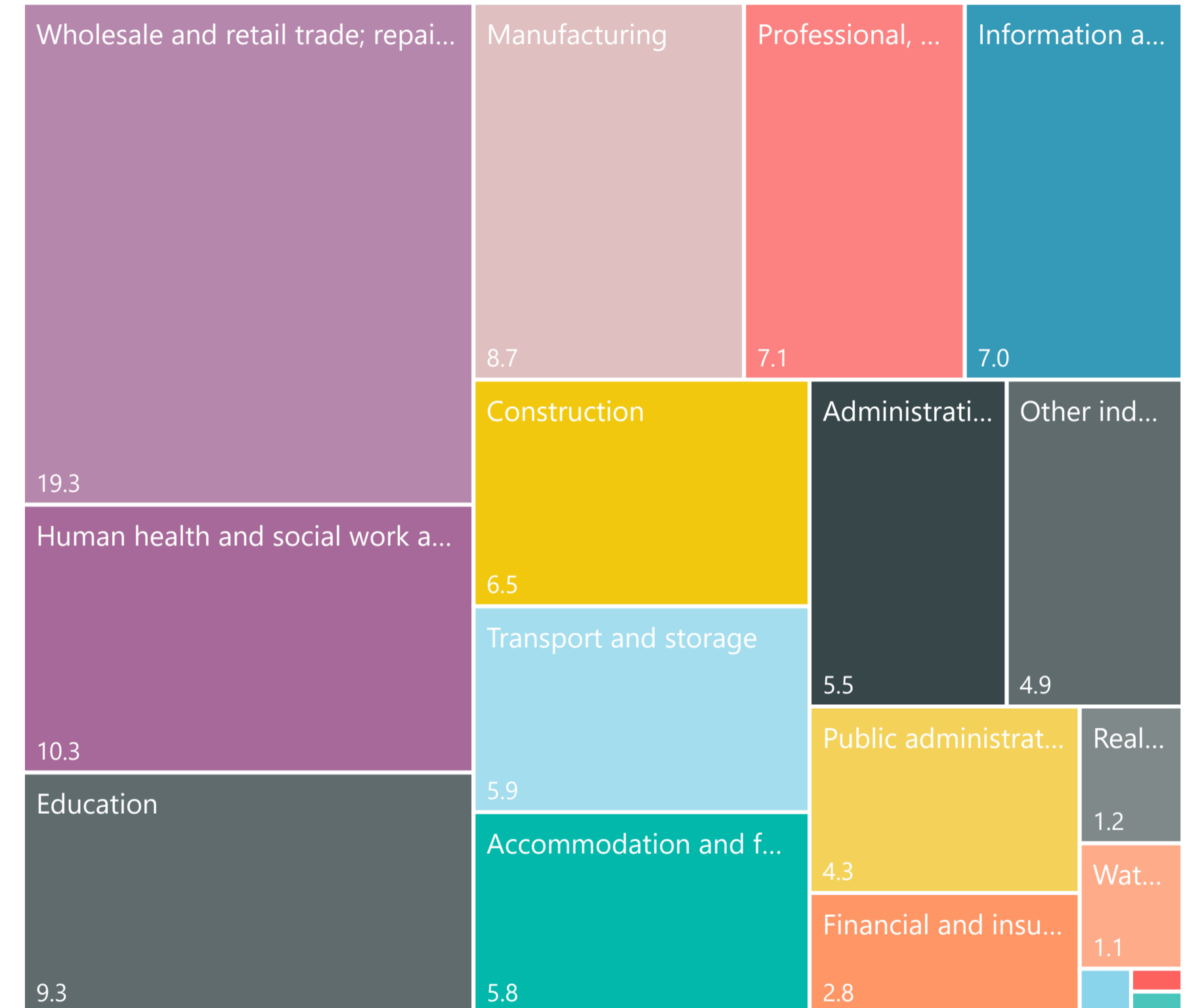
Jobs density (%)

86.6

Shows the number of jobs located in the local area as a percentage of the working age population in that area

High Wycombe has a higher jobs density (86.6%) than Buckinghamshire (74.7%). The overall jobs density for England is 78.1%.

Industry Type



Shows the proportion of people in employment aged 16-74 working in each industrial sector

Return to...

# Improving community safety

Board Name

High Wycombe



Safer  
Buckinghamshire  
Partnership  
Priorities

Resilience in the  
Community

Protecting the  
Vulnerable

Reducing crime  
linked to Drugs,  
Alcohol and Mental  
Health

Tackling Domestic  
Violence and Abuse

Preventing  
Offending



## High Wycombe Community Board

Crime rates (per 1,000 residents)

Board Name	ASB	Burglary	Drug crime	Vehicle crime	Violent crime and sexual offences	Total crime offences	Domestic Violence and Abuse
Amersham	7.90	8.60	1.9	4.7	16.6	53.70	7.00
Aylesbury	12.70	5.60	4.7	4.1	31.6	83.10	11.20
Beaconsfield and Chepping Wye	9.10	7.90	1.5	4.4	17.2	53.30	5.90
Beeches	8.60	12.90	1.9	7.6	23.6	69.60	8.80
Buckingham and Villages	5.00	7.30	1.5	3.2	19.9	47.30	8.70
Chesham and Villages	12.60	10.40	2.6	5.1	25.8	74.00	11.30
Denham, Gerrards Cross and Chalfonts	9.30	11.90	2.6	8.0	18.1	65.30	7.30
Haddenham and Waddesdon	4.30	9.80	1.0	3.0	13.1	35.50	6.20
High Wycombe	13.60	7.60	4.1	6.0	34.6	92.00	14.30
Missendens	7.90	7.00	1.1	2.5	14.2	42.70	6.20
North West Chilterns	6.40	5.00	1.3	4.2	15.6	42.60	7.50
South West Chilterns	8.80	7.20	1.3	5.0	18.4	56.90	7.90
Wendover	6.60	4.10	1.2	3.5	16.1	44.70	7.60
Wexham and Ivers	8.60	12.60	2.5	11.8	24.7	86.40	13.20
Wing and Ivinghoe	6.80	6.60	1.2	3.9	15.9	42.70	5.00
Winslow and Villages	3.30	7.80	0.7	3.6	14.8	36.70	6.10
Buckinghamshire	9.10	7.90	2.3	5.0	22.0	62.50	
South East	21.80	8.80	2.8	4.4	29.7	90.00	
England	29.30	10.70	3.1	5.4	29.2	99.70	

### - Ranks 1 for incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour

*Includes behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress, such as littering, public drunkenness, noisy neighbours, aggressive dogs and vandalism. Some, but not all, ASB may also be a crime.*

### - Ranks 9 for Burglary crime

*Includes theft, or attempted theft, from a premise where access is not authorised. Both residential and commercial premises are included*

### - Ranks 2 for Drug crimes

*Includes possession, consumption, supply of or the intent to supply illegal drugs.*

### - Ranks 4 for Vehicle crime

*Includes theft of, theft from, or tampering with a vehicle.*

### - Ranks 1 for Violent crime and sexual offences

*Includes a range of offences from harassment and common assault, to grievous bodily harm and all sexual offences.*

### - Ranks 1 for Domestic Violence and Abuse

*Includes occurrences from any of the crime types that are deemed to be related to Domestic Abuse. DVA occurrences are a subset of other crime type rather than an additional crime type.*

# Improving community safety (2)

Board Name

High Wycombe

### Crime rates (per 1,000 residents)



Antisocial Behaviour

13.6



Burglary

7.6



Drug crime

4.1



Total Crime Offences

92



Vehicle crime

6.0



Violent crime and sexual offences

34.6



Domestic Violence and Abuse

14.3

Outcome Rate %	
Aylesbury Vale LPA:	17%
Chiltern & South Bucks LPA:	14%
Wycombe LPA:	15%

Outcome rate (%) is the proportion of 'Positive Outcomes' a Local Policing Area (LPA) has achieved as defined by the Home Office.

The overall crime rate in High Wycombe Community Board area is higher than the Buckinghamshire average and lower than the England average.

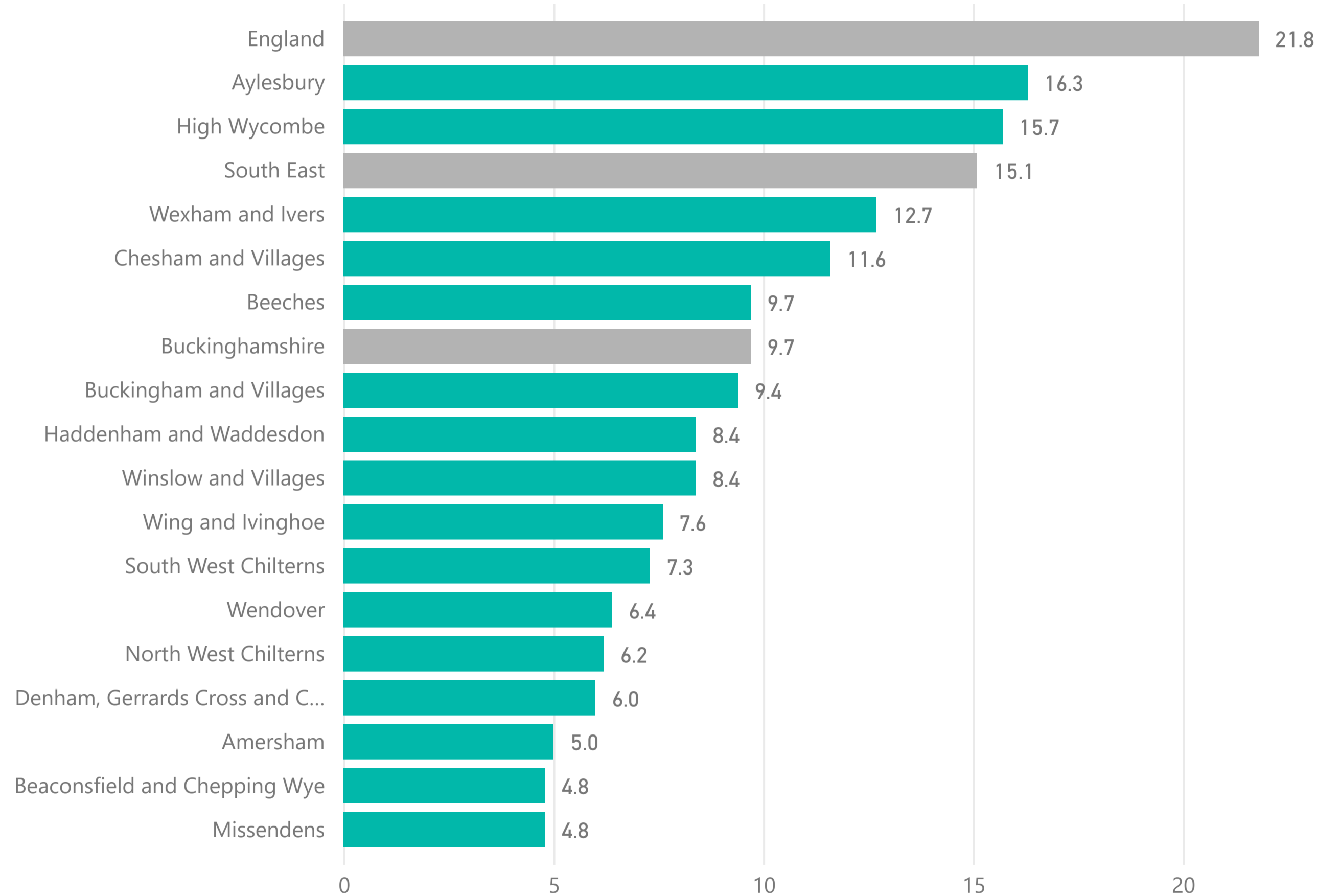
Compared to the Buckinghamshire average, High Wycombe Community Board has a higher rate of Anti-social Behaviour, Drug Crime, Vehicle Crime, Violent Crime and Sexual Offences, Domestic Violence and Abuse, and a lower rate of Burglary.

