



Cabinet agenda

Date: Tuesday 16 June 2020

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Via Video Conference Call - Accessible to members of the public online at <https://buckinghamshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Membership:

M Tett (Leader), A Macpherson (Cabinet Member Adult Social Care) (Deputy Leader), K Wood (Cabinet Member Resources) (Deputy Leader), S Bowles (Cabinet Member Town Centre Regeneration), B Chapple OBE (Cabinet Member Environment and Climate Change), J Chilver (Cabinet Member Property & Assets), A Cranmer (Cabinet Member Education and Skills), I Darby (Cabinet Member Housing & Homelessness), T Green (Cabinet Member Youth Provision), C Harriss (Cabinet Member Sports and Leisure), P Hogan (Cabinet Member Culture), D Martin (Cabinet Member Logistics), N Naylor (Cabinet Member Transport), M Shaw (Cabinet Member Children's Services), W Whyte (Cabinet Member Planning and Enforcement), G Williams (Cabinet Member Communities & Public Health) and F Wilson (Cabinet Member Regulatory Services)

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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: Sally Taylor on 01296 531024, email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.



Cabinet minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday 26 May 2020 via video conference, commencing at 10.08 am and concluding at 11.12 am.

Members present

M Tett (Leader), A Macpherson (Deputy Leader), K Wood (Deputy Leader), S Bowles, B Chapple OBE, J Chilver, A Cranmer, I Darby, T Green, C Harriss, P Hogan, D Martin, N Naylor, M Shaw, W Whyte, G Williams and F Wilson

Agenda Item

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Minutes

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 21 and 30 April 2020 were AGREED as an accurate record.

4 Question Time

The following question was received from Councillor Robin Stuchbury.

“In view of the changes under the Buckinghamshire Council planning procedures to established practice in the Aylesbury Vale area, will there be any consultation with explanation to the parishes on how to best maintain an equivalent level of local representation in planning matters at committee, bearing in mind the position statements from the Buckinghamshire authority about wishing to work closely with town and parish councils? It is also the reality that many of these elected bodies will be preparing local plans presently and in the future and it would appear completely contradictory to the Council’s stated aims if these previous opportunities and rights to parishes were not reinstated at the first possible opportunity. In addition, for the Member to call in an application under the constitution, they may have to wait for the Parish Council to meet and agree a response to an application that triggers calling-in, and the time-scale of 28 days may not be adequate to allow this due to the schedule of meetings, especially if the period includes public holidays.”

Martin Tett, Leader, clarified that Councillor Stuchbury's question only related to the Aylesbury Vale area.

Councillor Warren Whyte, Cabinet Member for Planning, provided the following response.

W Whyte advised that the changes to the constitution had been made and approved by the Shadow Executive and Shadow Authority in February 2020. The rules of engagement had been inherited so the process had not changed in other areas of the County, just the Aylesbury Vale area. W Whyte clarified the call-in procedure; parish councils had the ability to call-in applications during the first 28 days of an application but they were also given a further seven days, once they were aware of the officer recommendation, to choose whether they still wished to exercise the call-in. Parish Councils had been engaged in the process, including a workshop for parish councils in December 2019; however, the training planned in March 2020 had to be postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic which was unfortunate. However, the council has also recently published further guidance to town and parish councils on how to engage with the planning process. This guidance gives specific advice to town and parish councils on the changes, in some areas, to the call in process. Online training was also available to town and parish councils. Like all matters in the new Council, this would be kept under review.

5 Forward Plan (28 Day Notice)

John Chilver, Cabinet Member for Property and Assets, advised that the decision on the Bledlow Household Waste and Recycling Centre (page 28) had been deferred until at least June 2020 as it was subject to the outcome of the planning application which was due to be determined at the Strategic Sites Committee meeting on 11 June 2020.

ACTION: Democratic Services

RESOLVED: Cabinet NOTED the forward plan.

6 Covid-19 Update

Martin Tett, Leader, stated that all the Cabinet Members had contributed to the Covid-19 update in the agenda pack. M Tett advised that the impact of the pandemic had been sudden and unprecedented and had resulted in the re-prioritising and re-direction of many areas of work and staff. A co-ordinated structure was created with the Thames Valley, Oxfordshire and Berkshire Local Resilience Forums to work collaboratively e.g. on potential storage facilities and the sourcing of personal protective equipment (PPE), in order to mitigate the effect of the pandemic on the public. Bi-weekly communications had been emailed to approximately 200,000 residents and would continue on a weekly basis. Work was being carried out with the care homes, supporting the vulnerable communities and with the education services to enable children to return to school. Information had been received from the government on the new policy for testing, tracking and tracing the infection and procedures would be put in place.

Rachael Shimmin, Chief Executive, Buckinghamshire Council, added that the Covid-19 planning started in advance of the transition to the unitary council and it had been clear that the unitarisation work, in the lead up to the start of the new Buckinghamshire Council, along with the existing partnership work with the health sector, had been extremely advantageous in Buckinghamshire's response to the pandemic. 'Business as usual' had continued and the report (pages 46-50) outlined the work by each service area. Many staff e.g. library staff, had been re-purposed to work in the community hubs. The 'outbreak control plan' would be developed and reported to the Cabinet in future.

M Tett highlighted the financial implications. Finances were being used in line with the government guidance but expenditure to protect the vulnerable had been high and the Council's income had reduced significantly. The Council was now entering recovery and looking to re-build the economy across Buckinghamshire.

M Tett invited the following Cabinet Members to provide an update:

Gareth Williams, Cabinet Member, Communities and Public Health

- Staff had been redeployed to work in the eight community hubs.
- There were 3,522 'shielded' people in Buckinghamshire and over 500 food parcels had been distributed since the end of March 2020.
- Approximately 1,800 volunteers had been assigned, by the Clare Foundation and Community Impact Bucks, to local community groups.
- Weekly calls were held to prioritise where funding should be used and ensure there were no gaps.
- Work was being carried out in the community hubs encompassing both public and voluntary sectors and organisations in the fields of mental health and financial insecurity in order to prioritise recovery towards those that were most vulnerable.
- A section of the Buckinghamshire Council website was dedicated to Covid-19.

Angela Macpherson, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

- An enormous amount of work had taken place to support the care homes; there had been only one confirmed case of Covid-19 in the last week in the care homes.
- The Care Home Support Plan had been drafted and needed to be submitted by 29 May 2020. The plan would be available to the public and would cover the use of PPE, infection control advice, the tracking process, commissioning around discharge from hospitals to provide alternative isolation facilities, clinical support for care homes, the workforce, support from volunteers and the financial support offer.
- Infection control plans were being developed jointly by the Public Health team and Adult Social Care.
- The Local Government Association (LGA) had used the Council's enhanced offer to the care homes as an example of good practice on their website.

- Excellent feedback had been received from some of the vulnerable residents regarding the regular phone calls from volunteers and there had been requests for the calls to continue indefinitely, possibly by incorporating it into the Befriending Service.

Mark Shaw, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

- Support had continued to those in the Early Help Service via remote video conferencing.
- Regular contact was being made to children of concern via virtual meetings and some home visits had been undertaken where necessary.
- The Portage Service had posted videos with suggestions of things to do and useful tips.
- Creative methods had been used to reach out to families and children in crisis.
- Preparations were being made for the challenge of increased cases when children returned to school.

Isobel Darby, Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness

- Tribute was paid to the housing teams who had worked together incredibly well.
- 80 rough sleepers were in temporary accommodation.
- Outreach work was continuing for the few rough sleepers who had not taken up the offer of temporary accommodation.
- Planning was being carried out for the homeless for when the temporary hotel accommodation was no longer available; permanent sources of accommodation were being freed up by moving people to permanent solutions.
- The department were mindful that there may be an increase in victims of domestic abuse or homelessness due to the loss of income as a result of the pandemic.

Bill Chapple, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change

- There had been over 40,000 visitors to the recently re-opened household recycling centres. Visitors were required to provide proof of residency in Buckinghamshire.
- The bank holiday weekend had been busy; B Chapple thanked officers and contractors for their hard work and visitors for their co-operation.
- Garden waste collections had resumed.
- There had been approximately 500 new subscriptions for garden waste collections.
- The bulky waste collection service was running as normal.
- The amount of recycling waste had increased and food waste collection had re-started.

- There had been a 26% increase in general waste collection in April 2020 compared to the previous year.
- Full credit would be given for the period when the garden waste collections were suspended.

Clive Harriss, Cabinet Member for Sport and Leisure

- There had been an increase in the number of people taking regular exercise during the lockdown and this should be encouraged after lockdown to combat obesity.
- The country parks had re-opened. However, due to poor parking by some visitors, short-term parking regulations had been implemented to maintain the safety of the public.
- Children's play areas would remain closed as children were unable to socially distance.
- Golf and tennis clubs had re-opened.
- The leisure centres remained closed and the loss of income had added to the financial pressures for the Council.
- The building of the new Amersham Leisure Centre and the refurbishment at Chesham Leisure Centre were going ahead.
- A bid would be submitted for an active travel plan to help keep cyclists safe and maintain the flow of traffic across Buckinghamshire.

The following points were raised by members of the Cabinet:

- In response to a query on whether the Befriending Service extended to the whole community or just care homes, A Macpherson advised it was a community based service which currently focussed on the care homes and vulnerable residents; however, it would be worth exploring the possibility of extending the service to the wider community.
- Anita Cranmer, Cabinet Member for Education, stated that the government had provided guidelines regarding the re-opening of schools. Many staff had worked continuously through the school holidays to provide schooling for special needs children and key workers' children. A Cranmer emphasised that there was no legal obligation for schools to re-open or for parents to send their children back to school and fines would not be issued if children were kept away from school.
- Following a question on whether public toilets in the country parks could be re-opened safely, C Harriss advised that on re-opening the toilets visitors would be asked to bring their own hand sanitiser. The cleaning of the toilets would be increased but could not be cleaned after every use. It was an unusual, difficult situation and the design of toilets was a problem; disabled toilets could be the easiest to open.
- A cabinet member highlighted the positive figures for looked after children which had decreased slightly; also, the total number of children on a child protection plan had decreased to 530 from 600. M Shaw explained that 23 children had left care and 18 had come into care; the service remained in

contact with all the children and had found that better relationships had been maintained via virtual methods and this would be considered as a way forward after the pandemic.

M Tett stressed the importance of supporting local businesses and advised that Bucks Business First was the main point of contact for advice on the government initiatives launched during the Covid-19 crisis. 82% of eligible businesses had been awarded a business grant (approximately £75 million in total). Details would follow on the Discretionary Business Grant once the criteria had been established.

R Shimmin and the Cabinet members expressed their thanks to Buckinghamshire Council staff for their hard work during this difficult time.

RESOLVED: Cabinet NOTED the Covid-19 Update.

7 Confidential Minutes

To agree the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 21 April 2020.

RESOLVED: The confidential minutes of the meeting held on 21 April 2020 were AGREED as an accurate record.

8 Exclusion of the public (if required)

Not required.

9 Confidential Minutes

RESOLVED: The confidential minutes of the meeting held on 21 April 2020 were AGREED as an accurate record.

10 Date of next meeting

16 June 2020.



Buckinghamshire Council Cabinet/Cabinet Member forward plan

The local authorities (executive arrangements) (meetings and access to information) (England) regulations 2012

This is a notice of an intention to make a key decision on behalf of Buckinghamshire Council (regulation 9) and an intention to meet in private to consider those items marked as 'private reports' (regulation 5).

A further notice (the 'agenda') will be published no less than five working days before the date of the decision meeting and will be available via the [Buckinghamshire Council website](#).

All reports will be open unless specified otherwise.

Item and description	Wards affected	Councillor(s) / contact officer	Private report? (relevant para)	Date notified
Cabinet 16 June 2020				
Local Planning Enforcement and Monitoring Plan To consider a report for a single planning enforcement and monitoring policy for Buckinghamshire Council		Councillor Warren Whyte Darran Eggleton		20/2/20

<p>Aylesbury Garden Town - Governance & Masterplan To gain approval on the governance arrangements for Aylesbury Garden Town and to agree the Aylesbury Garden Town Masterplan</p>	<p>Aylesbury East; Aylesbury North; Aylesbury North West; Aylesbury South East; Aylesbury South West; Aylesbury West</p>	<p>Councillor Steve Bowles Clare Manders</p>		<p>7/5/20</p>
<p>Unitary Implementation Budget Outturn Report To consider the Unitary implementation budget outturn report</p>		<p>Councillor Katrina Wood Elspeth O'Neill</p>		<p>20/5/20</p>
<p>Cabinet 7 July 2020</p>				
<p>Financial Outturn report for 2019/20 To consider financial outturn reports from legacy councils</p>		<p>Councillor Katrina Wood Richard Ambrose</p>		<p>1/5/20</p>
<p>Children's Improvement Plan progress update To consider an update on the Children's Improvement Plan</p>		<p>Councillor Mark Shaw Tolis Vouyioukas</p>		<p>8/6/20</p>

June 2020 Leader Decisions				
Adult Social Care Supervision Policy To agree a supervision policy for adult social care practitioners		Councillor Angela Macpherson Jennifer McAteer		19/3/20
Agreement to institute proceedings in a contractual matter		Councillor Martin Tett Sarah Ashmead	Part exempt <i>(para 5)</i>	27/5/20
Allocation of Grants for Children's Social Care purposes The government has provided grant funding for specific purposes to the Council but these were not ring-fenced grants. This decision report is to ring-fence these grants for the Children's Social Care Portfolio to use in the intended way.		Councillor Mark Shaw Liz Williams		5/3/20
Allocation of Grants for Education purposes The government has provided grant funding for specific purposes to the Council but these were not ring-fenced grants. This decision report is to ring-fence these grants for the Education Portfolio to use in the intended way.		Councillor Anita Cranmer Liz Williams		5/3/20
Allocation of Top-Up Funding – Outcome of Consultation and Recommendations for Implementation This report provides and update on the outcomes of the consultation on the allocation of top-up funding to support pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and includes proposals for a needs led funding system based on an adapted model for Buckinghamshire.		Councillor Mark Shaw Liz Williams		9/4/20

An Approved List for Children's Domiciliary Care To agree an approved List for Children's Domiciliary Care		Councillor Mark Shaw Stuart Kelly	Part exempt (para 3)	9/4/20
Aylesbury National Productivity Investment Fund Implementation (Phase 2) Junction Improvements	Aston Clinton & Bierton; Aylesbury East	Councillor Nick Naylor Ian McGowan		19/3/20
Bledlow Household Waste & Recycling Centre Bledlow Household Waste & Recycling Centre, Wigans Lane, Bledlow – Grant of Lease to the Bledlow Ridge HRC Community Interest Company	Ridgeway West	Councillor John Chilver Brian Dean	Part exempt (para 3)	1/5/20
Buckinghamshire Network Tender Award contract for implementing a new data network for Buckinghamshire, in partnership with the Buckinghamshire NHS Trust and the CCG.		Councillor Katrina Wood Prod Sarigianis	Part exempt (para 3)	19/3/20
Budget Adjustments to the Approved Capital Programme To approve amendments to the approved budgets within the Capital Programme		Councillor Katrina Wood Sue Palmer		19/3/20
Developer funded schemes Approval of release of funding for transport works programme using section 106 funds		Councillor Nick Naylor Joan Hancox	Open	20/5/20
Development of specialist disability children's home provision Property allocation and business case approval for project to develop specialist disability children's home provision		Councillor Mark Shaw, Councillor John Chilver Nathan Whitley	Part exempt (para 3)	21/4/20

<p>EWR Western Section - Digital Connectivity Funding contribution for EWR towards the provision of digital connectivity alongside the EWR route</p>	<p>Aylesbury North West; Great Brickhill; Grendon Underwood; Stone & Waddesdon; Winslow</p>	<p>Councillor Martin Tett Joan Hancox</p>		<p>21/4/20</p>
<p>Haydon Hill Cycleway Extension of Waddesdon Greenway</p>	<p>Stone & Waddesdon</p>	<p>Councillor Nick Naylor Joan Hancox</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>20/5/20</p>
<p>Marlow Library: Capitalisation of Revenue Contribution the capitalising of £160k from the 2019/20 library service revenue budget to be used to fund the replacement of fixture and fittings at Marlow library as part of a wider capital scheme</p>	<p>Marlow</p>	<p>Councillor Gareth Williams David Jones</p>		<p>9/4/20</p>
<p>Tatling End Housing Development, Denham To consider a report on Tatling End housing development, Denham</p>	<p>Denham</p>	<p>Councillor John Chilver John Reed</p>	<p>Part exempt <i>(para 3)</i></p>	<p>20/5/20</p>
<p>Westhorpe Interchange - Globe Park access Decision to progress the Westhorpe junction improvement project from feasibility through to detailed design and construction. Purchase land required for the scheme.</p>	<p>Flackwell Health, Little Marlow & Marlow South East; Little Chalfont & Amersham Common; Marlow</p>	<p>Councillor Nick Naylor, Councillor John Chilver Ian McGowan</p>	<p>Part exempt <i>(para 3)</i></p>	<p>19/3/20</p>

<p>A412 Uxbridge Road junction with Black Park Road - Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) This is a Decision Report that highlights the recommendation to turn the current ETRO to a permanent TRO, which prohibits a 'right turn' manoeuvre from Black Park Road onto the A412 Uxbridge Road, and prohibit a 'U' turn on the A412 Uxbridge Road at the junction with Black Park Road</p>	Stoke Poges & Wexham	Councillor Nick Naylor Kirk Adams		19/3/20
<p>A4157 Douglas Road, Aylesbury - No Right Turn into Stocklake (Urban) Traffic Regulation Order Buckinghamshire Council as traffic authority intends to make the above ETRO. This will prohibit any vehicle (other than a vehicle in emergency use for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes) proceeding in a south-easterly direction in A4157 Douglas Road to turn right into Stocklake (Urban)</p>	Aylesbury East	Councillor Nick Naylor David Cairney		19/3/20
<p>Aston Clinton - Traffic Calming Vertical traffic calming and speed limit reduction</p>	Aston Clinton & Bierton	Councillor Nick Naylor Zunara Aslam		19/3/20
<p>Court Lane and Marsh Lane, Dorney, Proposed Waiting and Loading Restrictions (Amendment 1030) This report summarises the results of the statutory consultation for formalising the “No Waiting at any time” restrictions on Court Lane and Marsh Lane, Dorney.</p>	Cliveden	Councillor Nick Naylor Ryan Curtis		19/3/20