# Improving community safety (3)

Board Name

High Wycombe

## Indices of Deprivation 2019 Score



High Wycombe has a higher IMD score than Buckinghamshire, suggesting it has a higher level of deprivation.

The Indices of Deprivation are a relative measure of deprivation across England. The overall Index of Multiple Deprivation combines together indicators under seven different domains of deprivation: Income Deprivation; Employment Deprivation; Education Skills and Training Deprivation; Health Deprivation and Disability; Crime; Barriers to Housing and Services and Living Environment Deprivation. A higher score indicates that an area is experiencing high levels of deprivation.

# Improving community safety (4)

## Residents Community Safety Survey 2021

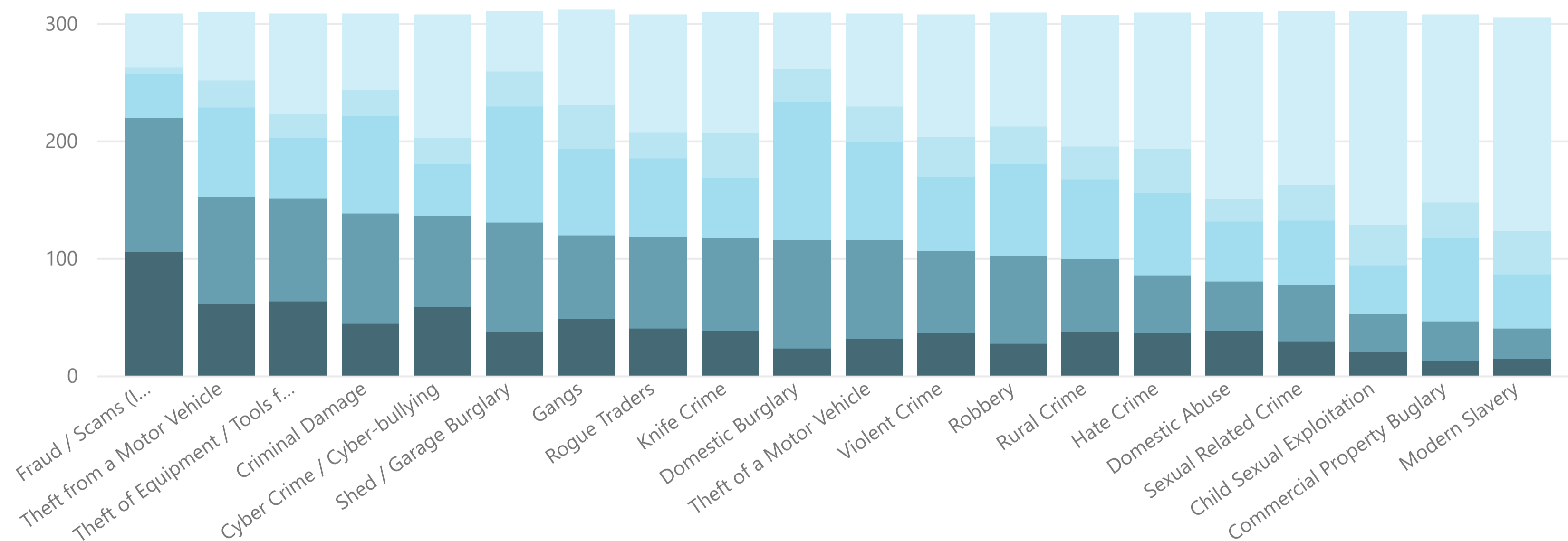
The Residents Community Safety Survey 2021 was published on Citizenspace for four weeks from 24th September to 22nd October 2021. The survey received a total of 1,041 responses (approximately 0.2% of the Buckinghamshire population). 313 of these responses could be located to residents living in the Local Policing Area (LPA) of Wycombe.

The survey asked questions about the respondents' level of concern regarding crime, antisocial behaviour, drugs and feeling safe in the community. The following pages present a summary of the responses to each of these questions.

**In relation to crime, please tell us how much of a problem the following issues have been in the area that you live or work, over the past year**

● A Very Big Problem 
 ● A Fairly Big Problem 
 ● Not a Very Big Problem 
 ● Not a Problem 
 ● Don't Know

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### Top concerns related to crime 2021 - Wycombe LPA

Type of Crime	% of Big or Fairly Big Concerns
Fraud / Scams (Including Online)	71%
Theft from a Motor Vehicle	49%
Theft of Equipment / Tools from Van	49%
Criminal Damage	45%
Cyber Crime / Cyber-bullying	44%

### Top concerns related to crime 2021 - Buckinghamshire

Type of Crime	% of Big or Fairly Big Concerns
Fraud / Scams (Including Online)	69%
Theft of Equipment / Tools from Van	49%
Theft from a Motor Vehicle	48%
Cyber Crime / Cyber-bullying	44%
Criminal Damage	43%

Breaking down responses by Community Board is not possible, as the numbers of responses in the some of the Community Boards would not be sufficiently robust for analysis. It should also be noted that the respondents were self selecting rather than a random sample, which may result in bias towards some demographics.

The Aylesbury Vale LPA covers the following Community Boards; Aylesbury, Buckingham and Villages, Haddenham and Waddesdon, Wendover, Wing and Ivinghoe and Winslow and Villages. The Chiltern & South Bucks LPA covers the following Community Boards; Amersham, Beaconsfield and Chepping Wye, Beeches, Chesham and Villages, Denham, Gerrards Cross and Chalfonts, Missendens and Wexham and Ivers. The Wycombe LPA covers the following Community Boards; High Wycombe, North West Chilterns and South West Chilterns.

# Improving community safety (5)

## Residents Community Safety Survey 2021

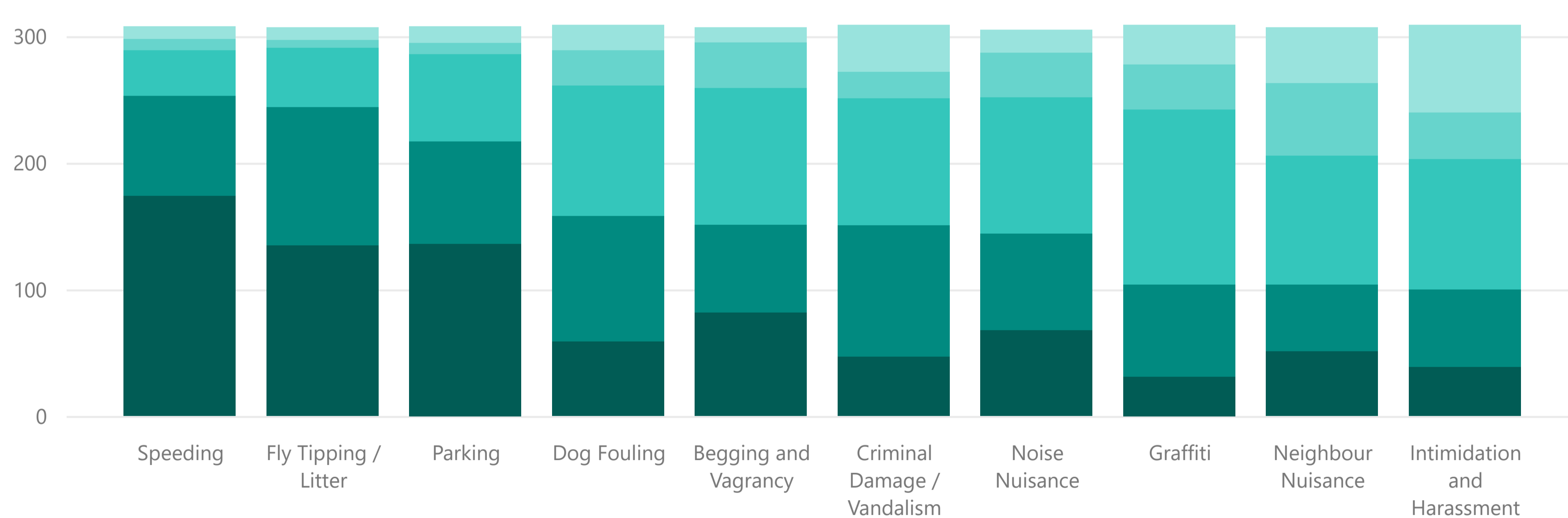
The Residents Community Safety Survey 2021 was published on Citizenspace for four weeks from 24th September to 22nd October 2021. The survey received a total of 1,041 responses (approximately 0.2% of the Buckinghamshire population). 313 of these responses could be located to residents living in the Local Policing Area (LPA) of Wycombe.

The survey asked questions about the respondents' level of concern regarding crime, antisocial behaviour, drugs and feeling safe in the community. The following pages present a summary of the responses to each of these questions.