<p>Dollicot Road, Haddenham - Proposed 20mph Speed Limit S106 Scheme for the provision of a speed limit TRO in Dollicott, Haddenham, and its adjoining roads. This is to mitigate concerns relating to road safety as a result of increased vehicular and pedestrian traffic, following residential development in the immediate vicinity. The proposal relates to an area wide 20mph speed limit being introduced in the residential streets.</p>	Bernwood	Councillor Nick Naylor Tom McCarthy		19/3/20
<p>Grafton Street, High Wycombe, Proposed Waiting Restrictions (Amendment 1041) Results of statutory consultation exercise on proposals to introduce 'no waiting at any time' double yellow line restrictions at a number of places on Grafton Road to secure access to off-street parking and ensure visibility for traffic leaving the off-street parking to avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the highway.</p>	West Wycombe	Councillor Nick Naylor Ian Thomas		19/3/20
<p>Knights Templar Way, Daws Hill - No Waiting and No Loading Parking Restrictions S106 Scheme for the provision of a parking TRO in Knights Templar Way / Daws Hill Lane in mitigation of parking related concerns as a result of residential development in the nearby vicinity. The proposal relates to the introduction of waiting and loading restrictions.</p>	Abbey	Councillor Nick Naylor Tom McCarthy		19/3/20
<p>Long Crendon - Traffic Calming Vertical traffic calming, Increase of a speed limit</p>	Bernwood	Councillor Nick Naylor Zunara Aslam		19/3/20

<p>Malthouse Way/Barley, Marlow - Waiting Parking Restrictions S106 Scheme for the provision of a parking TRO in Malthouse Way / Barley in mitigation of parking related concerns as a result of residential development in the immediate vicinity. The proposal relates to the introduction of waiting restrictions.</p>	Marlow	Councillor Nick Naylor Tom McCarthy		19/3/20
<p>Mary Macmanus Drive, Buckingham, Proposed Parking Restrictions Mary Macmanus Drive, Buckingham, Proposed Parking Restrictions</p>	Buckingham East	Councillor Nick Naylor Ian Thomas		19/3/20
<p>New Road, Weston Turville - Proposed extension of 40mph Speed Limit S106 Scheme for the provision of a speed limit TRO on New Road, Weston Turville. This is to mitigate concerns relating to road safety following the development of new residential premises adjacent to New Road. The proposal relates to an extension of the existing 40mph speed limit covering the extent of the new residential development.</p>	Aston Clinton & Bierton	Councillor Nick Naylor Tom McCarthy		19/3/20
<p>Park Parade in Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Proposed Waiting & Parking Restrictions Park Parade in Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Proposed Waiting & Parking Restrictions</p>	Hazlemere	Councillor Nick Naylor Ian Thomas		19/3/20
<p>Parkway, Marlow - Waiting Restrictions Introduction of waiting restrictions along Parkway, Marlow.</p>	Flackwell Health, Little Marlow & Marlow South East	Councillor Nick Naylor Daniel Pearson		19/3/20

<p>Pednormead End Flood Alleviation scheme Approval of full business case and release of contract to undertake works</p>	Chess Valley	Councillor Nick Naylor Rob Smith	Open	20/5/20
<p>Proposed 40 mph Speed Limit - A418 Scotsgrove Hill / Aylesbury Road Proposed 40 mph Speed Limit for A418 Scotsgrove Hill / Aylesbury Road, C70 Thame Road & Mill Lane, Haddenham.</p>	Bernwood	Councillor Nick Naylor Shane Thomas		19/3/20
<p>Reclassification Order, Bellingdon Road and Townsend Road, Chesham A short section of Bellingdon Road and Townsend Road in Chesham are classified as B Roads. It seems that this is a historic issue which was not correctly dealt with at the time the A416 St Marys Way was constructed. This order resolves this historic issue</p>	Chesham	Councillor Nick Naylor Keith Carpenter		19/3/20
<p>Rights of Way Enforcement Policy To review and update the existing Rights of Way Enforcement Policy The document will outline the legislative powers available to the authority regarding enforcement, give details of what action our customers may expect the authority to take on illegalities found on the rights of way network.</p>		Councillor Nick Naylor David Sutherland		19/3/20
<p>Sandelswood Waiting Restrictions Cabinet Member Decision for Sandelswood Waiting Restrictions, following Statutory Consultation and the objections received.</p>	Beaconsfield; Penn Wood & Old Amersham	Councillor Nick Naylor Shane Thomas		19/3/20

<p>Stanbridge Road, Haddenham - Proposed extension of 30mph Speed Limit S106 Scheme for the provision of a speed limit TRO on Stanbridge Road, Haddenham. This is to mitigate concerns relating to road safety as a result of increased vehicular and pedestrian traffic, following residential development in the immediate vicinity. The proposal relates to an extension of the existing 30mph speed limit covering the extent of the new residential development.</p>	Bernwood	Councillor Nick Naylor Tom McCarthy		19/3/20
<p>The Broadway, Amersham, Proposed Waiting and Loading Restrictions (Amendment 1028) Proposed Waiting and Loading Restrictions out side the retirement development on The Broadway, Amersham</p>	Penn Wood & Old Amersham	Councillor Nick Naylor Ian Thomas		19/3/20
<p>Willow Road, Aylesbury, Proposed Waiting and Parking Restrictions Willow Road, Aylesbury, Proposed Waiting and Parking Restrictions</p>	Aylesbury North West	Councillor Nick Naylor Ian Thomas		19/3/20
July 2020 Leader Decisions				
<p>Burnham Beeches Special Area of Conservation Mitigation Strategy – Draft Supplementary Planning Document Consultation The purpose of this report is seek the delegation of the Cabinet Member for Planning and Enforcement to approve that the Council carries out a four week consultation on the draft SPD.</p>	Farnham Common & Burnham Beeches	Councillor Warren Whyte Darran Eggleton		8/6/20

<p>Crest Road, High Wycombe Signalisation Buckinghamshire Council are looking to develop 'Cressex Island', and this is a proposed signalisation scheme to convert the existing mini roundabout at the junction of A4010 John Hall Way/Crest Road to a traffic signal controlled junction to reduce the impact of expected increases in traffic. In addition, it is proposed to create a new shared use cycleway along John Hall Way to meet Holmers Farm Way and the Handy Cross Roundabout. This will make it possible to cycle off road from Crest Road to Holmers Farm Way and Cressex.</p>	Abbey	Councillor Nick Naylor Ian McGowan	Open	8/6/20
August 2020 Leader Decisions				
<p>Whaddon CE School The school is presently a Voluntary Controlled school and they are consulting on a proposal that they become a Voluntary Aided school. If agreed the main changes would be that the board becomes the employer of the school's staff, increased control over their admissions and the Oxford Diocese became responsible for any on-going and future capital works at the school.</p>	Winslow	Councillor Anita Cranmer Andrew Tusting		20/5/20

September 2020 Leader Decisions

<p>Burnham Beeches Special Area of Conservation Mitigation Strategy – Supplementary Planning Document This Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is supplementary to the 2011 Chiltern Core Strategy and the 2011 South Bucks Core Strategy. The SPD sets out the mitigation strategy for any net increase in homes within a zone between 500 meters and 5.6 kilometres. The purpose of this report is seek the delegation of the Cabinet Member to adopt the SPD following a four week public consultation.</p>	<p>Farnham Common & Burnham Beeches</p>	<p>Councillor Warren Whyte Cathy Gallagher</p>		<p>7/5/20</p>
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Individual cabinet member decisions are not discussed at meetings – a report is presented to the cabinet member and they will decide whether to sign the decision. Cabinet members can take key decisions that only affect their portfolio area and can also take joint cabinet member decisions. However, if a decision crosses portfolios, this generally should be agreed by cabinet.

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this forward plan, please get in touch with the contact officer. If you have any views that you would like the cabinet member to consider please inform the democratic services team in good time ahead of the decision deadline date. This can be done by telephone 01296 382343 or email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk. You can view decisions to be made and decisions taken on the council’s website.

The council’s definition of a ‘key decision’ can be seen in part 1 of the council’s [constitution](#).

Each item considered will have a report; appendices will be included (as appropriate). Regulation 9(1g) allows that other documents relevant to the item may be submitted to the decision maker. Subject to prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, this information will be published on the website usually five working days before the date of the meeting. Paper copies may be requested using the contact details below.

*The public can be excluded for an item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt (private) information as defined in part I of schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972. The relevant paragraph numbers and descriptions are as follows:

Paragraph 1 - Information relating to any individual

Paragraph 2 - Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual

Paragraph 3 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

Paragraph 4 - Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority

Paragraph 5 - Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings

Paragraph 6 - Information which reveals that the authority proposes:

(a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or

(b) to make an order or direction under any enactment

Paragraph 7 - Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

Part II of schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 requires that information falling into paragraphs 1 - 7 above is exempt information if and so long, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Nothing in the regulations authorises or requires a local authority to disclose to the public or make available for public inspection any document or part of a document if, in the opinion of the proper officer, that document or part of a document contains or may contain confidential information. Should you wish to make any representations in relation to any of the items being considered in private, you can do so – in writing – using the contact details below.

Democratic services, Buckinghamshire Council, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP19 8FF 01296 382343
democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

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Report to Cabinet

Date: 16th June 2020

Title: Aylesbury Garden Town Board Terms of Reference and Masterplan

Relevant councillor(s): Bill Chapple and Steve Bowles

Author and/or contact officer: Lisa Michelson/Stephen Hill

Ward(s) affected: Aylesbury wards

Recommendations:

Recommendation 1:

To approve the proposed structure and composition of the Strategic Oversight Board and Programme Delivery Team for AGT as set out in the report and in the proposed Terms of Reference at Appendix 1.

Recommendation 2:

To recommend approval of the Masterplan and 2050 Vision for Aylesbury Garden Town to Council.

Reason for decision: The existing Aylesbury Garden Town Governance Structure needs to be revised to reflect the new Unitary Authority arrangements and to align with the Programme's future priorities. The Masterplan has been the subject of extensive public engagement and provides the basis of a comprehensive delivery strategy to transform Aylesbury into a Garden Town over the coming decades, achieving the 2050 Vision.

Content of Report

1.1 Over recent months and in the lead up to the creation of Buckinghamshire Council, the Aylesbury Garden Town (AGT) Delivery Board has been reviewing the overall governance and delivery structures for the Aylesbury Garden Town project. This review is timely, given the progress being made with the AGT Masterplan and a focus on its delivery going forward. In January this year, the AGT Delivery Board endorsed a draft governance structure and approach for recommendation to the new Buckinghamshire Council for

approval and subsequent implementation. This was in the expectation of Council elections in May 2020. Clearly, the Covid 19 crisis has changed this picture.

- 1.2 Over April, the AGT Project Team undertook an impact assessment of the current crisis on the AGT programme for 2020/21. Given the largely long term and regenerative impacts of the programme, the projects identified represent a major opportunity to enhance the environment, economy and social role of Aylesbury over the coming years and decades. This will be particularly important as Aylesbury looks to recover from the imminent recessionary effects of Covid 19. It is, therefore, considered that the key priorities and projects as defined in the Masterplan should still be pursued and, accordingly, that it is important to also progress the refinements to and evolution of the governance and delivery arrangements for the project in order to best support and enable this.
- 1.3 In order to revise the Board in line with Buckinghamshire Council, and the key role going forward in providing strategic oversight, it is recommended that the membership of the existing AGT Board is amended and extended slightly. This will provide for a greater focus on Programme delivery, with increased community involvement, to reflect the important role of Town and Parish Councils in delivering services and the establishment of the Community Boards. The key purposes, core functions, and proposed membership of the **Strategic Oversight Board** have been incorporated into the draft Terms of Reference, which are included at Appendix 1.
- 1.4 As the AGT programme is transitioning into more of a delivery focus (based on implementing the proposals contained within the masterplan), it is now also appropriate to consider a revised and refocussed programme delivery structure, to sit alongside the evolution to a Strategic Oversight Board. Consequently, it is recommended that the **Programme Delivery Team (PDT)** is refined to ensure a clearer decision making and co-ordination process. The proposed composition of PDT is set out in para 2.2.
- 1.5 Work has been ongoing over the last 18 months to produce an AGT Masterplan and associated high level Vision. To move forward on the future delivery programme the Council needs to sign off and approve the Masterplan and Vision. The Vision sets out the high level aspirations and principles for what Aylesbury should look like as a Garden Town by 2050. The Vision identifies 8 key principles which build on Aylesbury's heritage, strengths and opportunities as a Garden Town to tackle the Town's challenges head on and for the benefit of all. This series of interrelated principles underpin proposals and initiatives within the Masterplan. The Masterplan sets out in detail how the AGT Vision will be delivered through a comprehensive and co-ordinated town-wide plan. Together, they provide the framework from which the programme will be derived.

- 1.6 The Vision and Masterplan have been the subject of extensive engagement with key stakeholders throughout its 18 months development. The public consultation on the Draft Masterplan took place over 6 weeks from the 6th January until 14th February 2020 and received largely positive feedback. In response to the main issues raised, a series of key changes and actions have been made to move the Draft AGT Masterplan to a final version (available here: <https://www.aylesburygardentown.co.uk/masterplan>) A Statement of Community Involvement has been produced and is available alongside the Masterplan, this sets out a summary of the key issues raised and amendments are set out on pages 20-22 of this document. Specifically, appropriate images have been sourced and amended within the Vision (Appendix 3) and final Masterplan, to convey aspirational and inspirational examples of high quality, sustainable development. An Executive Summary of the Masterplan has been produced and is provided at Appendix 4. The Executive Summary contains a more succinct and digestible programme of key actions and projects, which will be updated on a regular basis to ensure continued relevance in years to come. The final Masterplan, incorporating all changes, will be submitted to Cabinet and Council for approval.
- 1.7 It is recommended that the Vision, Masterplan and accompanying Executive Summary and Statement of Community Involvement are approved by the Council, these documents have been signed off by the Corporate Management Team. Approval by the Council will provide the documents with status and weight needed to ensure the Vision and Masterplan objectives can be realised to make Aylesbury a truly transformational Garden Town.
- 1.8 Following approval, emphasis will then turn towards delivering the proposals of the Masterplan. The current crisis has increased our awareness of the importance of access to green spaces and nature, high quality living environments, and walking and cycling for our health and wellbeing. It has also heightened our sense of community through collective action to support the vulnerable and the need to ensure Aylesbury town centre recovers from the Covid 19 induced recession, to become a central focus for community, cultural and social activities . The delivery of projects identified in the masterplan will help Aylesbury's communities to recover from and build on the positives that have emerged from this unprecedented challenge. Action to invest in the town centre as a priority and delivery of the Gardenway proposals will help to achieve this, alongside creation of new accessible walking and cycling routes. Creation of high quality new neighbourhoods with local community hubs will also support Aylesbury's recovery and its future resilience.
- 1.9 Feedback during the consultation emphasised the importance of the town centre in supporting the local economy and providing a focus for community activities. Addressing the challenges facing the town centre will be even more pertinent as Aylesbury looks to recover from the Covid-19 crisis, and therefore the production of

a Town Centre Action Plan will be prioritised and can be used as a major opportunity to create a positive response to the recovery of the town.

2.0 Recommended Changes to Terms of Reference for the Board and PDT

Core Membership

2.1 The Board should represent the fact that the AGT Programme requires a partnership between the Council, its key delivery partners and community representatives, in order to deliver transformation on the ground. Board composition is proposed to comprise the following:

- Buckinghamshire Council Cabinet Member(s) with appropriate responsibility
- A representative from Buckinghamshire Growth Board
- Representatives from Community Board(s) related to AGT
- Representative Ward Member from Aylesbury
- Buckinghamshire Council Senior Officers with responsibility for Environment, Transport, Property, Regeneration & Growth
- Representative Officer and Elected Member from Aylesbury Town Council
- Representatives (2) from the AGT area Parish Councils (recommended to be one from the northern group of parishes and one from the southern)
- Board member or nominated representative from Bucks LEP
- Representative from Homes England
- Representative from NHS Health
- Representative from NEP
- Open invitation to Local MPs

2.2 The PDT is envisaged as a small focussed group comprising the AGT Programme Lead (supported by AGT team members as appropriate) plus senior Buckinghamshire Council officers responsible for planning, transportation, implementation etc. These officers would be complemented by representatives from key partner organisations, such as the LEP and Homes England. It would however have the option to invite other disciplines and partners, depending on project needs at the time. It is

recommended that the PDT is re-focussed around a series of Technical Working Groups, to reflect the main action areas and projects as identified in the Masterplan, such as the Town Centre; Movement Network; Delivering Quality Communities etc. (more information on the proposed structure is contained in Appendix 2). These working groups will be multi-disciplinary both from within the Council and from key partner organisations, to reflect the task in question and could include a Board Member to ensure consistent decision making and communication between the key projects and the Oversight Board.

Chairmanship

- 2.3 The Chair will be elected by the Board at its first meeting following establishment of the new Buckinghamshire Council in April 2020, and annually following this.

Meetings

- 2.4 A minimum of 1 meeting per quarter will be held throughout the year, with additional meetings able to be scheduled if required.

Decision Making and Reporting Lines

- 2.5 Whilst the Board has oversight and will direct the delivery of the AGT Programme, it has no statutory decision making powers. Formal decision making (for example on planning applications; statutory plan making; funding allocations) will continue to take place through the existing decision making routes and structures of the organisations represented on the Board, but with the added benefit of clear reporting and recommendations (when relevant) from the Board.
- 2.6 Board Members will be empowered to make AGT related activity and operational decisions on behalf of their respective organisations, subject to each representative organisation's scheme of delegation and management arrangements. The Board will receive reports and progress updates from the AGT Programme Delivery Team which will be focussing on the day to day management and needs of the project and will manage and implement the project plan and decisions of the Board.