**In relation to anti-social behaviour, please tell us how much of a problem you feel the following issues are in the area that you live or work, over the past year**

● A Very Big Problem ● A Fairly Big Problem ● Not a Very Big Problem ● Not a Problem ● Don't Know

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### Top concerns related to ASB 2021 - Wycombe LPA

Type of ASB	% of Big or Fairly Big Concerns
Speeding	82%
Fly Tipping / Litter	79%
Parking	70%
Dog Fouling	51%
Begging and Vagrancy	49%

### Top concerns related to ASB 2021 - Buckinghamshire

Type of ASB	% of Big or Fairly Big Concerns
Speeding	77%
Fly Tipping / Litter	76%
Parking	64%
Dog Fouling	51%
Criminal Damage / Vandalism	43%

Breaking down responses by Community Board is not possible, as the numbers of responses in the some of the Community Boards would not be sufficiently robust for analysis. It should also be noted that the respondents were self selecting rather than a random sample, which may result in bias towards some demographics.

Board Name

High Wycombe

# Improving community safety (6)

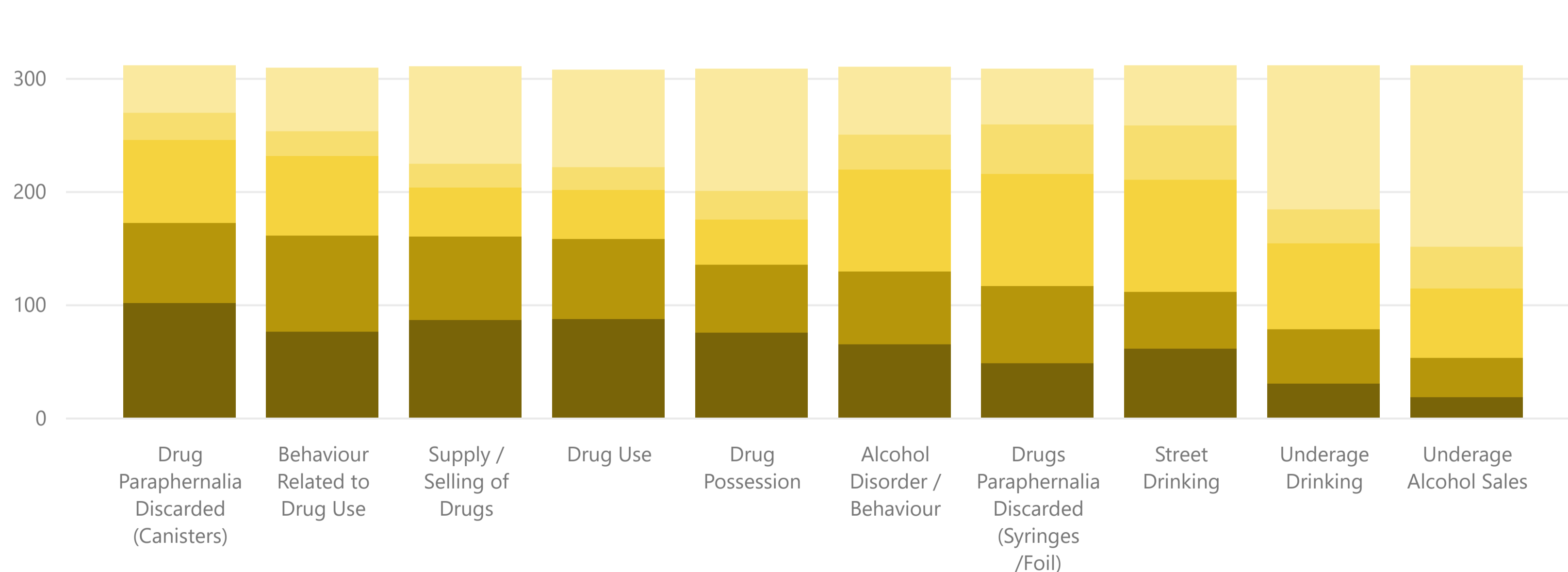
## Residents Community Safety Survey 2021

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The survey asked questions about the respondents' level of concern regarding crime, antisocial behaviour, drugs and feeling safe in the community. The following pages present a summary of the responses to each of these questions.

**In relation to drugs and alcohol, please tell us how much of a problem you feel the following issues are in the area that you live or work, over the past year**

● A Very Big Problem ● A Fairly Big Problem ● Not a Very Big Problem ● Not a Problem ● Don't Know



### Top concerns related to drugs 2021 - Wycombe LPA

Type of Crime	% of Big or Fairly Big Concerns
Drug Paraphernalia Discarded (Canisters)	55%
Behaviour Related to Drug Use	52%
Supply / Selling of Drugs	52%
Drug Use	51%
Drug Possession	44%

### Top concerns related to drugs 2021 - Buckinghamshire

Type of Crime	% of Big or Fairly Big Concerns
Drug Paraphernalia Discarded (Canisters)	47%
Supply / Selling of Drugs	43%
Drug Use	43%
Behaviour Related to Drug Use	43%
Drug Possession	37%

Breaking down responses by Community Board is not possible, as the numbers of responses in the some of the Community Boards would not be sufficiently robust for analysis. It should also be noted that the respondents were self selecting rather than a random sample, which may result in bias towards some demographics.

The Aylesbury Vale LPA covers the following Community Boards; Aylesbury, Buckingham and Villages, Haddenham and Waddesdon, Wendover, Wing and Ivinghoe and Winslow and Villages. The Chiltern & South Bucks LPA covers the following Community Boards; Amersham, Beaconsfield and Chepping Wye, Beeches, Chesham and Villages, Denham, Gerrards Cross and Chalfonts, Missendens and Wexham and Ivers. The Wycombe LPA covers the following Community Boards; High Wycombe, North West Chilterns and South West Chilterns.

# Improving community safety (7)

## Residents Community Safety Survey 2021

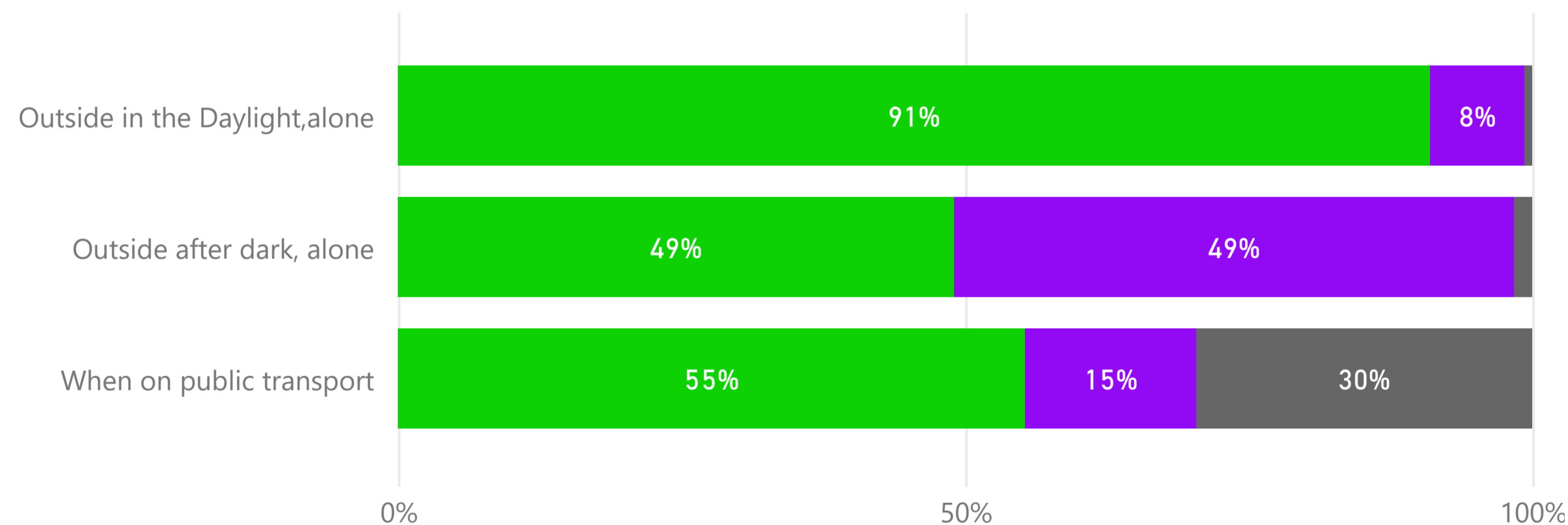
The Residents Community Safety Survey 2021 was published on Citizenspace for four weeks from 24th September to 22nd October 2021. The survey received a total of 1,041 responses (approximately 0.2% of the Buckinghamshire population). 313 of these responses could be located to residents living in the Local Policing Area (LPA) of Wycombe.

The survey asked questions about the respondents' level of concern regarding crime, antisocial behaviour, drugs and feeling safe in the community. The following pages present a summary of the responses to each of these questions.

### Thinking of the scenarios below, how safe or unsafe do you feel in your local area?

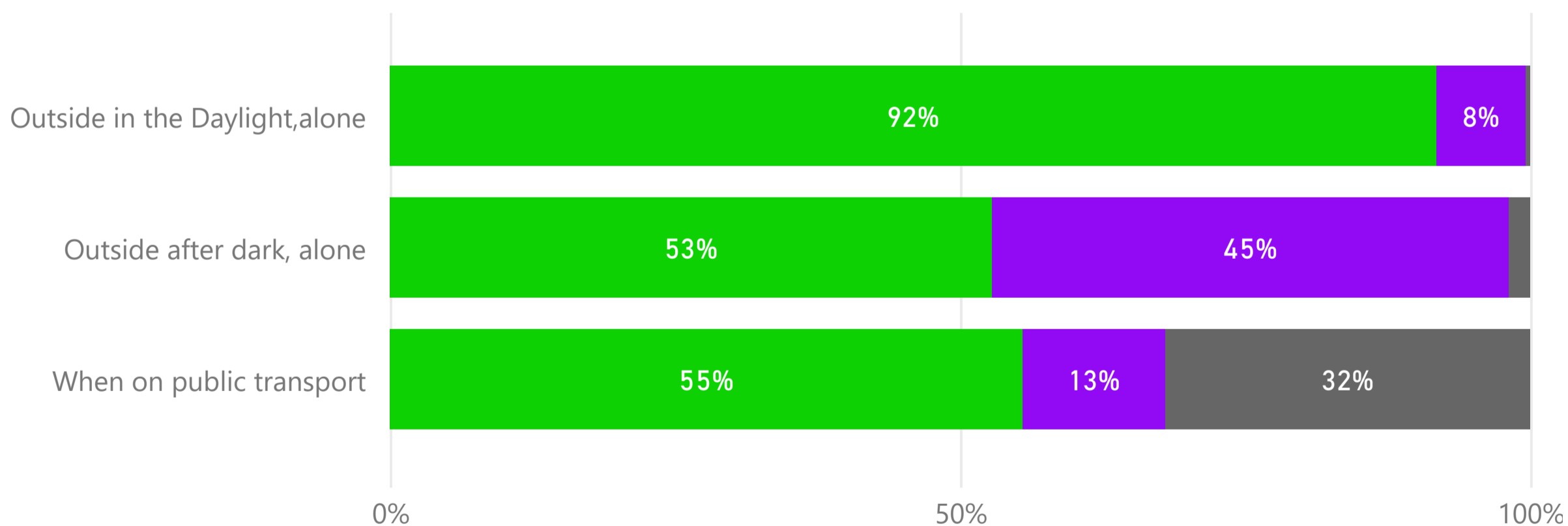
#### Wycombe

● Safe (Very Safe and Fairly Safe) - % ● Sum of Unsafe (Fairly Unsafe and Very Unsafe) -% ● Don't know - %



#### Buckinghamshire

● Safe (Very Safe and Fairly Safe) - % ● Sum of Unsafe (Fairly Unsafe and Very Unsafe) -% ● Don't know - %



Breaking down responses by Community Board is not possible, as the numbers of responses in the some of the Community Boards would not be sufficiently robust for analysis. It should also be noted that the respondents were self selecting rather than a random sample, which may result in bias towards some demographics.



# References

Domain	Indicator name	Tooltip description
(7) Vulnerable groups	% people living in households at higher risk of food poverty Dec 2020	% people living in households at higher risk of food poverty Dec 2020
(1) People in your community	Deprivation - IMD Score	A higher value indicates a greater level of deprivation. The Indices of Deprivation 2019 are a relative measure of deprivation for small areas (LSOAs) across seven different domains of deprivation: Income Deprivation; Employment Deprivation; Education Skills and Training Deprivation; Health Deprivation; Living Environment Deprivation; Barriers to Housing and Services Deprivation; and Car Access Deprivation. A higher score indicates that an area is experiencing high levels of deprivation.
(3) Growing up in your community	Births	Births (NHSD and Buckinghamshire Public Health Intelligence, 2019)
(7) Vulnerable groups	Children providing unpaid care	Children (aged 0-15) providing informal unpaid care. Figures are based on self reported responses to the 2011 Census. A person is a provider if they are aged 16 or over and provide care for a child with a physical or mental health or disability, or problems related to old age.
(3) Growing up in your community	Children known to social services	Rate calculated as = (People aged 0-15 providing unpaid care)/(Population aged under 16 (Census 2011))*100 Children known to social services - children currently open to children's social care by community board as at 8 June 2021 The figures include a small cohort of children with disabilities who are open to review (135 e.g. receiving direct payments). The figure does not include 501 children with disabilities who were included in 2019. 2,923 children included 21 had a postcode that was outside the LA or not recorded.
(7) Vulnerable groups	CAB	Citizens Advice Bureau
(8) Impact of COVID19	COVID19 variables	COVID19
(11) Improving Community Safety	IoD 2015 Crime Score	Crime is an important feature of deprivation that has major effects on individuals and communities. The Indices of Deprivation (ID) 2015 Crime Score is a composite of three indicators: Violence: The rate of violence per 1000 at-risk population; Burglary: The rate of burglary per 1000 at-risk properties; Theft: The rate of theft per 1000 at-risk properties. A higher score indicates that an area is experiencing high levels of deprivation.
(11) Improving Community Safety	IoD 2015 Crime Rank	Crime is an important feature of deprivation that has major effects on individuals and communities. The Indices of Deprivation (ID) 2015 Crime Rank is a composite of three indicators: Violence: The rate of violence per 1000 at-risk population; Burglary: The rate of burglary per 1000 at-risk properties; Theft: The rate of theft per 1000 at-risk properties. A lower rank indicates that an area is experiencing high levels of deprivation.
(11) Improving Community Safety	IoD 2019 Crime Rank	Crime is an important feature of deprivation that has major effects on individuals and communities. The Indices of Deprivation (IoD) 2019 Crime Rank is a composite of three indicators: Violence: the number of recorded violent crimes (18 recorded crime types in 2016/17; 20 recorded crime types in 2017/18) per 1,000 at risk population; Theft: the number of recorded thefts (5 recorded crime types) per 1,000 at risk population; Criminal Damage: number of recorded criminal damage incidents per 1,000 at risk population. A lower rank indicates that an area is experiencing high levels of deprivation.
(11) Improving Community Safety	Domestic Violence and Abuse	Crime rates are based on crimes where the postcode is known and can be mapped to one of the Buckinghamshire Community Boards.
(9) Natural Built Environment	Fly Tipping	Fly Tipping
(7) Vulnerable groups	Overcrowded housing	Households are classified as overcrowded if there is at least one room fewer than needed for household requirements using standard definitions for a household.
(2) Life Expectancy	Life expectancy Female	Rate calculated as = (Occupancy rating (rooms) of -1 or less (census KS403))/(All households (census KS403))*100 Life Expectancy data is calculated using mortality rates by single age bands and is a measure of the age a person being born today can expect to live.
(2) Life Expectancy	Life expectancy Male	Life Expectancy data is calculated using mortality rates by single age bands and is a measure of the age a person being born today can expect to live.
(9) Natural Built Environment	Council service locations	Location of council services
(6) Disease registers - recorded prevalence	Long term conditions - Cancer	Long term conditions - Cancer
(6) Disease registers - recorded prevalence	Long term conditions - CHD	Long term conditions - CHD

Total

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# HIGH WYCOMBE COMMUNITY BOARD

# PUBLIC HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS



**Public Health Team – Buckinghamshire Council**

**Your Contact: Louise Hurst**

**[louise.hurst@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:louise.hurst@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)**

# High Wycombe Community Board Public Health Recommendations

Improving and levelling up the health and wellbeing of all our residents is a priority for the Council. Buckinghamshire is one of the least deprived local authority areas in England and consequently has better health overall than the England average. However, in Buckinghamshire the health of residents varies within, and between, community board areas. For example, people living in more deprived areas are more likely to live in poor health and die earlier than people living in less deprived areas. They are also more likely to develop multiple long-term conditions earlier, such as diabetes and heart disease. Different ethnic groups also have different risks of developing some long term conditions.

These differences existed before the pandemic and COVID-19 has worsened them. For example, people living in more deprived areas have a higher risk of being infected and experiencing complications of COVID-19.

One impact of the pandemic has been an increase in the unhealthy behaviours that increase our risk of long-term conditions. Many people have been less active, eaten less healthily and drunk more alcohol. People have also experienced poorer mental health and greater social isolation. COVID-19 has also impacted some people's income, employment, and children's education - all factors that can affect their health and wellbeing.

Supporting and improving residents' physical and mental health is vital and initiatives to do so will have wider impacts on economic recovery, workforce productivity and environmental sustainability. Our County-wide "levelling-up" health priority is Cardiovascular Disease (which includes conditions such as heart attacks and stroke) because this is a significant cause of early death, is more common in deprived and some ethnic minority communities, and contributes to worse Covid-19 outcomes.

## Community Board Profile Commentary

High Wycombe is a vibrant community with excellent community spirit and many active groups. The population is more ethnically diverse and younger than the Buckinghamshire average. It also has many community assets and higher access to public green space. These attributes are vital for improving the health and wellbeing of High Wycombe residents.

High Wycombe is the second most deprived community board in Buckinghamshire. The overall health of residents living here is worse than other community boards with lower life expectancy than the Buckinghamshire average.

This can be seen from birth – High Wycombe has the highest proportion of low birth weight babies and children living in poverty in Buckinghamshire and the second highest rate for emergency hospital admissions for under 5-year olds. Nearly 4 in 10 year 6 children living in this area are overweight or obese.

High Wycombe also has the highest rate of cardiovascular disease emergency admissions in Buckinghamshire. Before the pandemic we know that in adulthood, the proportion of people who were identified as smokers or were physically inactive was higher than the Buckinghamshire average. These behaviours lead to a higher risk of having unhealthy weight, heart disease and diabetes which is reflected by statistics showing that, before the pandemic, higher proportions of adults who were measured in primary care were obese, and more adults had diabetes than the Buckinghamshire average, despite the younger age of its population. There may be residents who are at high risk of heart disease and do not know, given that less than 40% of those eligible have had an NHS Health Check. Data is currently being updated for the post COVID period.

Poor mental health also affects many residents in High Wycombe. Before the pandemic, a higher proportion of adults seen in primary care were diagnosed with depression, compared with the other Community Boards, and the percentage of High Wycombe residents diagnosed with serious mental illness (e.g. schizophrenia) has also previously been higher than the Buckinghamshire average. The emergency admission rate for dementia is the highest in the county. Other issues in High Wycombe such as the high estimated risk of food poverty (1 in 5 residents) and the higher probability of loneliness in older people also play a role in the overall health of this community. Data is currently being updated for the post COVID period.

## Recommendations

There are many opportunities for the High Wycombe Community Board to work with Public Health and other partners to support residents to have healthier, happier lives. We propose that you focus on the following areas:

- Preventing diabetes, heart disease and stroke
- Improving mental health, tackling social isolation and reducing stigma
- Supporting children to have a healthy start in life

In each of these areas, proposed actions that your Board can take are categorised into different levels of input:

1. DEVELOP/FUND  
Introduce, expand, or develop initiatives supported by Public Health and/or other partners.
2. PROMOTE, SIGNPOST, REFER or TRAIN  
Communicate information about local activities and services to residents, or develop new skills.
3. PARTICIPATE  
Represent your community in shaping public health policy and actions across Buckinghamshire.

Six selected DEVELOP/FUND proposals are:

- Fund a new Active Communities programme across a group of settings in High Wycombe
- Fund the Active Movement programme in more local schools
- Support the provision of community NHS Health Checks in local venues
- Make your parks and playgrounds smoke free
- Enhance Healthy Ageing projects with community board funds
- Expand the Grow it, Cook it, Eat it programme

Further details on these actions and more can be found in the following pages.