Review Dates

- 2.7 These Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually from the point of their first approval, or as required.

Other options considered

- 2.8 A series of workshops were held with the previous AGT Board members to consider a range of options and these are set out in Appendix 2.

Legal and financial implications

None identified.

Corporate implications

The AGT Programme promotes sustainable development for Aylesbury and proposes climate change mitigation measures and responses up to 2050.

Consultation and communication

As referred to above, the previous AGT Board were involved extensively in the proposed recommendations and the results of the AGT Masterplan consultation process have also been taken into account as well as the impacts of the current Covid 19 crisis.

Next steps and review

Once the Terms of Reference have been approved by Cabinet, after it has been through the forward plan process, it is proposed to convene the new Strategic Oversight Board in June 2020. The approved Masterplan will provide the basis for the programme of projects for the new Board.

Background papers

See Appendix 2

Your questions and views (for key decisions)

None relevant

Appendix 1: Aylesbury Garden Town

Strategic Oversight Board – Proposed Terms of Reference (ToR)

Purpose of the AGT Strategic Oversight Board

The Aylesbury Garden Town Strategic Oversight Board will have overall responsibility for ensuring the vision and projects set out in the AGT Masterplan are delivered effectively and will have an active role in co-ordinating and influencing the activities of delivery partners. The Board will engage with and support AGT decision-makers within the parameters of existing regulatory functions and structures in order to ensure the delivery of AGT objectives. The Board will promote and enable AGT by directing its own funds and resources towards the delivery of AGT projects.

Core Functions of the Board

1. To oversee the delivery the AGT Vision and Key Projects through collaborative/partnership working with corporate management teams and elected members. This includes providing leadership in communication across partner organisations to influence strategic priorities and decisions.
2. To monitor and influence the delivery of AGT projects by partners to ensure co-ordinated and comprehensive development.
3. To set delivery priorities and SMART outputs for AGT and to regularly monitor progress against objectives. Where blockages or slippages are identified, to use influence to overcome issues where appropriate.
4. To ensure effective engagement and co-ordination with local organisations and community representatives, including Community Boards in accordance with the AGT stakeholder engagement and communication strategy.
5. To ensure the Programme Delivery Team is sufficiently funded and resourced to support project delivery through the preparation of supplementary planning documents, design codes, strategies and studies as set out in the Masterplan.
6. To identify, secure, co-ordinate, and allocate public sector funding (e.g. capacity funding, capital funds) to the delivery of key AGT projects.
7. To regularly review the options available for greater public sector intervention in AGT delivery to achieve GT principles and positive outcomes for communities and service delivery
8. To influence and encourage the introduction of GT principles into the existing town including seeking to deliver state of the art technology and connectivity to the area (such as 5G, wireless for the town centre etc).
9. To actively engage and influence strategic decisions and policy announcements that impact on the delivery of AGT and to co-ordinate and ensure the exchange of high-level input into existing and/or emerging sub-regional/regional forums including the Buckinghamshire Growth Board.

Membership of the Board

Membership will initially extend to the following:

- Unitary Authority Cabinet Member(s) with appropriate responsibility
- A representative from Buckinghamshire Growth Board
- Representatives from Community Board(s) related to AGT
- Unitary Authority Senior Officers with responsibility for Environment, Transport, Property, Regeneration & Growth
- Representative Officer and Elected Member from Aylesbury Town Council
- Representatives (2) from the AGT area Parish Councils (recommended to be one from the northern group of parishes and one from the southern)
- Board member or nominated representative from Bucks LEP
- Representative from Homes England
- Representative from NHS Health
- Representative from NEP
- Open invitation to Local MPs

The Board will retain the ability to refine its membership to reflect the project progress and needs, as required.

Roles and Responsibilities of Members

Board members should be able to:

- Implement the Core Functions of the Board;
- Have the responsibility to represent their organisation and to feedback information to other relevant individuals and parties within that organisation;
- Declare any interests in the items on the Board meeting agenda and withdraw from any decision making or discussion related to that item where a potential conflict may exist;
- Make recommendations on the prioritisation of activities, projects and resources to deliver AGT; and
- Make every effort to prioritise attendance at scheduled meetings but to ensure that a suitably senior substitute is nominated from the same organisation.

Chairmanship

The Chair will be elected by the Board at its first meeting following establishment of the new Buckinghamshire Council in April 2020, and annually following this. In the case of an equality of votes/a tie, decisions will be made by consensus.

Meetings

A minimum of 1 meeting per quarter will be held throughout the year, with additional meetings able to be scheduled if required.

Decision Making and Reporting Lines

Whilst the Board has oversight and will direct the delivery of the AGT programme and vision, it has no statutory decision making powers. Formal decision making (for example on planning applications; statutory plan making; funding allocations) will continue to take place through the existing decision making routes and structures of the organisations represented on the Board but with the added benefit of clear reporting and recommendations (when relevant) from the Board.

Board Members will be empowered to make AGT related activity and operational decisions on behalf of their respective organisations, subject to each representative organisation's scheme of delegation and management arrangements. The Board will seek to make decisions and agree actions on a consensus basis.

The Board will receive reports and progress updates from the AGT Programme Delivery Team which will be focussing on the day to day management and needs of the project and will manage and implement the project plan and decisions of the Board.

If the situation calls for a Board meeting to be convened virtually, the terms of the meeting and the voting rights of its members will remain unchanged.

Review Dates

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually from the point of their first approval, or as required.

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APPENDIX 2: Evolving the AGT Governance and Delivery Arrangements - Background

In January 2019, the AGT Delivery Board directed a review of governance and delivery model options to explore and make recommendations for the future delivery of AGT, based on the place-making objectives set out in the AGT Masterplan. The agreed scope of the review was to consider the key delivery circumstances for AGT; to review approaches to governance and delivery within other contemporary garden communities; and to make recommendations for options to be considered further for AGT.

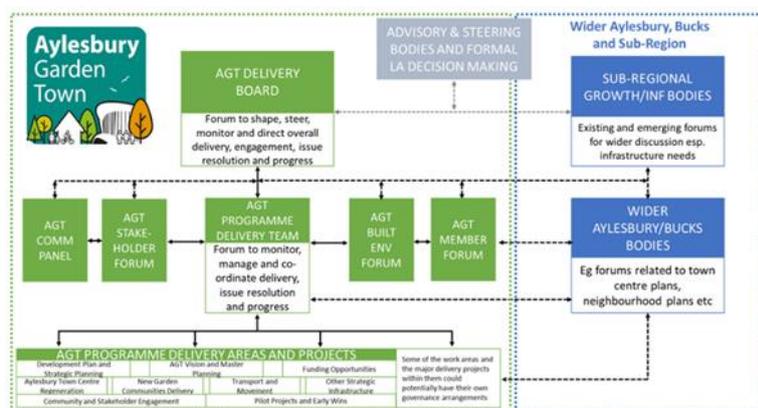
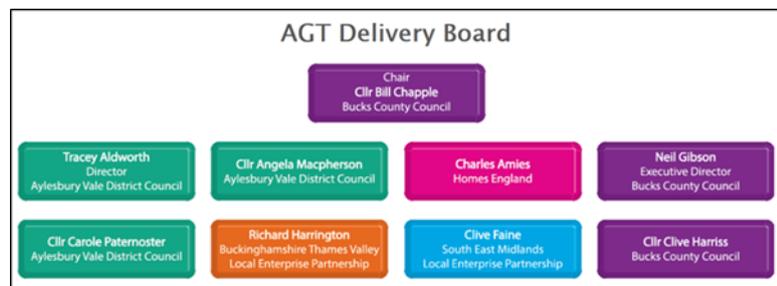
An interim Delivery and Governance Options Review Report was considered by the AGT Delivery Board in July 2019. This recommended that a bespoke/combination approach to delivery is continued to be followed at AGT with further evolution and refinement as part of the transition to Buckinghamshire Council. The transition can also seek to accommodate and respond to the anticipated changes to the approach to the wider governance and decision making across Aylesbury and Buckinghamshire. Of key relevance are the creation of the Buckinghamshire Growth Board, which will provide a single forum for the development and oversight of growth and place-making in Buckinghamshire, including AGT; and the establishment of Community Boards to strengthen local democracy and provide a forum through which local communities and stakeholders can work together to find solutions to local issues.

In addition, over the course of 2019 and early 2020, the Vision for AGT to 2050 and the accompanying AGT Masterplan has progressed to draft stage. The Vision and Masterplan have both been the result of extensive engagement with key partners and the local community, with the Masterplan process culminating in a six week public consultation exercise over January and February 2020. Whilst the Masterplan is still in draft and therefore subject to further potential amendments (as described later in this report) and approval by the AGT Board, it represents a comprehensive picture of how Aylesbury can be transformed over the next 20 to 30 years into a high quality, sustainable community based on garden town principles. In particular, the draft Masterplan identifies a number of key themes and strategic projects that will require focus and investment from Buckinghamshire Council and its partners to ensure its implementation. These themes and projects have informed the suggested future governance and overall resources for AGT going forward.

Following the Interim Report in July 2019, the AGT Delivery Board commissioned a Working Group to further consider and evolve proposals for governance and delivery at AGT to report in January 2020. The key outcomes of this are described below and led the AGT Delivery Board to agree to endorse the recommendations relating to the Board and Programme Delivery Team that are now set out in this report (exceptions being those items which directly reference the Covid-19 issues and responses).

A Summary of Existing AGT Governance Arrangements

The AGT Delivery Board included representatives from AVDC, BCC, BTVLEP, SEMLEP and Homes England and is defined as a “forum to shape, steer, monitor and direct overall delivery, engagement, issue resolution and progress”. It oversees the work of the AGT Programme Delivery Team (PDT) which has focused to date on the preparation of a Masterplan and Infrastructure Delivery Plan for AGT. The structure, composition and relationships are illustrated in the diagrams below.



These governance arrangements have been effective in maintaining momentum during the planning stages of the project and, accordingly, the key areas of work (i.e. masterplan) are now nearing completion. Along with a future Infrastructure Delivery SPD, the Masterplan will provide an appropriate tool to influence and guide future growth within AGT. As noted, the AGT Delivery Board endorsed the conclusions of the working group set up to review the governance and delivery arrangements. It agreed that without further refinement and evolution of both the Board and PDT, there is a potential risk that the Masterplan and other ambitions for AGT may fail to be effectively delivered or may be delivered in a piecemeal and uncoordinated manner, resulting in the loss of opportunity for quality place-making and regeneration in accordance with the emerging vision and garden town principles.

Proposed Evolution to a Strategic Oversight Board for AGT

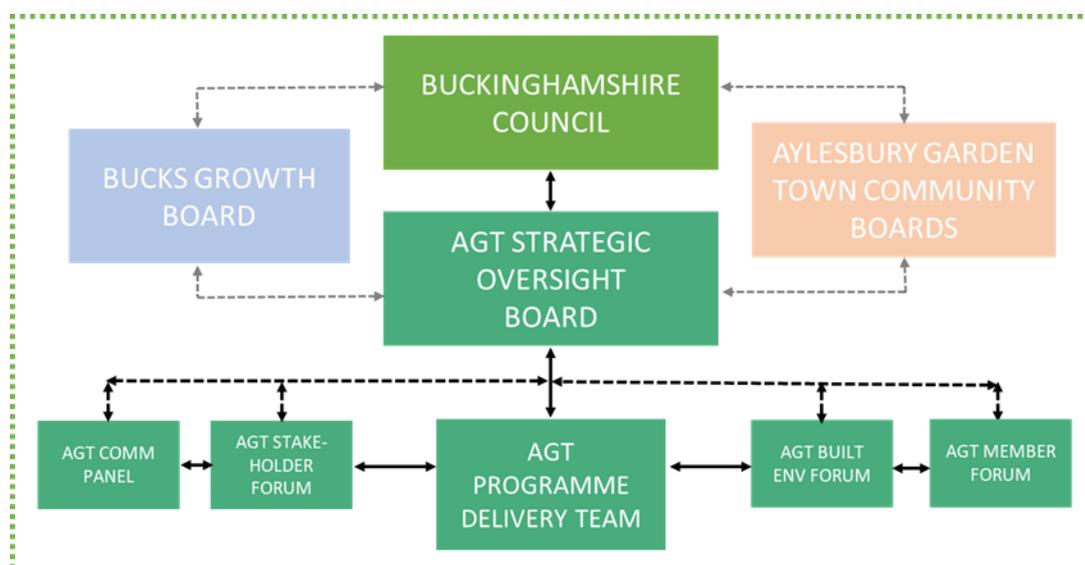
Throughout the Working Group sessions, it was agreed that the current partnership approach to delivery will continue, but that an opportunity exists for an enhanced role for the AGT Board. This would include supporting a greater enabling function than at present, through provisions (included in the ToR) to influence the delivery of projects through close working with partner organisations, as well as generally overseeing and co-ordinating the AGT programme of delivery and the use of the designated Garden Town capacity funding from the sponsoring body MHCLG (through Homes England). This oversight and co-ordination will be particularly important where there is a requirement for further public sector investment and co-ordination between partners in supporting the delivery of the projects set out in the Masterplan. The Oversight Board, as an extensive partnership organisation focussed on Aylesbury, can play a very positive role in the town's recovery from Covid 19 and its further regeneration and transformation as set out in the Masterplan and accompanying Vision 2050. Overseeing co-ordinating the implementation of key transformational projects, through all key partners working together, will be a crucial role.

In January 2020, the AGT Delivery Board resolved to recommend to the new Council the principle of it evolving into a **Strategic Oversight Board**, enabling the Board to offer further added value to AGT through the following:

- Provide support and direction on the emerging COVID-19 recovery programme and initiatives relating to AGT.
- The completion and approval of AGT focused planning framework and enabling documentation to stimulate and encourage quality development within AGT (e.g. SPDS, strategies and feasibility studies)
- Proactive communication with communities (e.g. Community Boards), influencers (e.g. Growth Board) and decision-makers to ensure the delivery of a shared vision for AGT is prioritised
- Ensuring that projects delivered through partners are undertaken in a co-ordinated manner and so benefits and opportunities are optimised e.g. through encouraging information sharing and consensus between town centre delivery partners
- Through ensuring that funding is secured and co-ordinated to support the comprehensive and timely delivery of AGT projects e.g. through an overview of central government funding (HIF, capacity funding), local funding, S106 contributions etc.
- Through the provision of resources to facilitate the delivery of key AGT projects, including capacity support to services where required and the use of designated Garden Town capacity funding.

- Through influencing third party proposals via an interface with development management e.g. through negotiating GI delivery and improvements to meet masterplan targets within housing sites and link road design.
- The provision of leadership in communications and publicity across all partner organisations, ensuring that AGT remains a key priority for delivery.
- Through continuing to review progress of AGT, including ongoing consideration of opportunities/need to influence development where necessary to ensure timely and quality development is achieved.

As previously noted, of key importance for the successful implementation of the proposed delivery model and governance structure, in order to ensure approaches are aligned and information is shared transparently, will be the inter-relationship between the AGT Strategic Oversight Board and other key delivery partners. The following illustration shows how the evolved structure would position the AGT Strategic Oversight Board to deliver the overall programme alongside decision makers and key stakeholders.

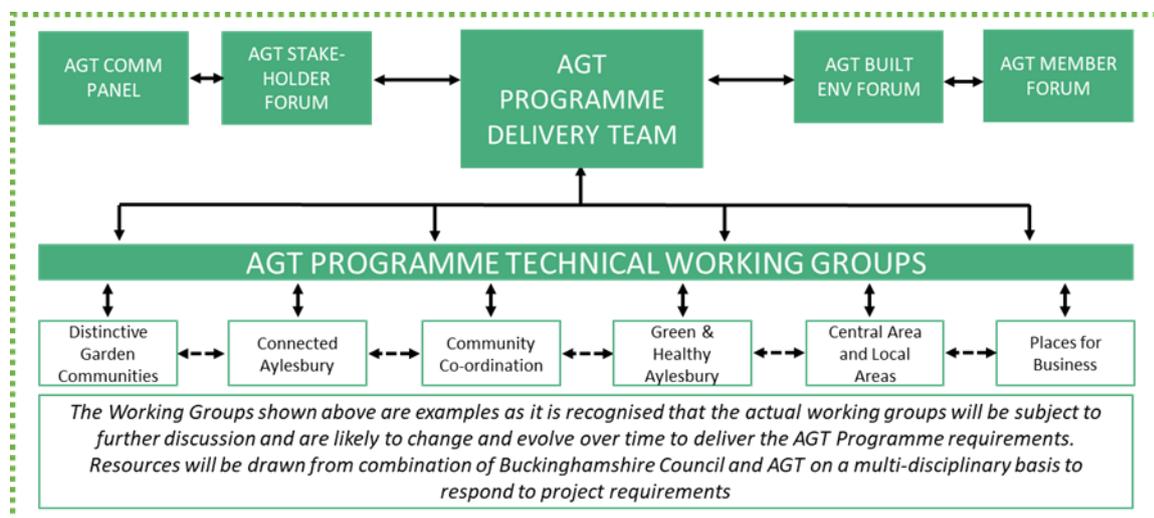


Refinement of Programme Delivery Team (PDT) & Creation of Technical Working Groups

PDT currently operates as a fairly wide forum of individuals from different organisations, meeting on a monthly basis to manage and monitor the AGT Programme. This wider forum of organisations has been appropriate and helpful in progressing from overall project definition and set up, through to the commissioning and drafting of the AGT wide masterplan. However, the fact that the AGT programme is transitioning into more of a delivery focus (based on implementing the proposals contained within the masterplan), suggests it is now appropriate to consider a revised and refocused structure going forward to sit alongside the evolution to a Strategic Oversight Board.