## Next Steps

Your Public Health lead, Louise Hurst ([louise.hurst@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:louise.hurst@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)), will be pleased to provide more information and support discussions as you explore which actions to work on this year, advise what support is available, and how these might fit in with your other priorities.

For more information and support on any of the actions suggested, get in touch with Louise Hurst at [louise.hurst@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:louise.hurst@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

## Further Considerations

Based on your local insight and knowledge there may be other health and wellbeing priorities you wish to consider for support and action and/or you may already have ideas to address needs identified by the community. The recommendations included in this document are not all encompassing and are intended to start a conversation on where and how the Community Board can get involved to improve local health and well-being.

Further opportunities for supporting a variety of health and wellbeing topics in your area can also be found in the Buckinghamshire Online Directory.

**Please see the following pages for the full list and details of proposed actions.**

# Opportunities for Action – what you can do for residents’ health and wellbeing

## 1. Prevent diabetes, heart disease and stroke by promoting healthier behaviours and knowing your risks

Preventing Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) is our Buckinghamshire-wide priority to “level-up” health. Heart disease, stroke and diabetes are very common, affecting hundreds of residents a year, more commonly in deprived and some ethnic minority communities. Heart disease and stroke account for 20-30% of the gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas in Buckinghamshire.

The good news is a significant proportion of new cases can be prevented by things we can do as individuals and community boards. We can reduce the risk of heart disease, diabetes, and stroke by

- supporting residents to have healthier behaviours
- helping residents know their individual risk and getting advice to reduce this by for example increasing uptake of NHS health checks

The most important behaviours that reduce the risk of developing cardiovascular disease, diabetes, dementia, and many cancers are 1. Not smoking 2. Being physically active 3. Eating a healthy diet and being a healthy weight and 4. Not drinking too much alcohol. Adopting these 4 healthy behaviours could prevent 75% of new cases of heart disease, stroke, and Type 2 diabetes; 40% of cancer cases; and reduce the risk of people suffering serious consequences of COVID-19 and flu. Healthy behaviours also bring other benefits, at all ages, from boosting school achievement to improving mental health and boosting the economy through increased workforce productivity and reduced sickness absence.

### How the High Wycombe Community Board can act to support this key area:

CONTACT <a href="mailto:LOUISE.HURST@BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.GOV.UK">LOUISE.HURST@BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.GOV.UK</a> FOR MORE DETAILS ON ANY OF THESE ACTIONS	
Develop / Fund	
<p><b><u>Active Communities:</u></b></p> <p>This is an innovative project that takes a whole community approach to reduce sedentary behaviour by helping residents add extra movement to their daily routines. Currently, it is taking place in West Wycombe, Booker, Cressex &amp; Castlefield, Abbey and schools in Oakridge and Castlefield.</p>	<p>The Community Board can fund additional Active Communities projects across a group of settings (e.g. local care homes, schools, community centres) in High Wycombe. Estimated costs start from £15K and will depend on the size of the community involved and number of settings chosen.</p>
<p><b><u>Grow it, Cook it, Eat it:</u></b></p> <p>This programme brings communities together through a common interest to grow their own food, gives them access to fresh fruit and vegetables, and offers a way to engage in low impact exercise.</p> <p>There are currently community growing sites in Desborough and Micklefield.</p>	<p>The Board can fund the extension of the Expert Gardener role for these sites beyond the first year (May 2022). This will help to embed the gardens more fully in the local communities.</p> <p>The Board can also fund further sites across High Wycombe to spread the benefits for health and wellbeing as well as environmental and green priorities.</p>
<p><b><u>NHS Health Checks:</u></b></p> <p>This is the cardiovascular disease prevention programme for people aged 40-74. It helps spot the</p>	<p>Help residents find out about and tackle their risk of heart disease, stroke, and diabetes by helping to organise pop-up sessions in community venues for</p>

early warning signs of stroke, diabetes, or cardiovascular disease and offers individual advice on reducing risk.	residents to receive their NHS Health Check in a nearby, familiar setting.
<b>Promote, Signpost, Refer and Train</b>	
<p><b><u>Live Well Stay Well:</u></b></p> <p>Buckinghamshire's Healthy Lifestyle Service provides effective and evidence-based support for people to stop smoking, lose weight and be active amongst other support and advice.</p>	<p>Stopping smoking, losing weight, and getting more active are the best things residents can do to reduce their risk of CVD.</p> <p>The Community Board can promote the service through its own communication channels and encourage partners, for example, in the voluntary sector, to refer clients and residents to self-refer.</p>
<p><b><u>Making Every Contact Count (MECC) training:</u></b></p> <p>MECC upskills people to have effective and informal healthy conversations around making positive changes to physical and mental health and wellbeing.</p>	<p>Support MECC training within your local area by promoting its availability to your members and partners.</p> <p>You could also organise training sessions in partnership with Public Health.</p>
<p><b><u>Alcohol services:</u></b></p> <p><a href="#">One Recovery Bucks</a> and <a href="#">Switch Bucks</a> support adults and young people in Buckinghamshire affected by alcohol or drug misuse.</p>	<p>Promote these evidence-based local services to support individuals and families with alcohol or drug misuse concerns.</p>
<b>Participate</b>	
<p><b><u>Health behaviour campaigns:</u></b></p> <p>These are communications and engagement activities to promote healthy behaviours. Public Health organises the materials for partners to use for a variety of health and wellbeing campaigns.</p>	<p>Your Community Board can amplify health campaigns to your local community by promoting them through your own communication channels. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stoptober (October)</li> <li>• Healthy weight (Better You)</li> <li>• Alcohol awareness week (15-21 Nov 2021)</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Whole system approach to obesity:</u></b></p> <p>Public Health have recently commenced a 'Whole Systems Approach to Obesity', a health in all policies approach which brings stakeholders from across the county together to create effective local approaches, engaging communities and local assets, to address obesity in Buckinghamshire. An action plan jointly owned by stakeholders will be developed creating a joined up approach to addressing obesity across Buckinghamshire.</p>	<p>Participate in the Whole Systems Approach to Obesity workshops (Sept and Nov '21) and stakeholder events to ensure action plans developed meet the needs of your local communities and fully utilise the assets available.</p>

## 2. Co-ordinate community activities and promote resources to improve mental health, tackle social isolation and reduce stigma

The COVID-19 pandemic has had negative impacts on many people’s social support networks and mental health. People who experience poor mental health and/or social isolation can be at higher risk of experiencing physical ill health and wider challenges. Community-level efforts to improve social connectivity and mental health resilience, for example, group-based physical activity sessions or campaigns to reduce stigma, can bring wide-ranging benefits to both individual and community health and wellbeing.

In the High Wycombe Community Board area, there are high levels of loneliness, social isolation, and mental health conditions, including dementia, that are associated with social isolation. Physical activity can be protective against some mental illness, including dementia, so activities that encourage social connection through physical activity offer a dual benefit.

### How the High Wycombe Community Board can act to support this key area:

CONTACT <a href="mailto:LOUISE.HURST@BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.GOV.UK">LOUISE.HURST@BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.GOV.UK</a> FOR MORE DETAILS ON ANY OF THESE ACTIONS	
<b>Develop / Fund</b>	
<p><b>Healthy Ageing Collaborative:</b></p> <p>This is a joint initiative between Public Health, Adult Social Care, and the voluntary/community sector. A series of projects to address the emotional and cognitive impacts of isolation and lack of social contact amongst older people will be developed and tested from September 2021.</p>	<p>The Community Board can enhance the test and learn projects by matching the current funding and/or funding additional projects.</p> <p>The Board can also play a key role by encouraging the local VCSE groups to engage with the programme.</p>
<b>Promote, signpost refer and train</b>	
<p><b><a href="http://bucksmind.org.uk">Buckinghamshire Mind - Champion the Change (bucksmind.org.uk)</a></b></p> <p>Champion the Change Buckinghamshire is a partnership of local organisations and people who are committed to ending mental health stigma and discrimination and create hope for those affected by mental illness. Their activities include holding ‘Big Bucks Chat’ Awareness Days and welcoming people with experience of mental health to become champions.</p>	<p>Promote Champion the Change events, for example, Bucks Big Chat Awareness Days, through your communication channels.</p> <p>Encourage residents and board members to become champions. Champions can organise small community activities, share their stories, and/or create resources for schools, workplaces, and sports clubs.</p>
<p><b>Moving Minds</b></p> <p>Through this initiative, people with mild-moderate poor mental health are invited to take part in community physical activity sessions. The sessions are delivered by trained instructors and aim to build peoples resilience, self-esteem confidence and support mental health recovery. The sessions will act as a stepping stone for accessing other community based physical activity.</p>	<p>Promote the Moving Minds sessions through your communication channels.</p>
<p><b>Mental Health First Aid Training:</b></p> <p>Mental Health First Aid (<a href="http://mhfa.org.uk">MHFA</a>) England provide a variety of online and face-to-face courses, including</p>	<p>Board members can attend and promote training sessions covering Mental Health First Aid, Suicide First Aid, Psychological First Aid.</p>



<p>Youth and Adult Mental Health First Aid training. Further training will also be available via <a href="#">Bucks MIND</a>.</p>	
<p><b>Participate</b></p>	
<p><b><u>Annual mental health communications:</u></b></p> <p>There are a range of communications campaigns throughout the year that promote ways to improve mental health, reduce stigma and/or promote places to get support.</p> <p>You can take part in awareness raising to reduce stigma and help signpost residents who want to get involved in supporting the mental health of their community or those who may benefit from information on services that are available for them to access.</p>	<p>Promote national campaigns through your own communication channels, such as World Suicide Prevention Day (September) and World Mental Health Day (October), using local Buckinghamshire council information, media, tweets and more resources available via Comms and Public Health.</p> <p>Share information on local services that are available for residents to improve their mental health.</p> <p>Have a themed community board meeting on Mental Health and invite local organisations to talk about their work/support that is available.</p>

### 3. Support children to have a healthy start in life by promoting healthy behaviours and environments during pregnancy and throughout childhood

A healthy start in life has life-long impacts on future health, educational attainment, future employment opportunities and mental wellbeing even into older age. A healthy start begins before pregnancy with healthy parents-to-be and continues via healthy families and schools. Supporting parents to adopt healthy behaviours (e.g. not smoking) is important for a healthy pregnancy and childhood, and it increases the likelihood that children will absorb and copy the parents’/carers’ healthy habits and lifestyles.

Physical activity in childhood is important for physical and mental well-being. Not only does physical activity protect against becoming overweight and longer term physical health problems, it can build children’s self-confidence, reduce anxiety and improve self-esteem. Children should participate in moderate to vigorous physical activity for at least 60 minutes every day.

Children who are overweight or obese are more likely to become obese adults. For some families, we also know that food poverty comes with serious consequences for the health of children. Good nutrition and access to a balanced diet is essential for good child development, education and health and well-being.

#### How the High Wycombe Community Board can act to support this key area:

<p>CONTACT <a href="mailto:LOUISE.HURST@BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.GOV.UK">LOUISE.HURST@BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.GOV.UK</a> FOR MORE DETAILS ON ANY OF THESE ACTIONS</p>	
<p><b>Develop / Fund</b></p>	
<p><b><u>Smoke free parks and playgrounds:</u></b></p> <p>This is a voluntary ban on smoking in community parks, where children and families are often present. This protects children and adults from second-hand smoke and means children are less likely to observe role models smoking which reduces their risk of taking up smoking.</p>	<p>Identify playgrounds and/or parks in your area to make smoke free and put up signage to show residents that this is a smoke free area. You can encourage community participation by, for example, having local schools enter a ‘no smoking’ sign competition and use the winning design in your chosen parks. The average cost for each playground is likely to cost around £600, depending on how many signs are needed and for how many parks in your area.</p>

<p><b><u>Active Movement</u></b></p> <p>A behaviour change programme which incorporates achievable activity into daily life. This programme runs in schools and empowers schools to make their environment non sedentary.</p>	<p>The Board can fund the Active Movement programme in additional schools in High Wycombe. A group of schools will need to be identified for this programme and costs are around £3k per school.</p> <p>For an example of this programme in a school, see <a href="#">this link</a> describing what has been done in Thomas Hickman School.</p>
<p><b><u>School Wellbeing Service Days:</u></b></p> <p>Secondary schools can host a wellbeing day for pupils and staff to learn about services that can support their mental health and wellbeing and reduce stigma for young people around discussing mental health.</p>	<p>Support schools in your area to develop and organise a wellbeing service day to promote local services to pupils and staff.</p> <p>Together, you can invite services to speak about what they offer, give out leaflets signposting to services and more.</p>
<p><b>Promote, signpost refer and train</b></p>	
<p><b><u>Healthy Start:</u></b></p> <p>This programme provides free vouchers to eligible families (pregnant women and families with at least one child under 4, who are on a low income and in receipt of benefits) to help buy basic food and milk as well as vitamin supplements.</p>	<p>The Board could increase awareness of the Healthy Start programme within the community by working with businesses to ensure they are signed up to the scheme and actively promoting it within their stores without the need for the individual to ask if they accept vouchers.</p> <p>Consider putting funds towards establishing a post covering the higher food poverty areas of Bucks to support this piece of work in collaboration with Bucks Food Partnership, Helping Hands, BHT 0-19 service and Public Health.</p>
<p><b><u>Moving Mums:</u></b></p> <p>The physical activity of women and girls is a priority in Buckinghamshire’s physical activity strategy and the Public Health team has identified that a physical activity project for new mums and/or mums to be would be beneficial for the community. Initial development is anticipated to start in early 2022.</p>	<p>The Board can support Public Health to identify partners and community assets for a Moving Mums working group, with the option to lead, co-chair, or co-ordinate, to explore opportunities for delivering a pilot project.</p> <p>There are several opportunities for the Board to be more involved once a pilot project has been identified, including gathering insights and promoting the project.</p>
<p><b>Participate</b></p>	
<p><b><u>Physical Activity Strategy:</u></b></p> <p>There is a steering group and an action plan for this strategy in Buckinghamshire.</p>	<p>Representatives of your community board can attend and contribute to quarterly meetings and inform the action plans.</p>

**Tobacco Control Alliance and Action Plan**

Buckinghamshire has a tobacco control strategy (and accompanying action plan) that is overseen by the Tobacco Control Alliance. The strategy aims to save lives and improve the health of thousands of people in Buckinghamshire by minimising their exposure to tobacco and works towards the national ambition for a smoke free generation.

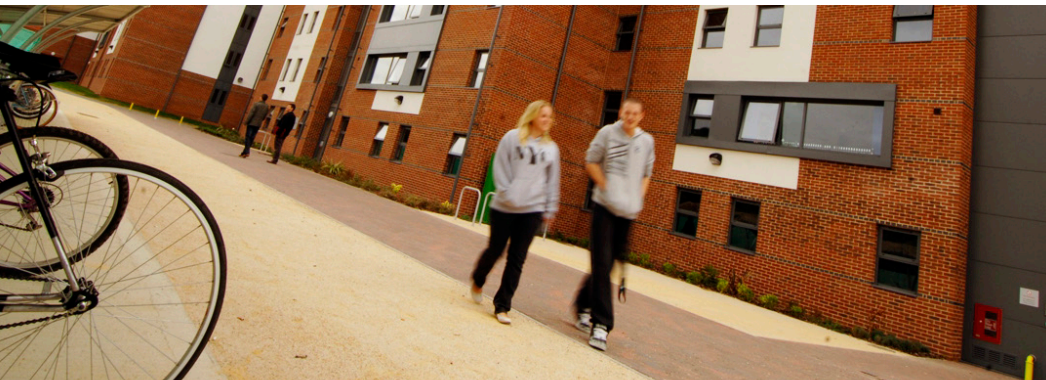
Representative(s) from your community board can be part of the Tobacco Control Alliance and participate in quarterly meetings to inform the Buckinghamshire strategy and action plan for tobacco control.

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# OPPORTUNITY BUCKS – SUCCEEDING FOR ALL

A local response to Levelling Up

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Appendix

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

Buckinghamshire is a beautiful place to live and work, famous for its natural environment and its quality of life.

As the 'entrepreneurial heart of Britain' we are home to both global brands and large numbers of small and medium sized businesses which underpin our strong economy. We have robust and effective partnerships which bring together public service bodies, business leadership and the voluntary and community sector, and together we are ambitious for our communities and our residents.

Whilst the majority of our communities are thriving in the county, we know that in some areas of Buckinghamshire people are experiencing significant hardship. As partners, we want to come together with these communities and draw upon our collective resources to enhance opportunities and promote community wellbeing.



## LEVELLING UP

The Government has placed 'Levelling up' at the heart of its agenda to recover after the pandemic. The Levelling Up White Paper published in February 2022 sets out 12 national missions designed to spread opportunity across the whole UK and improve everyday life and life chances for people in underperforming places. These missions are grouped into four themes:

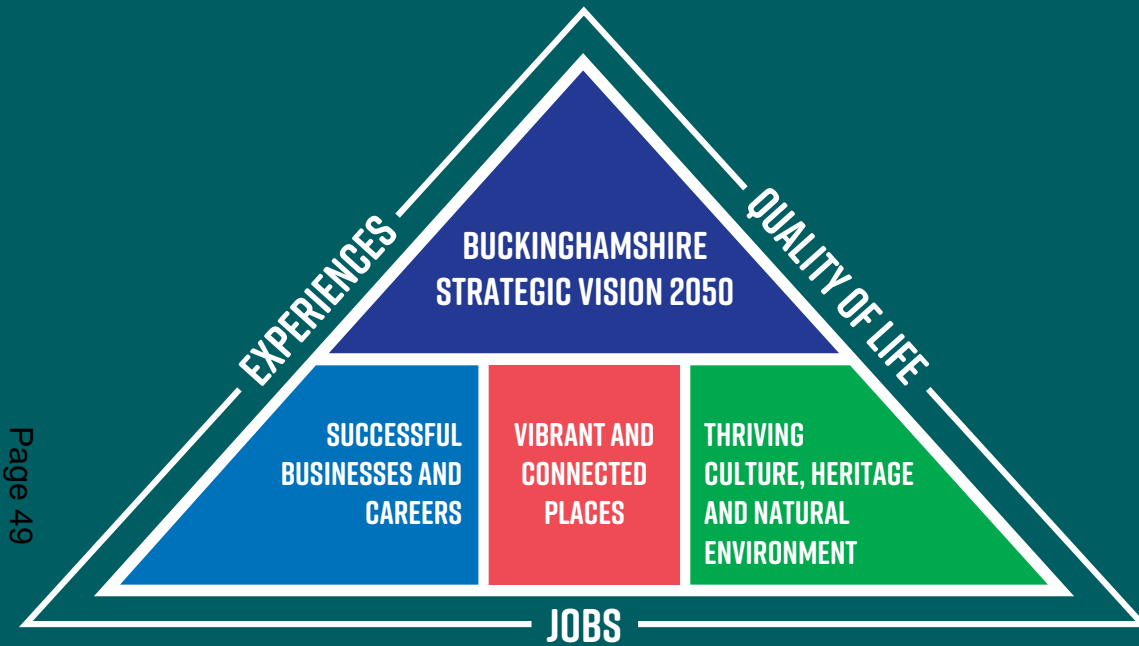
- a) Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards by growing the private sector, especially in those places where they are lagging - with a focus on living standards, research and development, transport infrastructure and digital connectivity
- b) Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest - with a focus on education, skills, health and wellbeing
- c) Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost - with a focus on pride in place, housing, and crime
- d) Local Leadership - with a focus on devolution deals from national to local government.

**“It is about improving living standards and growing the private sector, particularly where it is weak. It is about increasing and spreading opportunity, because while talent is evenly distributed, opportunity is not. It is about improving health, education and policing, particularly where they are not good enough. It is also about strengthening community and local leadership, restoring pride in place, and improving quality of life in ways that are not just about the economy”**

**(Boris Johnson, May 2021)**



# SUCCEEDING AS A PLACE, SUCCEEDING AS A COUNTRY



The Buckinghamshire Growth Board has set out a shared strategic vision for Buckinghamshire for 2050.

The vision is underpinned by three interlinked strategic ambitions that will guide a thriving, resilient, successful, connected, healthier and inclusive Buckinghamshire.

Building on the Levelling Up missions, “**Opportunity Bucks - Succeeding for All**” is aimed at spreading opportunity and promoting pride in place in Buckinghamshire. It is a partner document to the Buckinghamshire proposition “**Succeeding as a Place, Succeeding as a Country**” which focuses on our ambition for economic recovery and a devolution deal.

Change will not happen overnight and we know that this is a long term commitment.