As noted, alongside the immediate responses to the recovery post coronavirus, the AGT Masterplan and Vision will inform and influence the future governance and delivery arrangements and deployment of resources going forwards. The draft masterplan proposes a number of key overarching projects, with detailed action plans for each. These will require delivery of a combination of new projects and more detailed strategies, in order to bring about the transformation of Aylesbury over time and deliver the Vision for AGT. To achieve these aims and objectives will require the input and co-ordination of a wide range of disciplines, both from within Buckinghamshire Council and from partner organisations.

Consequently, it is recommended that the PDT is re-focused around a series of Technical Working Groups to reflect these action areas, ensuring that those attending each working group have a set of clear aims and objectives, that are both appropriate to their discipline/organisation and ultimately the aims of the wider masterplan. A number of potential working groups are set out below although it is recognised that the precise type and number of working groups will evolve and vary over time to deliver the AGT Masterplan and delivery programme. The following diagram illustrates the relationships of the TWGs to the PDT.



Programme Delivery Team

As illustrated above, it is proposed that the work programmes of all individual workstreams is overseen by the revised PDT. The PDT is envisaged as a small focused group comprising the AGT Programme Lead (supported by AGT team members as appropriate) plus senior Buckinghamshire Council officers responsible for planning, transportation, implementation etc. These officers would be complemented by officers from key partner organisations, such as the LEP and Homes England. It would however have the option to invite other disciplines and partners, depending on projects needs at the time.

The PDT will focus on the overall management of the programme. The group will monitor the implementation of the overall project plan for AGT, including overseeing the work of the

Technical Working Groups and advising/reporting to the Board on progress and issues arising. The group is likely to meet bi-monthly to maintain momentum on the project. Key roles of the PDT would comprise:

- Steering and managing the AGT Programme to meet the aims of the Masterplan and to directly support the Covid-19 recovery programme
- Ensuring appropriate resources are allocated to the Technical Working Groups as required to progress the Project Programme.
- Identifying any potential showstoppers/risks as they arise and reporting to the Board on potential solutions
- Monitoring an overall project plan, including key tasks and milestones
- Reporting and making recommendations to the Board on overall Programme progress
- Co-ordinating consultation with third parties, including the public and statutory agencies on key projects
- Monitor the AGT budget and lead on the formulation of external funding bids.
- Ensure co-ordination of the AGT Programme with other relevant programmes across Bucks Unitary, such as HIF etc.

Technical Working Groups

These groups will focus on the delivery of key work areas, comprising of individuals and organisations responsible for the implementation of the defined projects emanating from the masterplan.

The TWGs will be responsible for identifying a strategy and action plan for their thematic areas, informing the implementation of the masterplan. These thematic areas relate to the actions as set out in the Masterplan. The TWGs will report progress to the PDT through an identified technical lead, who will be a member from the AGT team. The frequency of meetings can be determined by each individual TWG, depending on their agreed programme/action plan and may include a Board Member where appropriate.

Initially, TWGs have been identified that relate directly to the identified main project and delivery areas as set out in the AGT Masterplan and a brief summary of their potential activities and focus is set out below:

Connected Aylesbury

To co-ordinate the development and implementation of key strategic infrastructure relating to the movement and transportation network of AGT, for example:

- HIF and LCWIP infrastructure
- Healthy streets
- Input to strategic road implementation/improvement

Community co-ordination

Managing the programme of community engagement actions, including:

- the community funding pot.
- Stakeholder and partners funding
- Community liaison on wider masterplan initiatives

Central Area and Local Centres Network

Responsible for interpreting the actions as set out in the masterplan relating to the town centre, in terms of identifying redevelopment opportunities; preparing development briefs and procuring appropriate advice; enhancing the public realm; contributing to the wider cultural strategy/ promotion of Aylesbury etc. Considering opportunities to promote sustainable neighbourhoods across AGT, for example the development of a strategy; liaising with external partners and organisations to encourage investment in neighbourhood centres etc.

Green and Healthy Aylesbury

Implementing environmental schemes and projects across AGT, with the aim of providing a connected and multi-functional blue and green infrastructure network, as set out in the Masterplan. This will include key projects such as:

- The Gardenway
- Watercourse naturalisation
- Natural Capital Assessment

Distinctive Garden Communities

The masterplan focusses on ensuring a co-ordinated approach to delivering high quality design and place making is achieved across the new 'Garden Communities'. Ensuring housing delivery is a key aim of AGT and its success is an indicator for MHCLG influencing Capacity Fund allocation. This workstream would bring together professionals and partners

responsible for delivering the major strategic housing sites, to drive forward quality, as defined by the masterplan and the Design Guide. For example, this group would oversee the implementation of a design review panel; input to relevant site specific SPD's etc.

Places for Business

Driving forward opportunities for innovative employment and economic investment in the town is a key objective of the masterplan and was recognised as a priority through the public consultation. This group would bring together key disciplines to understand how this can be achieved and to co-ordinate and implement appropriate actions focussed on job creation and employment innovation.

Aylesbury Garden Town 2050 Vision

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Foreword

The next 30 years is an exciting new era for Aylesbury as it grows into a Garden Town.

It's nearly three years since Aylesbury was awarded Garden Town status and given a once in a lifetime opportunity to improve the lives of our community.

Since then we've been drawing up plans for the way the town will evolve over the next few decades, through listening and engaging with the many different groups that make Aylesbury the great place that it is.

We've heard from residents and local businesses, as well as stakeholders, community groups and partners - and we've used that feedback to shape our Vision which builds on Aylesbury's heritage and strengths and looks to its future opportunities as a Garden Town.

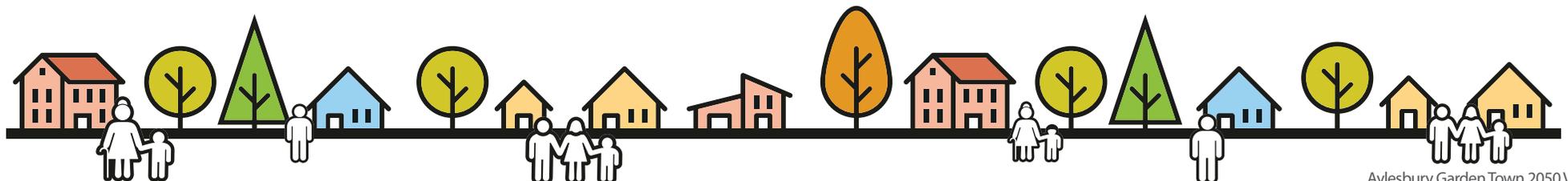
Our Vision for 2050 explains our collective ambitions for Aylesbury Garden Town and our aim to create an Aylesbury that is designed for everyone. As the Birthplace of the Paralympic Movement, a legacy of inclusion and accessibility is an essential part of the future of the town. We want to make Aylesbury a greener, more inclusive and prosperous place, where everyone can enjoy a high quality of life.

The current global pandemic has made us more aware of how important our local communities are, and how much we value green spaces, active lifestyles and access to local services and healthcare. Our Vision responds to this and will help Aylesbury to recover positively from this unprecedented challenge.

We will continue to work closely with our local community and stakeholders to ensure that as Aylesbury grows, we include all the right things to help it thrive.



Cllr BILL CHAPPLE OBE
Chair Aylesbury
Garden Town
Partnership





Aylesbury Garden Town: Our 2050 Vision

Aylesbury Garden Town is the County Town of Buckinghamshire.

Building on the town's proud history as the Birthplace of the Paralympic Movement, it is internationally renowned as an attractive and inclusive place, enabling people and communities to reach their full potential.

It is an innovator in health and wellbeing, public service and sustainable travel.

The historic town centre is the vibrant heart of Aylesbury Garden Town, a thriving community and commercial hub, full of life, interaction and culture.

Green, healthy, productive and accessible, Aylesbury Garden Town is simply a great place to be.

What is Aylesbury Garden Town?

Aylesbury was awarded Garden Town status by the government in January 2017 as part of the national Garden Communities programme. This promotes excellence in design and planning, evoking earlier Garden Cities such as Welwyn and Letchworth which have stood the test of time.

Aylesbury Garden Town is not a New Town. It is a new era for a town with a long and rich history, embarking on a new phase of change and growth. Key public sector partners have come together to lead the delivery of this change.

Aylesbury is within one of the key areas for growth in the UK. Around 16,000 new homes are set to be built by 2033, and construction is underway at Berryfields and Kingsbrook.

Aylesbury's evolution as a Garden Town will be shaped by emerging policy and guidance including the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) 2013-2033, the Aylesbury Garden Town Masterplan, and the Aylesbury Vale Design Guide (currently under preparation).

This document, the Aylesbury Garden Town 2050 Vision, supports the Policies contained within the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) covering the period to 2033, in particular Policy D1 Delivering Aylesbury Garden Town. It also looks beyond the 2033 VALP period, identifying further ambitions for the Garden Town to 2050.

The AGT Vision sets out the Partnership's long-term ambition for Aylesbury—a 21st century Garden Town—and informs the emerging AGT Masterplan, which further explains how the vision will be delivered through a comprehensive and co-ordinated town-wide spatial plan.



Market Square



Circus Field Basin



Bourg Walk Bridge



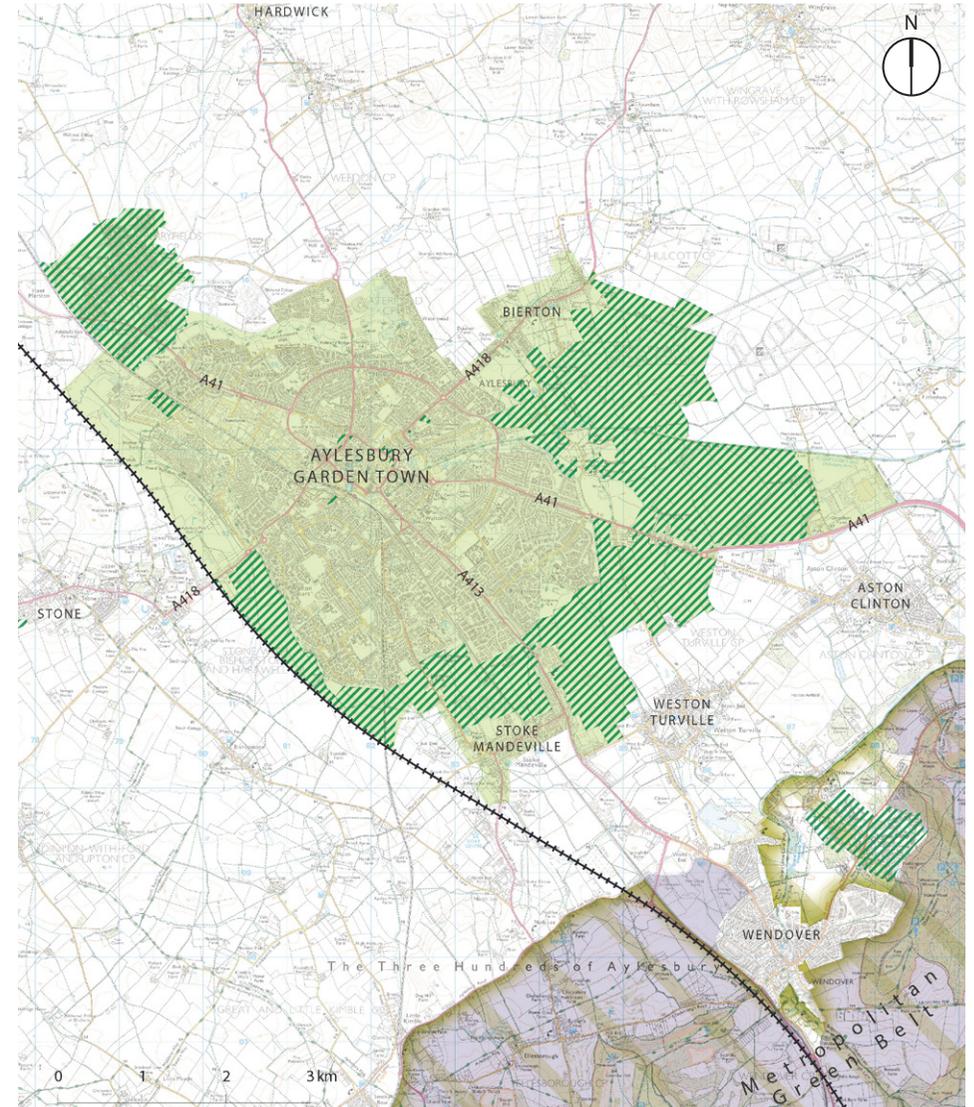
Waterside Theatre

Where is Aylesbury Garden Town?

Aylesbury has a rich history and is Buckinghamshire's County Town. It benefits from a great location, close to London and within the government-proposed Oxford-Cambridge Arc, which presents a global-level opportunity to attract jobs, business and investment.

Aylesbury Garden Town covers the existing built up area of Aylesbury and new residential and employment development sites at the edge of Aylesbury, that are currently being planned as part of the VALP, some of which are already under construction.

-  Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan allocated sites
-  Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
-  Metropolitan Green Belt
-  Proposed High Speed 2

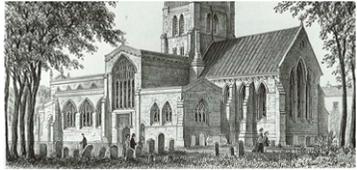


Garden Town location

The Eras of Aylesbury

Aylesbury has evolved over many centuries into the town we know and love. Designation as a Garden Town is the start of an exciting new era in the town's evolution.

Aylesbury of yesterday



EARLY HISTORY & MEDIEVAL MARKET TOWN

Aylesbury's history of habitation dates back to the Iron Age. The Romans built Akeman Street. The Saxon's knew it as Ægel's burgh.

In medieval times, Aylesbury grew into a large village hosting a weekly market and annual fairs for the surrounding area. Walton was a hamlet to the south. Today's town centre, with large open squares surrounded by shops and inns, is a remnant of the town's medieval commercial importance.



COUNTY TOWN

In 1529, Aylesbury was designated the county town of Buckinghamshire.

With this new civic and administrative function and its existing flourishing cattle market, Aylesbury became the principal market town in the county and known for its lace manufacturing and duck breeding.



VICTORIAN TOWN

Aylesbury's industrial identity grew with the opening of the canal and railway. Small businesses, and then larger industries flourished.

The town grew gradually and new public facilities and suburbs of terrace housing were constructed. In 1865 a corn exchange was built where grain could be bought and sold. Aylesbury continued to be famous for its ducks.



BIRTHPLACE OF THE PARALYMPIC GAMES

On 29 July 1948 – the same day as the Olympic Opening Ceremony – the first "Stoke Mandeville Games" took place launching what was to become the Paralympic Games.

The Paralympic legacy continues today. Stoke Mandeville Stadium and the National Spinal Injuries Centre are nationally important facilities.



GROWING TOWN

In the 1950s and 60s, Aylesbury grew rapidly bringing new people, businesses, culture and prosperity to the town.

Aylesbury has continued to grow throughout the 20th century and into the 21st.



Aylesbury of today



CULTURAL RENAISSANCE

In the 21st century, Aylesbury is a vibrant commercial centre. Its heritage as a market town and county town ring true in its streets, squares, and weekly markets.

As a testament to this heritage, Aylesbury has seen numerous recent changes that bolster its role not only as a place to live, but as a place rich in culture and leisure, with great spaces and events attracting people from the surrounding areas.

2002 was the first year of Aylesbury's children's literary and arts festival, now known as WhizzFizzFest.

In 2005, Aylesbury was designated a cycling demonstration town, creating the Gemstone Routes and the striking Bourg Walk Bridge.

In 2010, the 1,200 seat Waterside Theatre was opened. The theatre hosts musicals, comedies, plays, opera and ballet performances.

In 2015, Buckinghamshire New University opened its Aylesbury Campus. It offers a wide range of specialist courses for students of all ages.

In March 2019, The Exchange opened, creating a new public square surrounded by restaurants, shops and homes in the heart of the town centre.

2002
The first WhizzFizzFest is held

2005
Aylesbury is declared a cycling demonstration town

2009
Bourg Walk Bridge opens and wins the Engineering Excellence Award

2010
Waterside Theatre opens

2015
Aylesbury Campus of the Buckinghamshire New University opens

Aylesbury of tomorrow



AYLESBURY GARDEN TOWN

The Garden Town builds on Aylesbury's strengths and protects its historic character and culture.

It addresses the challenges that we face today including climate change and our recovery from the global pandemic and that we anticipate will shape Aylesbury over the next 30 years.

The Garden Town programme seeks to improve the quality of life for all within Aylesbury, creating a place to be proud of. The Vision and Principles set out in this document help to set the aspirations for that change and are explored further in the Garden Town Masterplan.

2017
Aylesbury is awarded Garden Town status

2019
The Exchange opens

Challenges to 2050

Aylesbury faces a number of big challenges over the next three decades, that Garden Town status can help to meet. These include:



ENSURING OUR TOWN CENTRE IS FIT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

How we shop and work is changing. This is affecting the health of town centres around the country. We want Aylesbury town centre to retain its historic role as a destination for activity, culture and exchange.



BETTER CONNECTING WITH OUR ENVIRONMENT

Aylesbury has great canals, brooks and green spaces, but some of them are hidden and underused. It is on the doorstep of the Chiltern Hills. We want to reinvigorate the town's green and blue spaces, for the benefit of people and nature.



MAKING THE MOST OF OUR GREAT LOCATION

Aylesbury's location between London and the government-proposed Oxford - Cambridge Growth Arc is a big opportunity for long term economic prosperity, if the right conditions for investment are created.



ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO WALK AND CYCLE

Aylesbury is dependent on the car. We need to kick-start a behavioural change towards active travel such as walking and cycling, increase use of public transport and innovative transport solutions such as car clubs, making it easier for everyone to get around, making us more healthy and active, and breathing life back into Aylesbury's streets.



IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF AYLESBURY'S RESIDENTS

Aylesbury has a diverse population. It also has pockets of social deprivation. We want investment and growth to benefit everyone who lives here, helping everyone live happier, healthier lives.