**This Framework provides a clear statement of intent by Buckinghamshire partners, together with a structure for taking action and providing accountability.**

## 2. SUMMARY

Buckinghamshire is widely known as an affluent county with great outcomes. However, we know that this overall picture masks some significant variations in outcomes, with some areas experiencing significant hardship.

**'Opportunity Bucks - Succeeding for All'** provides a framework for bringing partners together to focus our collective resources on tackling those local priorities that will make a difference to the outcomes of residents.

It will focus on five themes:

- Education and Skills
- Jobs and Career Opportunities
- Quality of our Public Realm
- Standard of Living
- Health and Wellbeing

Initially, the programme will be focused on 10 wards in three areas – parts of Aylesbury, High Wycombe and Chesham. Local action plans will be developed through engagement with the communities, led by the Community Boards.

The Buckinghamshire Growth Board will provide clear accountability for the programme.



# 3. THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE CONTEXT



# AN AFFLUENT COUNTY WITH GREAT OUTCOMES

Buckinghamshire is an affluent county and residents enjoy some of the best outcomes in the UK.



## Economy

- **31,470** businesses
- **249,000** jobs
- **553,100** residents
- **£17.4bn** economy



## Employment

- **Low** unemployment and **Higher** than average incomes
- **15%** higher average earnings for residents than nationally
- **2.7%** of the working age population claiming unemployment benefits, compared with **3.9%** nationally



## Health

**Life expectancy** for both men and women is higher than the England average.



## Education

- **47.5%** of residents have a degree or equivalent qualification or higher, compared to 43.5% nationally
- **66%** of children achieve grades 9-5 in GCSE English and Maths compared to 52% nationally

Data Sources:

- ONS Business Register and Employment Survey (2020)
- ONS Inter Departmental Business Register (2021)
- ONS Claimant count by sex and age (May, 2022)
- Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership (2022)
- Census (2021)
- Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (LA profiles 2022)
- Department for Education (2016/17 to 2020/21 for Buckinghamshire)
- ONS annual population survey (2021)

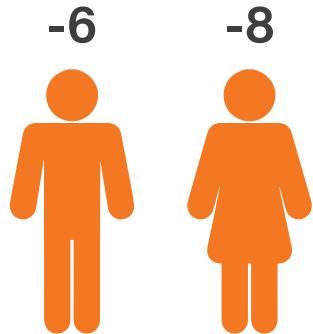


# SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS IN OUTCOMES FOR PEOPLE AND PLACES

However, we know that this overall picture masks significant variations in outcomes across the county, with some areas experiencing significant hardship. Health inequalities has long been identified as a key public health challenge to tackle in the UK. The lower an individual's socio-economic position, as defined by where they live, their job, qualifications, income and wealth, the more likely they are to experience poor health. The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic have mirrored, and in some cases exacerbated, existing inequalities, impacting particularly on those who are most vulnerable and putting a spotlight on underlying health and economic challenges within our communities.

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## Life Expectancy



There is a difference of 8 years for a woman and 6 years for a man depending on where you live in Buckinghamshire.

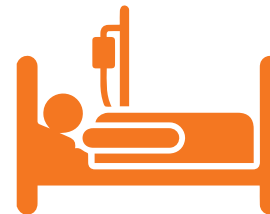
Life expectancy in North West Aylesbury is 80 years for a woman and 78 years for a man.



This contrasts with 88 years for a woman in Ridgeway East and 84 years for a man.

## Hospital Admissions

Emergency hospital admissions in Aylesbury and High Wycombe are all well above the average for the county.



## Urban Adversity and Financially Stretched



**22%**

Bucks residents are identified as 'Urban Adversity and Financially Stretched' according to Acorn household segmentation data.

## Free School Meals



**10,856**

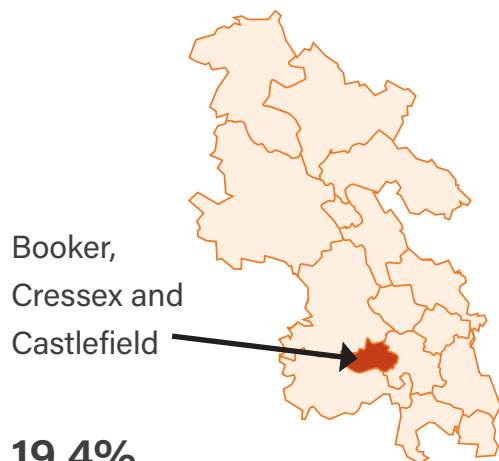
Buckinghamshire Pupils were eligible for Free School Meals (January 2022), 12.3% of all pupils. This is an increase of 1,361 pupils since January 2021.

Data Sources:

- ONS Life expectancy at birth (2019)
- NHS Hospital Activity Data (2022)
- CACI Acorn geodemographic segmentation data (2022)
- Buckinghamshire Council (free school meal data 2021)

# SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS IN OUTCOMES FOR PEOPLE AND PLACES

## Universal Credit



**19.4%** of the working population in Booker, Cressex and Castlefield claim universal credit (April 2022), compared with 5.4% in Gerrards Cross (8.9% for Buckinghamshire).

**27%** of residents over the age of 16 in Booker, Cressex and Castlefield have no qualifications, compared with 10% in Gerrards Cross (17% for Buckinghamshire).

## House prices and rents

Experiencing hardship in an area of relative affluence brings particular challenges. Buckinghamshire has higher than average house prices and rents.



The **average** house price in Buckinghamshire was **£549k** in November 2021.

This figure disguises considerable variation, with the **average** house price in Gerrards Cross **£1.3m**



The lack of affordable housing is a key driver of **homelessness**. There is a growing gap between local housing allowance rates and private sector rents.



**£925 per month is the median cost of renting a two bed roomed dwelling in Buckinghamshire**, in the private sector rental market, unaffordable for anyone on benefits, including working households on low incomes.

## Challenging Landscape

The landscape is becoming even more challenging for those who are struggling with the rising cost of living and fuel crisis.

In 2020, **12.6%** of households in Booker, Cressex and Castlefield experienced **fuel poverty**. We expect that this figure will have grown since then and will continue to grow.



The impact of COVID is likely to be particularly acute in these communities too. Cases of chronic disease that weren't being managed during peak waves are likely to lead to rises in ill health. Children's development and education are likely to be hardest hit in these areas too.

### Data Sources

- Department for Work and Pensions; Universal Credit Claimants (May 2022)
- MHCLG Indices of Deprivation 2019
- Land Registry Average House Prices (2022)
- Buckinghamshire Council Education Attainment Measures (2019)
- BEIS Fuel Poverty (2020)
- Valuation Office Agency. Private rental market summary statistics (Table 2.4), 2019



The six food banks in Buckinghamshire have experienced significant increases in demand.

Together, they have distributed:

- **35,477 parcels in 2021**
- **26,386 parcels in 2020**
- **13,503 parcels in 2019**



The top five reasons for people being referred to the food bank (June to August 2021) are:

- **Debt (19%)**
- **Housing/homeless (14%)**
- **Benefits related issues (13%)**
- **Sickness and ill health (12%)**
- **Work-related changes such as reduced hours or loss of work (9%)**



Levels of crime impact significantly on the wellbeing of the population and satisfaction with their neighbourhood.

Areas suffering high levels of deprivation suffer disproportionately from crime. Total crime offences across Buckinghamshire is:

- **69.7 per 1,000 residents as of February 2022**
- **Abbey ward, the rate is 199 per 1,000 residents**
- **Ridgeway East, the rate is 26 per 1,000 residents**

Data Sources

- ONECAN Monthly Food Bank Reports (2022)
- Police UK - Buckinghamshire crime offence rates (2022)



# SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS IN OUTCOMES FOR PEOPLE AND PLACES

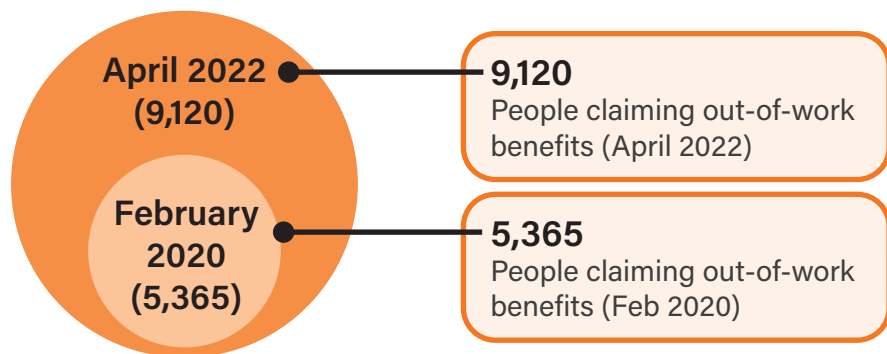
## Employment

The number of claimants in Buckinghamshire is almost double that of pre-pandemic levels despite an unprecedented increase in the number of vacancies seen across the county. The high percentage of people unemployed in areas of Wycombe contrasts with the high number of vacancies: Wycombe reported the highest number of job posts in Jan-Mar 2022. In December 2021 the roles with the most postings were admin, nursing, customer service and social care roles.

These areas have high proportions of people from Ethnic Minority groups compared to the rest of the county, as well as a high proportion of people with no qualifications, lower levels of people with degrees or higher qualifications, high numbers of children receiving free school meals and high rates of children living in areas of deprivation.

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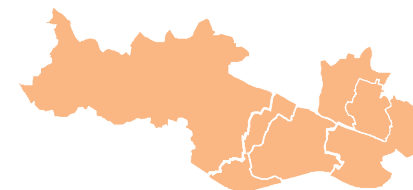
The number of unemployment benefit claimants is still much higher than pre-pandemic levels



Data Sources  
• ONS Claimant count by sex and age  
• Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership (2022)

High number of job postings reported in High Wycombe, including in areas where unemployment is highest

Upskilling unemployed people in areas of High Wycombe could help fill job vacancies.