CREATING DISTINCTIVE AND ATTRACTIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Just over 16,000 new homes will be built by the mid-2030s. We want to create well designed and attractive places where new communities can flourish.



ADAPTING TO CHANGE

The UK Parliament has declared a climate emergency and committed to cutting greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, with local authorities following suit.

In recent months the global pandemic has created significant challenges for Aylesbury's residents and businesses. It has made us more aware of the importance of our local communities and the benefits of having good access to green spaces, active travel routes and local services.

At the same time, technology is transforming the way we work, live, move and respond to these challenges.

We want the Garden Town to be a resilient place, where this period of change and recovery is harnessed for the good of all those who live and work in Aylesbury.



Credit: BMD 2019



Credit: ADN



HARNESSING THE BENEFITS OF GROWTH

Properly planned change and growth can tackle existing challenges, making things better for everyone, not worse. That's what we want to achieve at Aylesbury. We are committed to 'joined-up thinking' and supporting partnerships between public and private sector organisations and local communities.

Ambitions for 2050

We have identified eight principles which build on Aylesbury's heritage, strengths, and future opportunities as a Garden Town, to tackle these challenges head on and for the benefit of all.

This series of interrelated principles are the foundation for the Garden Town era of Aylesbury. They will underpin proposals and initiatives contained in the Garden Town Masterplan and the entire Aylesbury Garden Town programme.

These principles have the people and community of Aylesbury at their heart. They seek to define how Aylesbury will become a high quality and truly inclusive place to live.



Aylesbury for everyone

At the heart of our vision is an ambition to create an Aylesbury that is designed for everyone. Aylesbury is the Birthplace of the Paralympic Movement. This important legacy of inclusion is an essential part of the future for Aylesbury and forms a core value in the Garden Town Vision.

As we work towards delivering the Garden Town, our ambition is to see Aylesbury emerge as an exemplar in its approach to inclusion.



Waterside Festival. Credit: ADN



Vision for more accessible, people-friendly places

We need to keep talking to everyone who lives, works and visits Aylesbury so that we can understand how we can make Aylesbury work for everyone. We want to create a welcoming environment, where inclusion and equal access to opportunities will sit at the centre of the decision-making process for the Garden Town.



Paralympic Flame Lighting Ceremony at Stoke Mandeville Stadium



Aylesbury Old Town

Putting the town centre first

“In 2050 Aylesbury’s town centre is a thriving community and commercial heart. It is a destination, a place to live and a place of exchange, commerce, and leisure that goes beyond just retail. The Garden Town is supported by a greater mix of uses and activities across a wider central area supporting long-term population and economic growth.”

The heart of the Garden Town

Our town centre will continue its historic role as a cultural and community hub. A range of new and old quarters will evolve to breathe new life into the centre. A vibrant mix of uses will create activity and footfall, day and night, weekdays and weekends, reflecting changes in the way people live, shop, work and have fun.

Reconnected with the communities it serves

We will break down barriers created by road and other infrastructure, to re-connect the historic town centre to surrounding communities and employment zones. This will allow the town centre to grow, creating new places to live and work centrally.

Our public spaces matter

We will create people friendly, accessible and healthy streets and spaces across the town centre, while conserving and highlighting Aylesbury’s precious heritage.



The Exchange, Aylesbury. Credit: BMD 2019.



Superkillen Park, Copenhagen



Cambridge Street , Princesshay, Exeter



The Scene, Walthamstow, London



New Road, Brighton

An innovation and investment hub

“In 2050 Aylesbury is the prime location for investment and job creation in Buckinghamshire. It has capitalised on its position within the Oxford-Cambridge Arc to grow jobs and businesses attracting investment due to its high-quality business and living environment”.

A key location within the Oxford-Cambridge Arc

We will create space and the right conditions for new and innovative employment sectors that plug into the Oxford-Cambridge business network and secure a prosperous future for Aylesbury. Catalyst locations will include the town centre, Stoke Mandeville Hospital and Stadium, Berryfields, and Woodlands Enterprise Zone.

Playing to our strengths

We will capitalize on existing specialisms and our links to nearby economic hubs to grow our economy in meditech, space, energy and high-performing engineering, creative industries, food processing, mobility and the public sector.

Creating an environment for innovation and flexibility

We will encourage the location of light industrial uses towards the outer link roads, enabling the town centre to expand and transform into an entrepreneurial hub of flexible office space and mixed uses easily accessible by walking or cycling. We will be a test bed for new, emerging technologies and employment.

Supporting small businesses

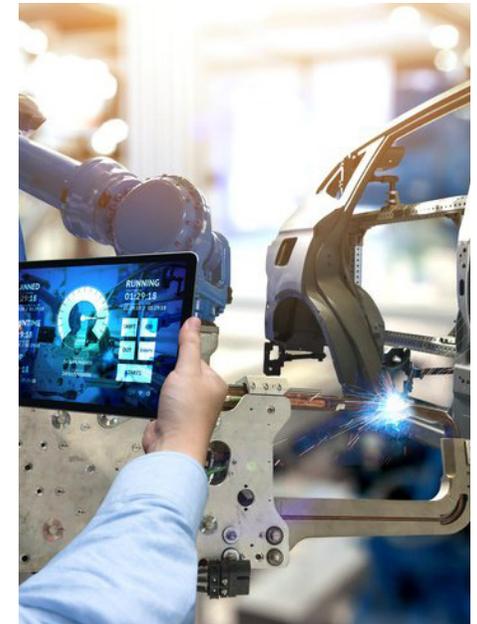
We will create new, different and flexible work spaces in the town centre and local centres to support Aylesbury’s self-employed residents, start-ups and small businesses. Aylesbury will be a place to grow your business in a thriving environment.



Aylesbury Campus of the Buckinghamshire New University



Co-working space



Innovation in existing economic strengths

The highest quality of life for all

“In 2050 Aylesbury Garden Town supports the highest quality of life for its diverse population, through the provision of accessible local centres and neighbourhood hubs with community facilities that meet the needs of all.”

Centres of activity

Local centres will be enhanced as the hubs of community life, providing clusters of shops, services, and facilities for residents close to home.

Hubs of daily life

As the town grows, we will carefully plan and design new facilities to be in the most accessible locations, so that all homes are in walking distance of the services they need, enhancing the sense of community and quality of life for residents.

Schools and services

Health services will be provided in accessible locations, and in an integrated way to support the health and wellbeing of residents. People in Aylesbury will have access to excellent education opportunities, both academically and vocationally.

A place for everyone

Aylesbury will be a place where everyone, including the town’s most vulnerable people, are supported to reach their full potential.



Bigg Market local centre, Newcastle



A vision for making Exchange Street pedestrian friendly



Play in the Park, Vale Park



Aylesbury Grammar School



Prestwood Infant School

A green and healthy Garden Town

“In 2050 a web of green and blue infrastructure puts the ‘garden’ in Garden Town. As a result of the Garden Town programme Aylesbury’s communities are better connected to the countryside and the Chiltern Hills. The town’s waterways have been revealed and naturalised, streets are greener and outdoor spaces are more accessible, biodiverse and active.”

Aylesbury Gardenway

We will create a continuous loop of exciting and beautiful green and blue spaces around Aylesbury connecting parks, woodlands, leisure destinations and heritage sites.

The Gardenway will become a focus for community activities. It will connect people to nature and will make it easy to get out into the countryside and enjoy the great outdoors.

Going against the flow

We will work to open up and naturalise Aylesbury’s hidden waterways, making them more accessible, healthy and productive. The canal, river and brook corridors will become spaces for active travel, recreation, biodiversity and climate change mitigation.

The best of Town and Country

New communities will be designed to be as green as possible, with half their land dedicated to multifunctional and accessible green space to maximise benefits such as for wildlife, recreation and health.

Greening Aylesbury

Everyone will be encouraged to get involved in helping to manage their local green spaces. Together we will plant new woodland and street trees, create pocket parks, grow community gardens, and introduce green spaces and play facilities that work for everyone.



Vision for greening Aylesbury

Aylesbury on the move

“In 2050 people choose to walk, cycle, or use public transport for everyday journeys within Aylesbury, because the town is easy to navigate and has an integrated and inclusive transport system. In fact, sustainable travel accounts for more than 50% of journeys starting in Aylesbury. Residents benefit from active lifestyles and streets are people- friendly places.”

Active, greener travel for all

We are committed to reducing congestion, pollution and our carbon footprint by making it easy and affordable for everyone to choose active travel and use public transport regardless of where you live, your age and physical ability. Our target is that by 2050 at least 50% of trips originating in the Garden Town will be made by sustainable modes.

Healthy, active travel

Aylesbury will be a great place to cycle, walk or use a wheelchair. The Gemstone routes will be upgraded as part of a connected network of high quality, safe routes linking destinations across the town.

The future is now in Aylesbury

Aylesbury will be a living lab, a test-bed for new technologies including new forms of transport and data usage which will help us to move around and make life easier for residents and businesses.

Healthy streets

Aylesbury’s streets will be both places to move through and places to spend time in. Through traffic will be removed from the town centre so that the town’s streets can become people friendly, convivial spaces again.

Getting there together

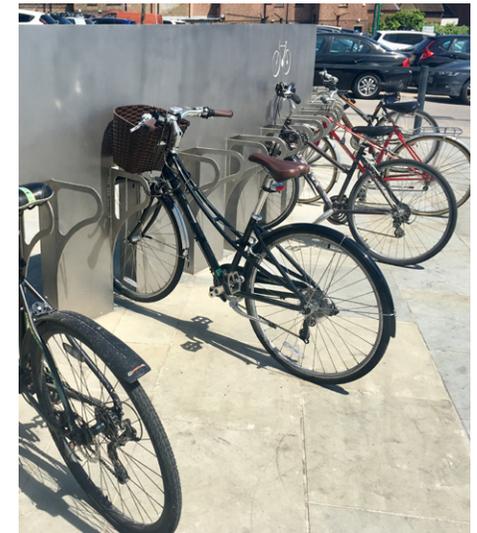
When passengers arrive in Aylesbury by train or bus, they will be greeted by a station experience that is pleasant and easy to navigate. Once in Aylesbury, there will be many shared ways of getting around reliably and comfortably.



Vision for a more people-friendly station boulevard



Cycle path, The Netherlands



Cycle parking at the Exchange. Credit: BMD 2019.

Distinctive Garden Communities

“In 2050 Aylesbury is a showcase for new approaches to housing delivery and design. New garden communities provide varied, beautiful neighbourhoods that Aylesbury’s residents are proud to call home”.

We know when we’re home

The design of new buildings, streets and green spaces will create distinctive neighbourhoods within Aylesbury Garden Town. We will demand place-specific, bespoke and best practice design solutions.

We built it together

We will be bold in working collaboratively with communities, local stakeholders and development partners to ensure viable and innovative approaches to the delivery and long-term management of our spaces and places.

Aylesbury Garden Town Masterplan

Our new communities will be planned in a joined-up way, across site boundaries and ownerships, to deliver the town-wide objectives of the Garden Town Masterplan.

Distinctive and connected

We will develop a strong vision for each new community, so that each neighbourhood has its own distinct identity, while being a fully connected part of the wider Garden Town.

Designing a Garden Town

All development in Aylesbury will be required to be of the highest design quality standards and exemplary in inclusive design. Everyone will have equal access to the well-designed homes, streets, spaces, and buildings that make up Aylesbury Garden Town.



Drakes Place, Aylesbury



Goldenmede, The Rothschild Foundation. Credit: Rothschild Foundation.



Abode, Cambridge



Elmbrook, Bicester Eco-town



Accordia, Cambridge

A Smart and Sustainable Garden Town

“In 2050 technology is used to help make Aylesbury a better, more resilient and sustainable place. Aylesbury’s integrated data services make life easier for residents and ensures access to local and strategic services”.

Resilient from the start

We will do everything we can to ensure that Aylesbury looks towards low carbon technology and is a pioneer of technology that greens our transport and energy infrastructure.

Let’s be smart about it

Data and digital platforms will be used deliberately and securely in the planning, design and management of the Garden Town to support innovation, service delivery, overall liveability and business growth. 5G broadband will be available everywhere, and free public wifi will be available in the town centre.

Our utilities are green and connected

We will strive to increase local renewable energy generation and introduce district energy systems. A co-ordinated approach to utilities planning will enable us to deliver utilities more efficiently and with less waste.



Solar road



Electric bus



Solar truck



Autonomous shuttle

Integrated delivery of the Garden Town

“In 2050 Aylesbury Garden Town is known for having been delivered through long term ambition and sustained partnerships between the community, public and private sectors. Expectations placed upon delivery partners have been increased but the returns have been greater. Aylesbury Garden Town is an aspirational place to develop, work and live.”

Long term vision

We will maintain our commitment to the Garden Town project in the long term and across political cycles.

We look after the things we own

We will explore opportunities for the community to become more involved in the management of their local facilities and open spaces.

We're in it together

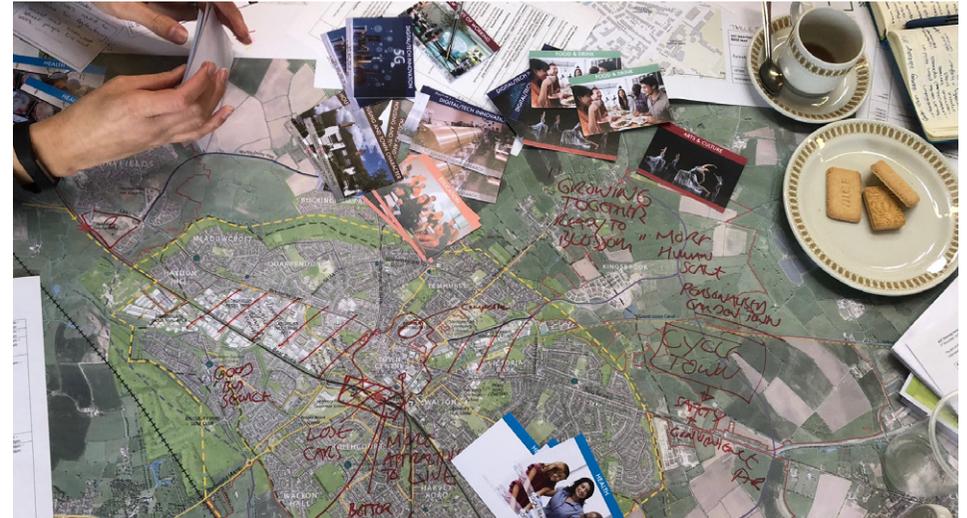
We can't do it ourselves. Our community and development partners will be part of the conversation from start to finish, so that we can all work together towards a better Aylesbury.

A rewarding place to deliver

We will be pro-active in attracting funding and working with our delivery partners in order to build high quality places and infrastructure.

We've got a plan

We are creating a Masterplan for Aylesbury Garden Town and an action plan explaining how we will deliver the Garden Town Vision. This will be regularly updated so that we have a clear roadmap for the future.



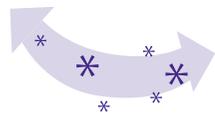
Aylesbury Garden Town vision workshop



Aylesbury pop-up exhibition

What happens next?

The Garden Town Masterplan proposes how the Vision for Aylesbury Garden Town will be delivered through development projects and investment in Aylesbury's town centre, neighbourhoods and green spaces. The Masterplan identifies a wide range of potential initiatives, from small to large, which will help make a difference. Examples include:



Places for business

The creation of high quality and innovative new employment space to capitalise on Aylesbury's location within the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.



The Central Area

The regeneration and expansion of the town centre, and the creation of new employment led, waterside neighbourhoods adjacent to the Canal and Bear Brooks, to create a revitalised historic heart to the Garden Town.



Local centres network

Delivering a connected network of local centres and neighbourhood hubs within walking distance of all residents, to improve access to local services for all.



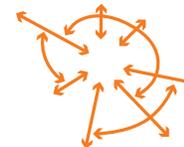
Greening Aylesbury

Enhancing, linking and expanding Aylesbury's green and blue spaces, gardens, parks and natural and heritage areas, to become focal points for Aylesbury's communities and provide accessible routes for active travel.



Aylesbury's waterways

The opening up and naturalisation of Aylesbury's forgotten brooks and waterways, to reconnect Aylesbury's communities with its hidden blue infrastructure.



Connected Aylesbury

The creation of a comprehensive walking, cycling and accessible wheelchair network to encourage healthy active travel choices and reduce car dependence. It will be easy to choose sustainable modes of transport for daily journeys.



Healthy streets

An improved road network delivered in parallel with public transport, active travel enhancements to create attractive, healthy streets for people in Aylesbury's neighbourhoods and town centre.



Distinctive garden communities

The creation of new neighbourhoods at the edge of Aylesbury which embody the Garden Town Vision and deliver exemplary living environments.

What's already happening?

Work is underway to deliver the Vision.

To show people how our lives can change for the better, we have started work on a number of small but exciting projects across Aylesbury. Some of these are illustrated below. More details of our ambitions for wider and long term transformation are set out in the Garden Town Masterplan.



AGT Community food growing project launched



Improvements to Gemstone Cycling Routes and network, including the extension of the Waddesdon Greenway



AGT Kingsbury Square Parklet



SMART Connected Community, Fairford Leys is a Live Lab for piloting a number of data and technology-driven projects.



Aylesbury AccessAble website, providing access information for key venues in the town centre

**For more information about Aylesbury Garden Town,
please contact us at the following:**



contactus@aylesburygardentown.co.uk



aylesburygardentown.co.uk



[@AylesburyGT](https://twitter.com/AylesburyGT)



[@AylesburyGT](https://www.facebook.com/AylesburyGT)

If you require this document in an alternative format, please contact us at the above.

Aylesbury Garden Town

Masterplan
Executive summary

Page 65



Foreword

The next 30 years is an exciting new era for Aylesbury as it grows into a Garden Town.

It is three years since Aylesbury was awarded Garden Town status and given a once in a lifetime opportunity to improve the lives of our community. Since then we've been drawing up plans for the way the town will evolve over the next few decades, through listening and engaging with the many different groups that make Aylesbury the great place that it is. We've heard from residents and local businesses, as well as stakeholders, community groups and partners - and we've used that feedback to shape our Masterplan which builds on Aylesbury's heritage and strengths and looks to its future opportunities as a Garden Town.

Our Masterplan expands on the published 2050 Vision for Aylesbury Garden Town and explains in more detail how we propose to create an Aylesbury that is designed for everyone. This town-wide Masterplan has inclusion and accessibility at its heart and proposes a wide range of both small and large projects and initiatives that will help make Aylesbury a greener and more prosperous place where everyone can enjoy a high quality of life.

The current global pandemic has brought sharply into focus how important our local communities are, and how much we value green spaces, active travel and access to local services and healthcare. The Masterplan focuses on these elements and on regenerating our town centre. It is an important document which will help shape our recovery from this unprecedented challenge.

We feel that we have set high but achievable expectations of what a Garden Town for Aylesbury should be and working closely with our partners we look forward to delivering this ambitious project over the next few years.



Cllr BILL CHAPPLE OBE
Chair Aylesbury Garden Town
Partnership



Masterplan executive summary

Introduction

Designation as a Garden Town heralds a new era for Aylesbury which will have a positive and lasting impact. This is a transformational opportunity for Aylesbury to become greener, more resilient and more successful for the benefit of existing and future residents and the environment.

Garden Town status opens up new avenues for funding and investment to improve the town's environment, movement network and economy. It sets a high benchmark for the design and sustainability of new neighbourhoods, community facilities and infrastructure. As a pioneer of the next generation of Garden Towns, Aylesbury is a pilot project for the wider application of Garden City principles across the local authority area and the UK.

Until April 2020, the Aylesbury Garden Town (AGT) project was led by a Partnership comprising Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC), Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC), the Buckinghamshire and Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (BTVLEP), South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) and Homes England. The Partnership developed a Vision and accompanying Masterplan for Aylesbury 2050. The Vision sets out the high level principles and aspirations for Aylesbury as a 21st century garden town and the Masterplan creates a spatial interpretation of how this will come together, along with a series of key actions required to bring about the transformation. The Vision and Masterplan have been the subject of extensive community engagement and this document summarises the key elements of the two documents. This summary should be read alongside the related Vision 2050 document and the detailed Aylesbury Garden Town Masterplan. Both documents are being approved by the new Buckinghamshire Council which was established on 1 April 2020.

From April 2020, with the formation of Buckinghamshire Council and the focus now firmly on delivery, governance of the AGT programme will be updated to include local partners who have a key role in the regeneration and transformation of Aylesbury. The newly formed AGT Board will oversee the programme through an inclusive, partnership focussed approach.



What is Aylesbury Garden Town?

Aylesbury was awarded Garden Town status by the government in January 2017 as part of the national Garden Communities programme. This promotes excellence in design and planning, evoking earlier Garden Cities such as Welwyn and Letchworth which have stood the test of time.

Aylesbury Garden Town is not a new town. It is a new era for a town with a long and rich history, embarking on a new phase of change and growth. Key public sector partners have come together to lead the delivery of this change.

Aylesbury is within one of the key areas for growth in the UK. Around 16,000 new homes are set to be built in Aylesbury by 2033, and construction is already well underway. Garden Town status will help Aylesbury to deliver this ambitious growth in a joined-up and high quality way that benefits the whole town.



Addressing global and local challenges

The Masterplan is a long term strategy, which responds to local and global issues affecting Aylesbury.

Climate emergency

In response to national and local commitments to addressing the climate emergency, Aylesbury Garden Town will contribute to greenhouse gas emission reductions by integrating sustainability into all aspects of the Masterplan.

For example, the Masterplan sets new targets for a shift to sustainable modes of travel; it provides jobs and facilities in accessible locations; it increases tree cover and biodiversity by investment in green spaces and habitat; and it supports the delivery of infrastructure innovations and energy efficient homes.

Covid-19

The global pandemic has created significant challenges for Aylesbury's residents and businesses. At the same time, it has increased our awareness of the importance of access to green spaces and nature, high quality living environments and active travel for our health and wellbeing. It has heightened our sense of community through collective action to support the vulnerable.

The delivery of projects identified in the Masterplan will help Aylesbury's communities to recover from and build on the positives that have emerged from this unprecedented challenge. Investment in green spaces, new accessible active travel routes, town centre regeneration and the creation of high quality new neighbourhoods with local community hubs, will support Aylesbury's recovery and its future resilience.



2050 Vision

The AGT Partnership has set an ambitious and transformational vision for Aylesbury Garden Town to be an exemplar in inclusivity and accessibility building on the town’s proud history as the Birthplace of the Paralympic Movement.

<p>2050 Vision</p> <p>Aylesbury Garden Town is the County Town of Buckinghamshire.</p> <p>Building on the town’s proud history as the Birthplace of the Paralympic Movement, it is internationally renowned as an inclusive place, enabling people and communities to reach their full potential.</p>	<p>It is an innovator in health and wellbeing, public service and sustainable travel.</p> <p>The historic town centre is the vibrant heart of Aylesbury Garden Town, a thriving community and commercial hub, full of life, interaction and culture.</p> <p>Green, healthy, productive and accessible, Aylesbury Garden Town is simply a great place to be.</p>
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<p>PUTTING THE TOWN CENTRE FIRST</p> 	<p>ECONOMY AND BUSINESS: AN INNOVATION AND INVESTMENT HUB</p> 	<p>A GREEN AND HEALTHY GARDEN TOWN</p> 	<p>AYLESBURY ON THE MOVE</p> 
<p>DISTINCTIVE GARDEN COMMUNITIES</p> 	<p>THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL</p> 	<p>SMART AND SUSTAINABLE</p> 	<p>INTEGRATED DELIVERY</p> 

Role of the Masterplan

The AGT Masterplan, which has been developed through extensive consultation with stakeholders and local residents, explains how the AGT Vision will be delivered through a comprehensive and co-ordinated town-wide plan.

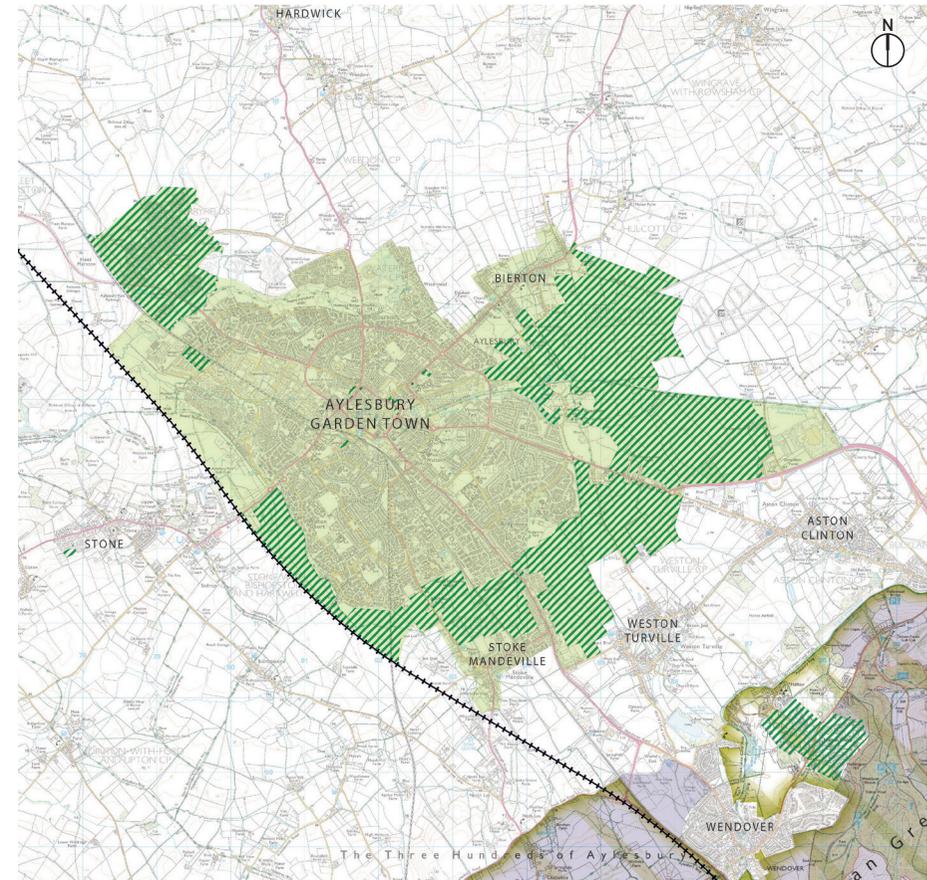
The AGT Masterplan covers both the existing built up area of Aylesbury including the town centre and the residential and employment development sites at the edge of Aylesbury identified in the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP); together these will deliver in excess of 16,000 new homes

The Masterplan is an advisory and guidance framework. It supports and provides further guidance in relation to the Policies contained within the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) covering the period to 2033. It also looks beyond the 2033 VALP period, and identifies further opportunities and aspirations, setting clear ambitions and an identity for the Garden Town to 2050.

The Masterplan informs wider Local Authority decision making and that of its key partners, defines wider place aspirations beyond the Local Plan, and acts as a promotional document for future funding bids. Once approved by the Local Authority, the Masterplan will carry weight as a material consideration for future decision making.

Each chapter of the Masterplan deals with a different aspect of the Vision, including green and blue infrastructure, movement, economic and social objectives, local centres, sustainability and neighbourhood design. The ambition and objectives under each aspect of the Vision are explored and a range of projects identified for delivery during the VALP period to 2033 and in the longer term.

The Masterplan layers are interrelated and form a composite spatial plan showing how Aylesbury will evolve as a Garden Town to 2033 and beyond.

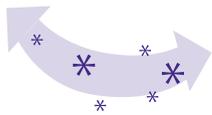


Garden Town location

-  Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan allocated sites
-  Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
-  Metropolitan Green Belt
-  Proposed High Speed 2

Garden Town key projects

The Masterplanning process has identified 8 key projects which have the potential to be truly transformative in delivering the objectives of the Vision and are to be prioritised for delivery and investment. These key projects come together to form a comprehensive concept plan for the Garden Town.



Places for business

The creation of new employment space to capitalise on Aylesbury's location within the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.



The Central Area

The regeneration and expansion of the town centre, and the creation of new employment led, waterside neighbourhoods adjacent to the Canal and Bear Brook, will create a revitalised historic heart to the Garden Town.



Local centres network

Delivering a connected network of local centres and neighbourhood hubs within walking distance of all residents, will improve access to local services for all.



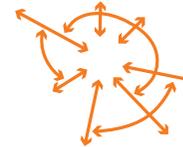
The Aylesbury Gardenway

Encircling Aylesbury, this orbital park of linked green and blue spaces, gardens, parks and natural and heritage areas, will become a focus for Aylesbury's communities and an accessible route for active travel.



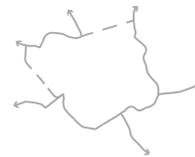
Aylesbury's waterways

The opening up and naturalisation of Aylesbury's forgotten brooks and waterways, will reconnect Aylesbury's communities with its hidden blue infrastructure.



Connected Aylesbury

The creation of a comprehensive walking, cycling and wheelchair accessible network will encourage healthy active travel choices and reduce car dependence. It will be easy to choose sustainable modes of transport for daily journeys.



Healthy streets

A fully orbital outer Link Road delivered in parallel with public transport, active travel enhancements which take advantage of reductions in through traffic and create attractive, healthy streets for people in Aylesbury's neighbourhoods and town centre.

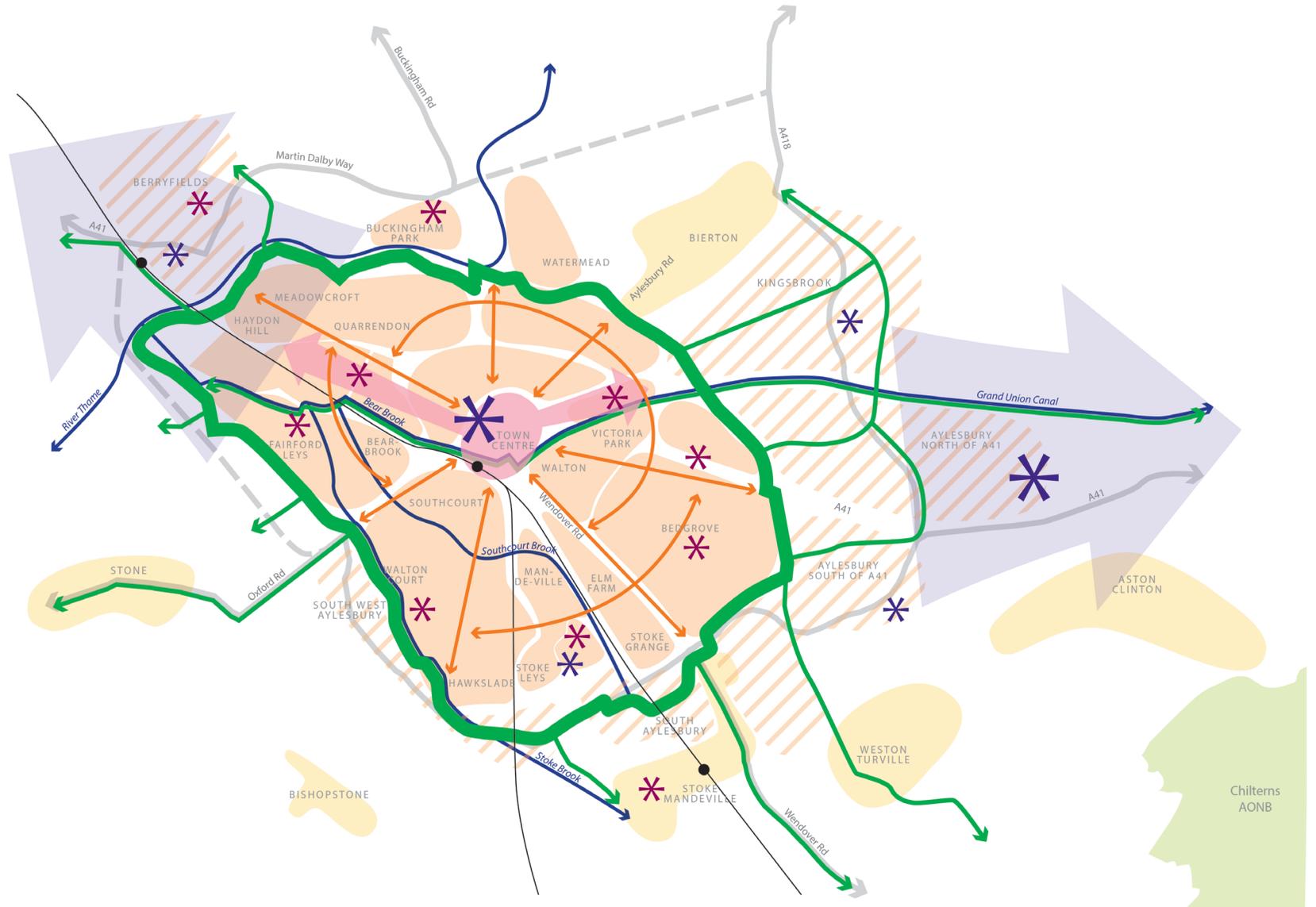


Distinctive garden communities

The creation of new neighbourhoods at the edge of Aylesbury which embody the Garden Town Vision and deliver exemplary living environments.

8 key Garden Town projects

-  Places for business
-  The Central Area
-  Local centres network
-  The Aylesbury Gardenway
-  Aylesbury's waterways
-  Connected Aylesbury
-  Healthy streets
-  Distinctive garden communities



Aylesbury Garden Town Concept Plan

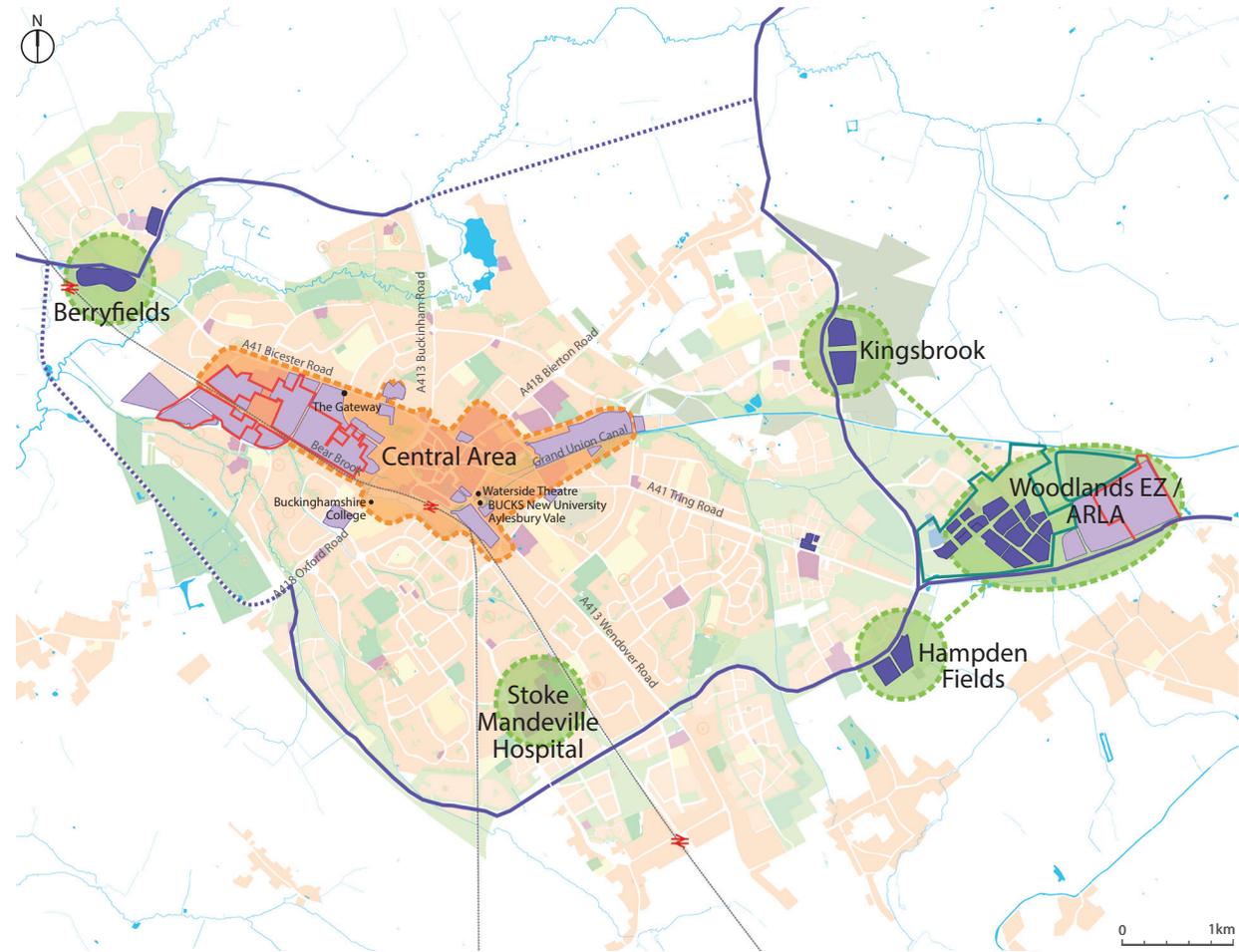
Economy and business: an innovation and investment hub

The Oxford-Cambridge Arc Corridor Economic Vision, and Local Industrial Strategies for BTVLEP and SEMLEP (now falling within Bucks LEP) feature AGT as a location for a “living lab to test development of digital health, mobility and social care solutions to provide a framework for healthy new towns and communities across the Arc...”. This will draw on local expertise such as the National Spinal Injuries Centre at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

The Masterplan seeks to capitalise on this opportunity and identifies four priority employment locations within AGT that could act as catalysts to drive job growth and wider economic specialisms and long term opportunities:

- the Central Area
- Stoke Mandeville Hospital and Stoke Mandeville Stadium
- Berryfields
- and the Arla / Woodlands Enterprise Zone, Kingsbrook and Hampden Fields cluster.