Number of job postings in High Wycombe as follows:

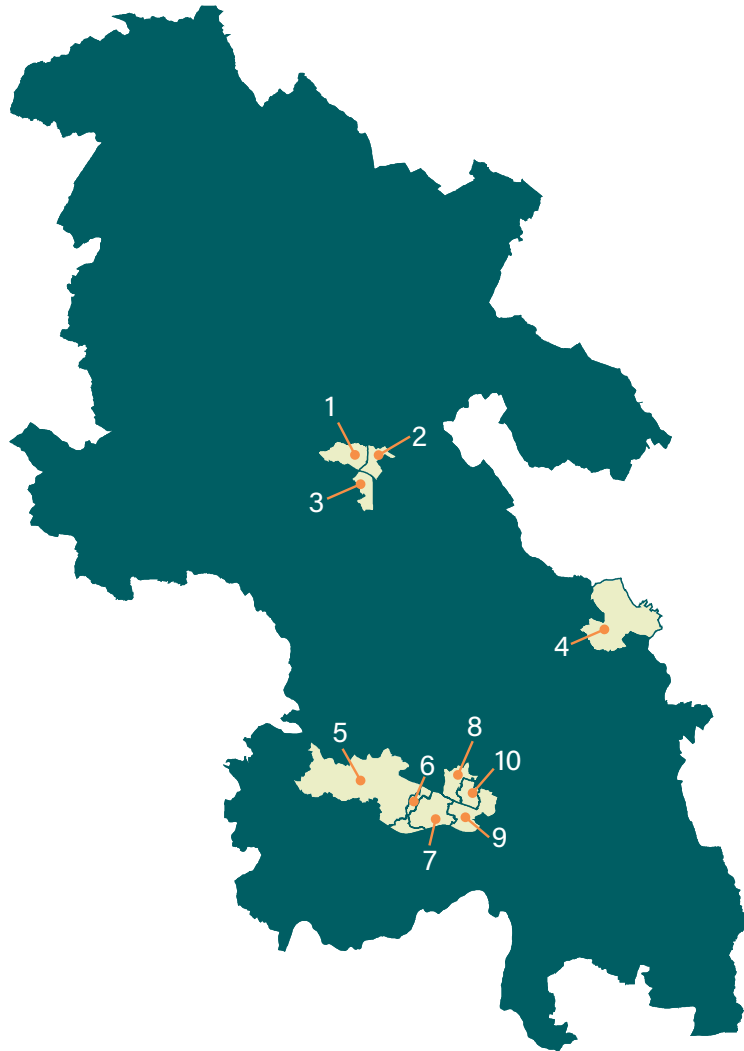
- 4,460 Oct-Dec 2019
- 5,210 Oct-Dec 2021
- Increase of 17%

Skills needed

 Nursing	 Business Admin	 Customer Services	 Social Care
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# SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS IN OUTCOMES FOR PEOPLE AND PLACES



Together, the mix of factors result in poorer outcomes for the individuals, pressure on public services and constraints on the growth potential of the county.

The 10 wards experiencing the poorest outcomes across multiple indicators of inequality within Buckinghamshire are:

- **High Wycombe**
  - Booker, Cressex & Castlefield
  - Totteridge & Bowerdean
  - Ryemead & Micklefield
  - Abbey
  - Terriers & Amersham Hill
  - West Wycombe
- **Aylesbury**
  - Aylesbury South West
  - Aylesbury North-West
  - Aylesbury North
- **Chesham**

## Ward areas

- |                         |                                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Aylesbury North West | 6. Booker, Cressex and Castlefield |
| 2. Aylesbury North      | 7. Abbey                           |
| 3. Aylesbury South West | 8. Terriers and Amersham Hill      |
| 4. Chesham              | 9. Ryemead and Micklefield         |
| 5. West Wycombe         | 10. Totteridge and Bowerdean       |

## 4. OUR AMBITION AND PRIORITIES



# AMBITION

## Reduce inequality whilst improving outcomes for all

Together, our public, private and voluntary sector services have played a vital role in responding to the pandemic in Buckinghamshire. Throughout this period, we have delivered at speed, working in partnership together locally to support communities.

As we turn our attention to tackling the significant challenges ahead, **we are ambitious for Buckinghamshire.**

We have an innovative recovery and growth proposition that will accelerate economic growth and prosperity for the county. Our plans will build on our distinctive and internationally recognised economic assets to deliver quality jobs, a strong talent pipeline, and quality, low carbon and connected communities for people to live and work. Through investing in regeneration schemes in our town centres, we want to create vibrant town centres that meet the needs of residents and businesses.

**But we also want to ensure that nobody gets left behind. We want to reduce inequality within our communities, whilst improving outcomes for all our residents.**

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Everyone in Buckinghamshire should have the opportunity of achieving:

- A good quality job, that pay enough money to support a decent quality of life
- Good standard of attainment and skills
- Learning and career progression
- Good mental and physical wellbeing and independent living
- Decent, warm home and good quality food
- Involvement in shaping their community, with strong social connections
- A feeling of being safe where they live
- Pride in where they live

**We want to ensure that all Buckinghamshire residents have the opportunity to succeed in life, to play their part in and share in the success of the county.** But this is not the position today and we know that things will get worse if we don't come together as partners and take action.

Our ambitions of developing the local economy and reducing inequalities are intrinsically linked. By breaking the cycle of disadvantage, we will improve health outcomes and grow our economy.

The purpose of this framework is to establish a shared vision for what levelling up means in Buckinghamshire and to translate it into specific initiatives and strategies locally which will improve living standards and opportunity across the county.



# OUR PRIORITIES

We will focus on five key themes:

## EDUCATION AND SKILLS

- Helping the under 5s catch up post Covid-19
- Joined up skills and careers system that offers young people and adults access to quality education and training opportunities in Buckinghamshire

## JOB AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Good quality positions that pay a decent salary and provide progression opportunities, combined with active support for residents to secure employment

## QUALITY OF PUBLIC REALM

- Public realm improvements which will promote a sense of wellbeing in our communities

## STANDARD OF LIVING

- Assistance for residents in finding sustainable solutions to difficulties with decent housing, warmth, food and debt

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Engaging communities in mental and physical health initiatives, and supporting businesses with a healthy workforce and reduced absenteeism

In tackling these priorities, we will initially focus our action on those wards where residents experience a combination of inequalities:

- **High Wycombe**
  - Booker, Cressex & Castlefield
  - Totteridge & Bowerdean
  - Ryemead & Micklefield
  - Abbey
  - Terriers & Amersham Hill
  - West Wycombe
- **Aylesbury**
  - Aylesbury South West
  - Aylesbury North-West
  - Aylesbury North
- **Chesham**

Where possible, we will draw on the initiatives and learning being developed through the Levelling Up White Paper.

## 5. OUR APPROACH



## PLACE BASED PARTNERSHIP

Buckinghamshire is an aligned county, with a shared geography between the Council, the Local Enterprise Partnership, the Healthcare NHS Trust and Buckinghamshire Business First. Our universities, further education providers and voluntary and community sector are also closely tied in, giving us a unique ability to unite key organisations to deliver coherently for the benefit of all. This strong collaborative model means that we are able to take effective action to tackle inequalities on a place basis.

## RECOGNISING LOCAL IDENTITY

Our commitment to localism is a key strength that we can draw on. We recognise that our communities are distinct places, with their own local sense of identity, and their own definitions of success. Local residents need to be at the core of what we do. In developing levelling up plans, we will work with residents at a local level to ensure that action builds on local strengths and responds to the needs, ambitions and experiences of the specific individual communities. Our Community Boards will play a critical role in this.

## INNOVATION

As partners, we already have a range of services and initiatives in place in the identified communities. Many of these will be focused on responding to the result of inequality, rather than tackling the root causes. We need to take account of these but also be prepared to try new ideas that can build sustainable change. We will develop pilots that we can learn from, evaluate and, where appropriate, scale up. We will also learn from the initiatives developed nationally, as set out in the Levelling Up White Paper.

## EVIDENCE BASED

We want to ensure we have a firm evidence base for developing our approach. We have a wealth of statistical information which will support us but we also want to expand our insight into the barriers experienced by the identified communities and the approaches that are most effective. We will invest in qualitative research and insight to inform our strategy. We will also use and develop this evidence base to monitor the impact of any interventions that are delivered.

# 6. TAKING ACTION





**Working with the communities, we will identify key priorities and develop local action plans which tackle each of the five themes. In Year one, this could include:**

### **EDUCATION AND SKILLS**

- Develop localised skills plans, matched to the needs of local employers
- Develop a local version of the National Youth Guarantee concept tailored to the needs of the communities

### **JOB AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

- Expand the number of apprenticeships taken up by residents in partnership with local businesses
- Identify entry level job opportunities and paid internships that can be targeted at the communities, working with DWP restart providers
- Develop 'work readiness' programmes for residents in the communities who have limited work experience

### **QUALITY OF OUR PUBLIC REALM**

- Develop and deliver a Regeneration plan for each of the three town centres
- Produce a delivery plan for public realm improvements in each of the communities

### **STANDARD OF LIVING**

- Through our 'financial insecurity' partnership, roll out a scheme that provides advice and support and helps people out of debt
- Working with the Buckinghamshire Food Partnership, implement the recommendations of the 2020 Sustain report
- Review our approach to 'affordable warmth' and develop an action plan for 2022+

### **HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

- Undertake public health projects targeted at the particular needs of the communities (including cardiovascular health)

By strengthening coordination across partners and collaboration with local communities, we will seek to maximise the benefit of the existing multi-agency resources already deployed in these communities. Where appropriate, we will build business cases for investment in specific projects and bid for external funding to support our objectives.

## 7. OVERSEEING DELIVERY



## Governance

The Buckinghamshire Growth Board will be responsible for the governance of the programme, underpinned by a partnership steering group which will oversee the detailed development and delivery of our approach. This will include a lead champion for each of the five themes.

The Community Boards in Aylesbury, High Wycombe and Chesham will play a key role in overseeing the development and delivery of the local action plans.

## Monitoring and Evaluating Impact

Levelling up is not going to happen overnight. This strategy requires long term and sustained commitment and it would not be appropriate to set targets at this stage. To assess progress, performance will be tracked against key metrics measured at community level in order to understand the direction of travel, including measures that evidence:

- Healthy life expectancy
- Unemployment rates
- Early Years and Primary education attainment
- GCSE performance
- Completion of skills training
- Number of children eligible for free school meals
- Crime and anti-social behaviour
- Quality of the environment
- Number of people living with multiple morbidities
- People's satisfaction with their neighbourhood and community connectedness (measured through an annual survey and focus groups)

Views and feedback will also be gathered from communities and partners to evaluate impact.

Progress will be reported to the Buckinghamshire Growth Board and the Council's Cabinet on a regular basis.

# OPPORTUNITY BUCKS – SUCCEEDING FOR ALL

A local response to Levelling Up