Each of these locations benefit from their connectivity to complimentary locations outside the Garden Town – in particular Westcott Venture Park linked by the A41, and improvements to the rail network to be brought about by East-West rail investment.



Economic opportunities



Economy and business: an innovation and investment hub

Ambition

Aylesbury will be the prime location for investment and job creation in Buckinghamshire.

It will capitalise on its position within the Oxford-Cambridge Arc to grow jobs and businesses attracting investment due to its high quality business and living environment.

Objectives

-
- To have capitalised on existing and emerging economic sectoral opportunities.
-
- To have created new jobs commensurate to population growth.
-
- To make the most of existing employment land and allocations and to have intensified economic activity.
-
- To have successfully facilitated inward investment building on opportunities created by the Garden Town designation, Enterprise Zone and the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.
-
- To have ensured job growth is inclusive and future proofed with AGT being early adopters of infrastructure to support home working, small businesses, business start-ups and data/tech-based jobs.
-
- To have supported aspirations to establish AGT as a “living lab”.
-

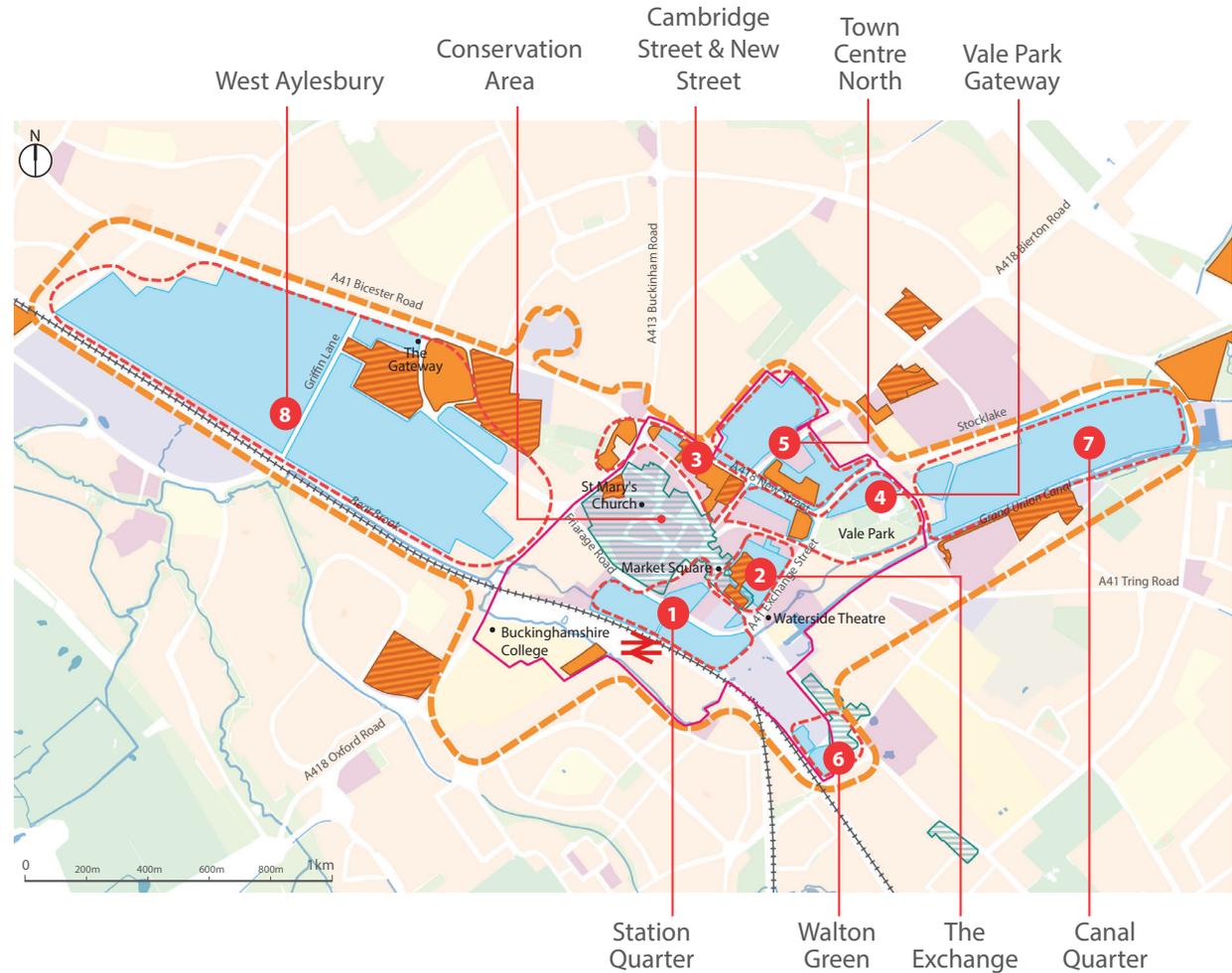
The Central Area

Aylesbury town centre is the heart of the Garden Town. It has been subject to a range of successful regeneration projects over recent years guided by the Town Centre Plan.

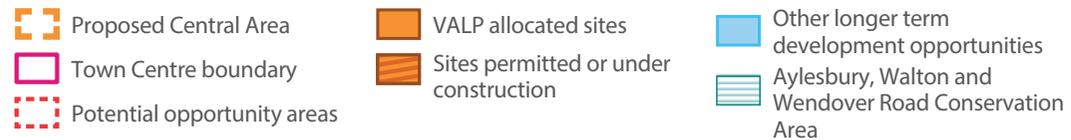
The AGT Masterplan proposes that this focus continues, but that a joined-up strategy is developed for the wider 'Central Area', which encompasses the town centre as well as areas beyond the current boundary which have the potential for regeneration including the creation of new employment led, waterside neighbourhoods adjacent to the Canal and Bear Brook.

The historic heart of the town centre, which is core to the Garden Town's identity, will be protected and revitalised. The impact of highways infrastructure will be addressed to realise a healthier, more people friendly place that benefits from a more accessible, connected and greener environment.

Building on the existing Town Centre Plan, a series of strategic opportunity areas within the Central Area have been identified. These areas have the potential for transformative development and improvement to support the long-term growth and delivery of the Garden Town. A set of design principles for the Central Area and each of the opportunity areas has been developed that will underpin future actions and interventions.



Aylesbury Central Area: Proposed opportunity areas



The Central Area

Ambition

In 2033 Aylesbury town centre will be a thriving community and commercial heart. It will be a destination, a place to live and a place of exchange, commerce, and leisure that goes beyond just retail.

The Garden Town will be supported by a greater mix of use and activities across a wider Central Area supporting long-term population and economic growth.

Objectives

-
- Continue and strengthen Aylesbury town centre's role as Buckinghamshire's county town and civic centre.
-
- Create a town centre which is exemplary for its inclusive public realm that is safe, well-designed and accessible for all.
-
- Create an attractive arrival experience and first impression of the town centre.
-
- Retain and increase public sector employment within the town centre.
-
- Deliver new development which is sensitive to Aylesbury's historic street pattern, scale and townscape.
-
- Conserve and enhance Aylesbury's heritage streets, spaces and buildings.
-
- Deliver an increased mix of uses which create activity day and night.
-
- Respond positively to changing patterns of retail and leisure.
-
- Increase appropriate access to Aylesbury's waterways within the town centre and deliver increased levels of biodiversity.
-

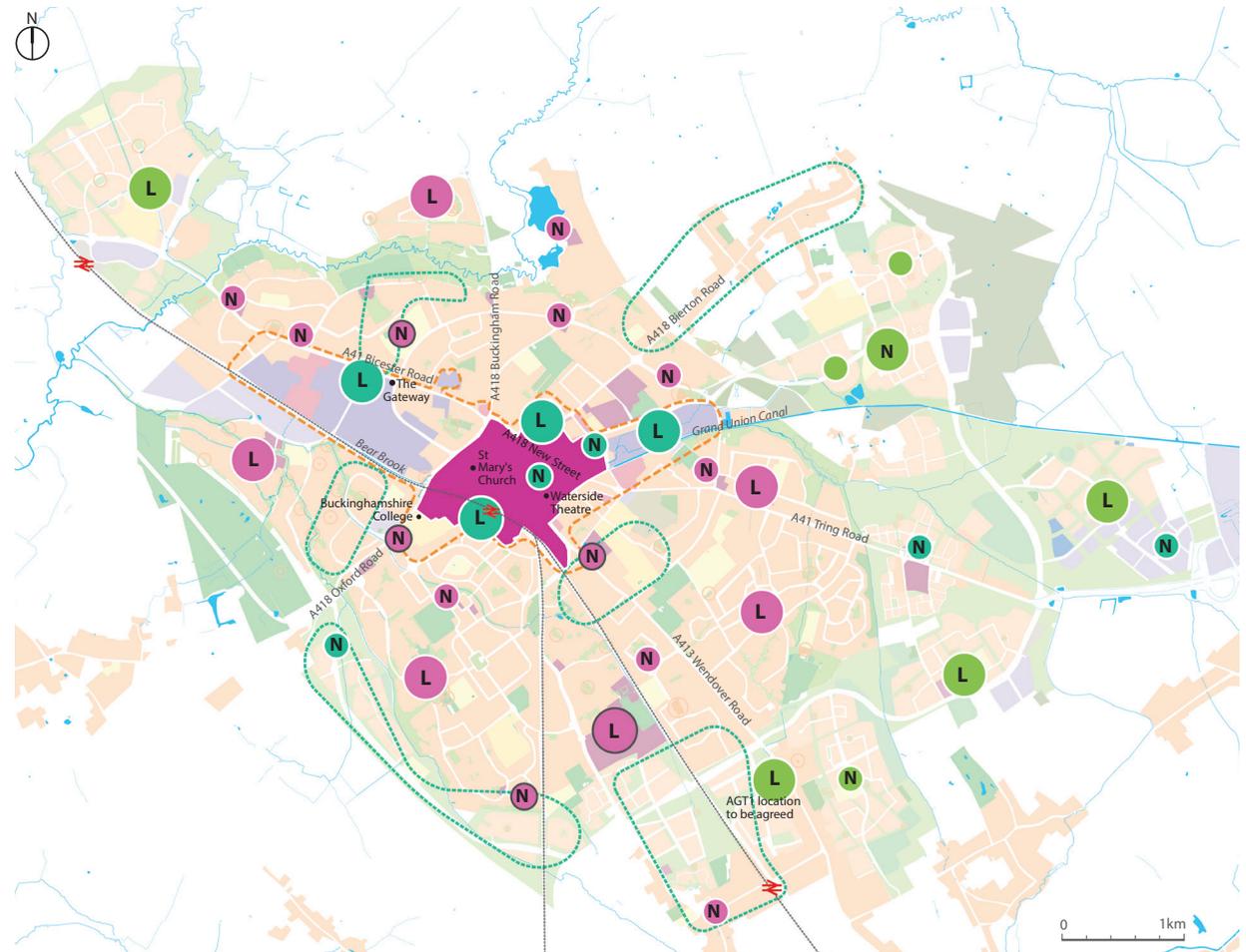
Quality of life

The AGT Masterplan defines a hierarchy of town and local centres and neighbourhood hubs to support equitable access to services and facilities. This supports a sustainable distribution of land uses that seeks to ensure that all homes are in walking distance to a neighbourhood hub as a minimum.

These hubs should be developed over time to include services and centres that promote active and healthy lifestyles through well defined infrastructure and a mix of uses.

AYLESBURY TOWN CENTRE: The heart of the Garden Town	LOCAL CENTRES: Hubs of community life	NEIGHBOURHOOD HUBS: A focus for daily life
	<i>800m from every home (approx. 10-15 minute walk)</i>	<i>400m from every home (approx. 5-10 minute walk)</i>
A destination for entertainment, events and public services for AGT and the sub-region.	Quality places which offer essential facilities and businesses.	Small clusters of essential services integrated into neighbourhoods providing a social focus.

Local centres hierarchy



Aylesbury Town 2050: proposed network of centres (indicative)

Hierarchy

- Town Centre
- Local centre
- Neighbourhood hub

Status

- Existing local centres
- VALP allocated centres
- Gaps in access to local centres or neighbourhood hubs
- Opportunities for additional new centres
- Proposed Central Area

Quality of life

Ambition

In 2033 Aylesbury Garden Town will support the highest quality of life for its diverse population through the provision of accessible local centres and neighbourhood hubs with community facilities that meet the needs of all.

Objectives

-
- The residential population of Aylesbury Garden Town will all live within a ten minute walk of town, local centres or neighbourhood hubs.
-
- The location of services and centres will promote active and healthy lifestyles through well designed infrastructure that makes it easy to access by walking, cycling and public transport. Assessment of the walking catchments to local, natural green spaces should also be undertaken.
-
- Aylesbury's role and reputation as a centre for education excellence will be maintained and strengthened. People in Aylesbury will have access to a range of education opportunities, both academic and vocational.
-
- As a result of Garden Town growth and regeneration, the difference in available opportunities between the most affluent and less well-off communities will be narrowed.
-
- The Garden Town will be supported by the timely delivery of new social infrastructure to support housing and employment development.
-
- The design and development of new communities and infrastructure will maximise opportunities for community cohesion through shared access and use.
-
- Centres and community facilities will be accessible to all, reflecting the legacy of Stoke Mandeville and the Paralympic Movement.
-
- To ensure those who want to make Aylesbury Garden Town their home are supported and empowered to do so.
-
- To incorporate facilities for inclusive accommodation for vulnerable people requiring support, with links to social enterprise within centres.
-
- Provide opportunities for residents to be creative and to access cultural activities.
-

A green and healthy Garden Town

The Aylesbury Gardenway

Encircling Aylesbury, the Gardenway will deliver a fully connected green and blue infrastructure corridor of linked local parks, woodlands, play grounds, community gardens, natural areas, waterways and heritage sites. It aims to have a positive and lasting impact on the quality of life of Aylesbury's residents engaging them in the Gardenway's management, encouraging play, active lifestyles, food growing and outdoor leisure as well as being a haven for wildlife.

The Gardenway will be designed to be fully accessible for walkers, cyclists and wheelchair users wherever possible, and will connect with the town-wide active travel network and Greenway routes into the countryside.

Aylesbury Waterways

The opening up and naturalisation of Aylesbury's forgotten brooks and waterways, will reconnect Aylesbury's communities with its hidden blue infrastructure.

Aylesbury is crossed by a network of brooks and smaller watercourses and the River Thame Valley runs to the south of Berryfields. These waterways together with the Aylesbury Arm of the Grand Union Canal are an important, yet often hidden, part of Aylesbury's landscape character. The Masterplan proposes that Aylesbury's waterways are enhanced for biodiversity, access, recreation and flood mitigation benefits, so that they once again are a core element of Aylesbury's character.



Aylesbury Gardenway illustrative concept

A green and healthy Garden Town

Ambition

A web of green and blue infrastructure provides the 'garden' in Garden Town. As a result of the Garden Town project Aylesbury's communities are better connected to the countryside and the Chiltern Hills.

The town's waterways have been revealed and naturalised, streets are greener and outdoor spaces are more accessible, biodiverse and active.

Objectives

-
- Deliver the VALP policy requirements for 50% of the site area of new garden communities to comprise green infrastructure and delivery of biodiversity net gains for all new development across the Masterplan area, with expectations of a 10% gain, aspiring to a 20% gain wherever possible.
-
- Deliver quality green infrastructure (not just quantity), creating an interconnected and multi-functional network of green and blue infrastructure, backed by a long-term management/community stewardship strategy.
-
- Support active lifestyles and good physical and mental health by making it easier for all of Aylesbury's residents of all ages and abilities to access clean air, natural areas and food growing, sports and leisure opportunities within the town and the wider landscape.
-
- Integrate green infrastructure with the town's movement network for walking and cycling in line with the principles of inclusive design.
-
- Support the objectives of the Chiltern's AONB and strengthen Aylesbury's position as a gateway to the AONB.
-
- Deliver the long held ambition for an orbital park surrounding Aylesbury.
-
- Address shortfalls in green infrastructure within the existing built up area.
-
- Naturalise and make better use of existing green and blue assets including the Canal and brooks, and historic landscapes.
-
- Deliver sustainable drainage features across the Garden Town to support health and wellbeing and improved local water quality.
-
- Conserve and enhance biodiversity landscape and consider the recreational value of watercourses (and their associated corridors) through good design. Seek opportunities for deculverting where appropriate.
-

Aylesbury on the move

Connected Aylesbury

For Aylesbury to achieve its aspirations as a Garden Town, a key focus is on creating connected, inclusive and sustainable places by prioritising movement on foot, by bicycle and by public transport for all ages and abilities and by concentrating development in locations that provide the greatest accessibility by these modes. The implementation of orbital link roads will assist in removing through traffic that currently adds to congestion in the town, thereby creating opportunities for greater cycling and walking networks. Building on the existing Gemstone routes a town-wide, high quality network of cycling and walking routes is proposed which connects key destinations (town centre, local centres, rail stations, employment areas, schools, leisure parks and open space, development sites) and provides routes towards wider regional destinations. Investment in active travel will encourage healthy travel choices and reduce car dependence.

To support the overarching objective of creating an accessible Garden Town, the network will wherever possible be designed for DDA compliance and promote equality of access for all ages and abilities.

Healthy streets

A fully orbital outer Link Road will be delivered in parallel with public transport, active travel enhancements to Aylesbury's radial and town centre roads. These enhancements take advantage of the reduction in strategic traffic and create attractive, healthy streets for people in Aylesbury's neighbourhoods and town centre. The aspirational sections of the link road should be delivered as a priority, to enable a full bypass for through traffic.



Movement vision

- Strategic through traffic
 - Greenway links
 - Reduce through traffic in town centre
 - Strategic cycle routes*
 - Local cycle routes*
 - Gardenway
 - P Park + Ride
 - B Bus station
 - T Train station
 - Proposed HS2 route
- * Routes identified in LCWIP study (June 2019) and other emerging schemes under development

Aylesbury on the move

Ambition

In 2033 people choose to walk, cycle, or use public transport for everyday journeys within Aylesbury, because it is easy to navigate and has an integrated and inclusive transport system. Residents benefit from active lifestyles and streets are people-friendly places.

By 2050 at least 50% of trips originating in the Garden Town will be made by sustainable modes*.

**Annual average trips by main mode of travel (as defined by the National Travel Survey), with "sustainable modes" comprising "Walk" (over 50 yards), "Bicycle", "Bus" (London, local and non-local), "Rail" (underground and surface), "Other public transport" (air, ferries and light rail), and "Car Passengers (Sharing)" (commuters sharing car journeys to work).*

Objectives

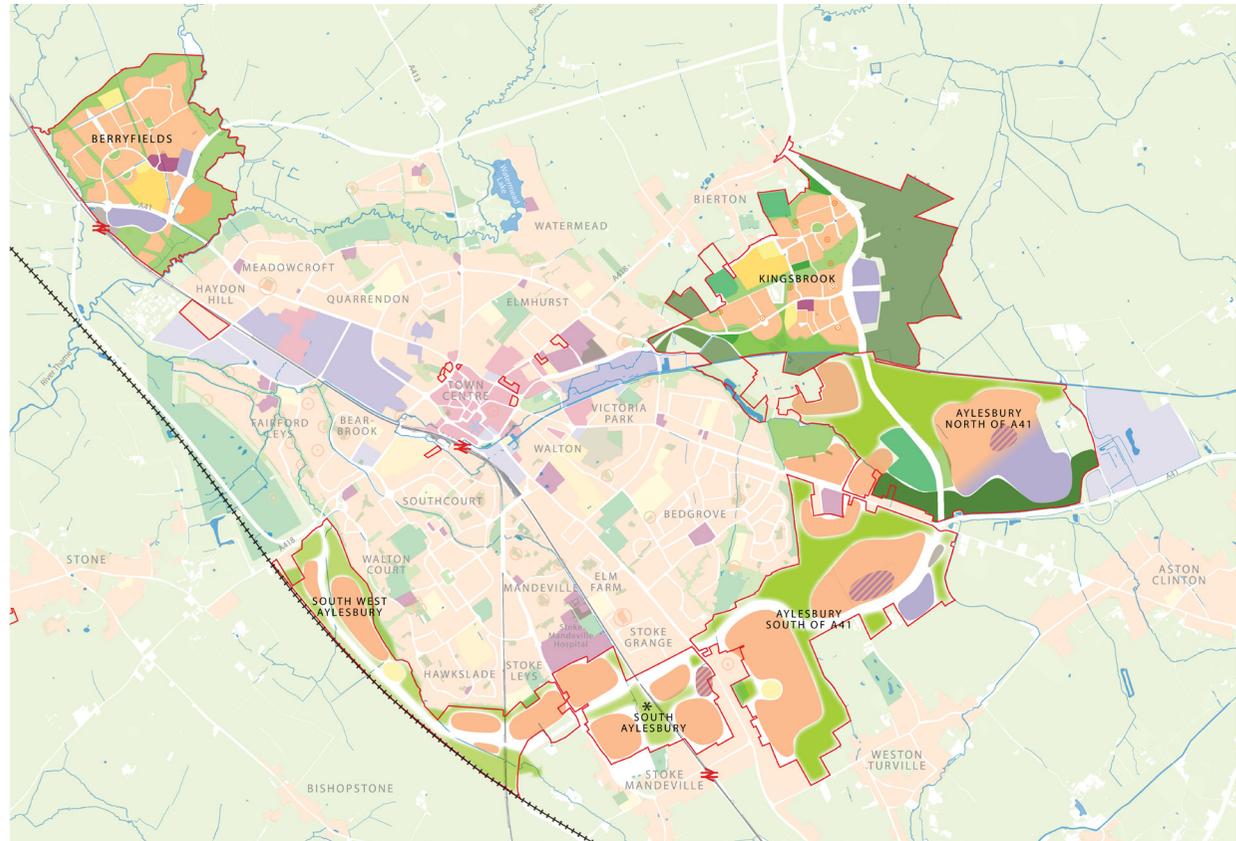
-
- Promote healthier streets, improved air quality and reduced noise, and reduce dependence on car travel for journeys within the town.
-
- Take full advantage of the opportunities offered by East-West Rail to improve regional travel connections.
-
- Provide a connected town-wide network of active travel routes serving commuting, leisure and daily travel needs for all ages and abilities.
-
- Increase proportion of active travel in daily trips to improve personal activity levels and health at all ages.
-
- Provide an improved public transport system which is accessible and attractive to all ages and abilities.
-
- Ensure strong connectivity between the proposed garden communities on the edge of Aylesbury and the existing town and town centre.
-
- Ensure transport infrastructure contributes to making good places.
-
- Create a resilient transport network which can adapt to future trends in technology and accommodate changes in travel behaviour.
-
- Be an exemplar of inclusive transport, both in the provision of appropriate infrastructure and in digital application development.
-

Distinctive garden communities

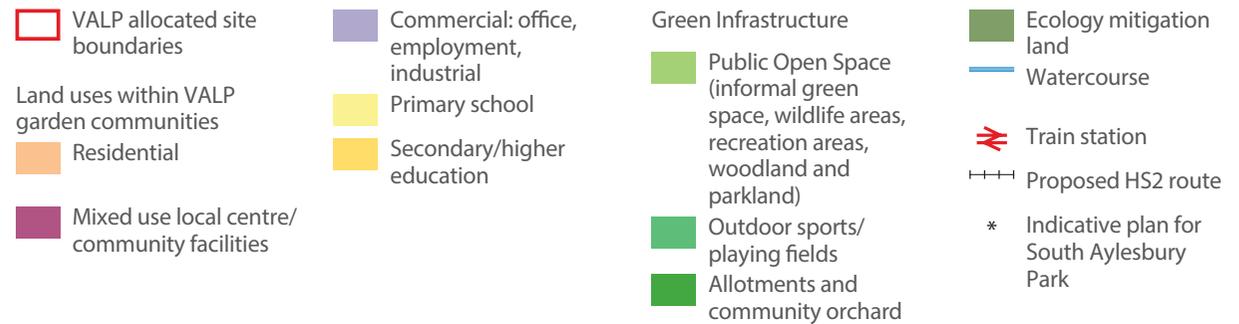
The creation of new neighbourhoods at the edge of Aylesbury will deliver significant housing growth together with new local centres, schools, green spaces and employment areas.

The neighbourhoods are to be designed to embody the Garden Town Vision, deliver elements of the town-wide Garden Town projects such as the Gardenway and create exemplary and distinctive living environments.

These will be developed in accordance with a set of design principles that are fundamental to Garden Town Design and will enable the delivery of high quality new neighbourhoods.



New garden communities



Distinctive garden communities

Ambition

Aylesbury will be a showcase for new approaches to housing delivery and design.

Garden communities, each with a distinctive design character, will provide varied, beautiful neighbourhoods that Aylesbury's residents are proud to call home.

Objectives

-
- Deliver a step-change in design character and create nationally award winning developments, which are still recognised as exemplars in 100 years time.
-
- Deliver town-wide Garden Town design objectives such as the Gardenway and active travel network, in a joined-up manner across site boundaries.
-
- Create new garden communities which are distinctive to Aylesbury and complement the existing town and its landscape, through a character-led design approach.
-
- Conserve, enhance and utilise Aylesbury's heritage assets in new development including heritage landscapes and Roman archaeology.
-
- Make living in Aylesbury's garden communities accessible to all, through provision of a range of tenures, types and delivery models including custom build and self build, and by following the principles of inclusive design.
-
- Embed sustainability thinking in all stages of the design process to deliver energy efficient, resilient neighbourhoods in line with Garden Town green house gas emissions reduction targets.
-

A Smart and Sustainable Garden Town

The Garden Town designation presents an opportunity for Aylesbury to embrace new ideas and emerging technologies to improve the quality of life for residents. This approach is embodied in the ADEPT Live Lab pilot scheme for Fairford Leys, where a number of data and technology-driven urban interventions are being implemented that will begin to trial AGT principles around sustainability and smart technology. These initiatives and principles will be progressed across the Garden Town over the next decades.

Masterplan targets

Aylesbury's performance as an exemplary Garden Town will be measured through the delivery of high quality living and working environments in new neighbourhoods and through improvements to the existing urban area. The Masterplan includes a number of targets which push for higher standards in key areas:

- 50% of land to become new public green infrastructure in new garden communities;
- Delivery of biodiversity net gains (a minimum of 10%), rising to 20% in the longer term within new garden communities;
- By 2050 at least 50% of trips originating in the Garden Town will be made by sustainable modes; and
- The Garden Town will contribute to the national and local greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.



A Smart and Sustainable Garden Town

Ambition

In 2033 technology will be used to help make Aylesbury a better, more resilient and sustainable place.

By 2050 Aylesbury's integrated data services will make life easier for residents and ensure access to local and strategic services.

Objectives

-
- Embrace “smart” technologies for the good of Aylesbury’s residents, with the ultimate goal of using technology to accommodate people’s needs and make their lives better.
-
- Collect and interpret data for the good of residents and businesses.
-
- Take a holistic approach to sustainability and use new and emerging technology to target zero carbon and energy-positive development.
-
- Ensure homes and infrastructure are future-proofed and adaptable to be responsive to everybody’s individual and collective needs now and into the future.
-

Integrated delivery of the Garden Town

The Vision and Masterplan set out a route map towards the transformation of Aylesbury into a sustainable Garden Town.

A number of key priorities and projects have been identified through the Masterplan and these should be progressed to bring this transformation about:

- Delivering the Gardenway as an exciting new facility for Aylesbury, encouraging healthy living, leisure, biodiversity and community cohesion.
- Transforming the town centre as a main focus for cultural, leisure, retail and employment activities in an attractive, high quality environment.
- Delivering a movement network that alleviates town centre congestion and encourages active travel.
- Ensuring new developments and neighbourhoods are of the highest quality.
- Opening up our waterways and encouraging a greener environment across the Garden Town.
- Ensuring Aylesbury is a place for innovative employment, to meet the needs of the expanding population.
- Engaging the community throughout to promote Aylesbury as a truly inclusive Garden Town.

The delivery of these priorities will require close and collaborative working with a range of key stakeholders. The Aylesbury Garden Town project is being taken forward by the new Buckinghamshire Council in partnership with those organisations who can effect change and transformation.

To provide a focus on delivery of the Masterplan going forward, the existing governance arrangements are being reviewed to ensure greater community and private sector representation and their involvement alongside key public sector organisations, led by Buckinghamshire Council.

An action plan, focussed on delivering the above priorities will be developed by the new AGT Board, with the support of a revised project management structure that will encourage cross sector working and inclusion.

The action plan will look at both short term and long term initiatives and will be reviewed annually by the new Aylesbury Garden Town Board, to identify resources and ensure these are allocated effectively which will ensure progress is being made towards delivering the Vision for Aylesbury as a Garden Town.

Integrated delivery of the Garden Town

Ambition

Aylesbury will be delivered with long-term ambition and sustained partnerships between the community, public and private sectors.

Expectations placed upon delivery partners will be increased but the returns will be greater. Aylesbury Garden Town will be an aspirational place to develop, work and live.

Objectives

-
- Ensure the timely, co-ordinated and comprehensive delivery of infrastructure to support housing and economic growth.
-
- Develop a clear brand that demonstrates what it means to deliver within the Garden Town and the increased social, economic and environmental values that will be achieved.
-
- Define new ways of delivering projects that allow local communities to support the long-term management and governance of neighbourhoods, spaces and assets.
-
- Work with delivery partners to secure the best new development subject to rigorous design and quality review.
-
- Ensure best practice stakeholder and community engagement to provide greater foresight and certainty in the planning and delivery of the Garden Town.
-

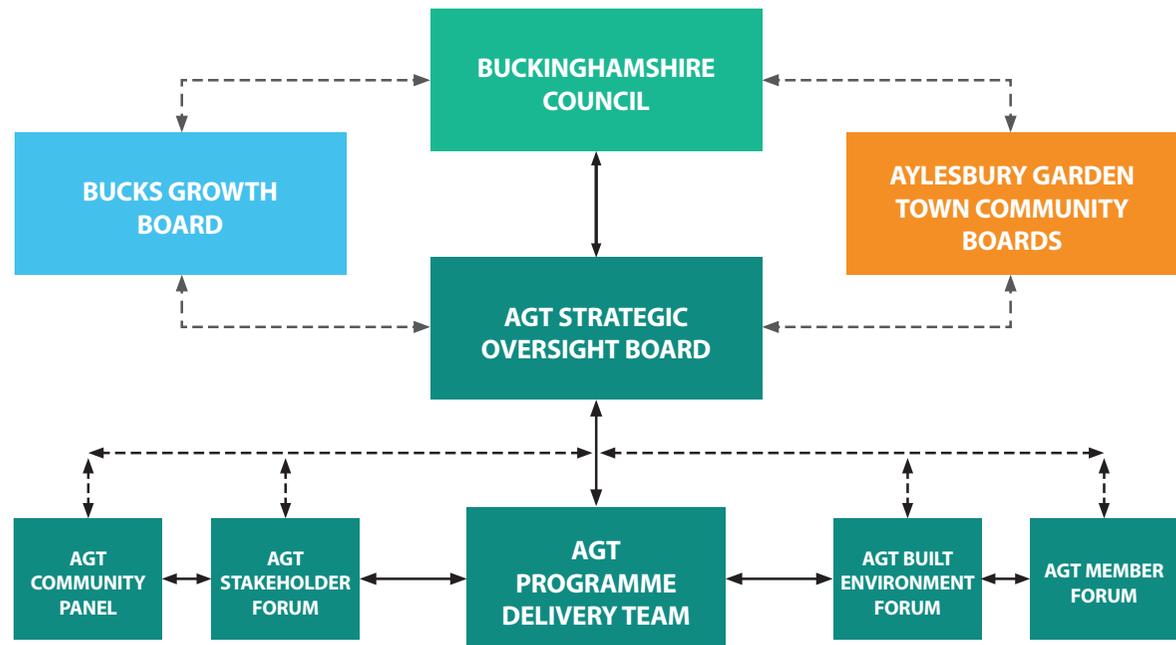
Integrated delivery of the Garden Town

Review of Governance

The existing Aylesbury Garden Town governance structure has been revised to reflect the new Unitary Authority arrangements and to align with the Garden Town Programme's future priorities.

Over recent months and in the lead up to the creation of Buckinghamshire Council, the Aylesbury Garden Town Delivery Board has been reviewing the overall governance and delivery structures for the Aylesbury Garden Town project. This review is timely, given the progress being made with the Garden Town Masterplan and a focus on its delivery going forward. In January this year, the AGT Board endorsed a draft governance structure and approach for recommendation to the new Buckinghamshire Council for approval and subsequent implementation.

The diagram below shows how the evolved structure positions the AGT Strategic Oversight Board to deliver the overall programme alongside decision makers and key stakeholders. This will provide for a greater focus on programme delivery, with increased community involvement, to reflect the important role of Town and Parish Councils in delivering services and the establishment of the Community Boards.



**For more information about Aylesbury Garden Town,
please contact us at the following:**



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[@AylesburyGT](https://twitter.com/AylesburyGT)



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If you require this document in an alternative format, please contact us at the above.



Report to Cabinet

Date: June 2020

Reference number: n/a

Title: LOCAL PLANNING ENFORCEMENT AND MONITORING PLAN

Relevant councillor(s): Warren Whyte

Author and/or contact officer: Darran Eggleton

Ward(s) affected: All wards affected

Recommendations: To adopt the draft Local Enforcement and Monitoring Plan.

Reason for decision: Although a Local Enforcement Plan is not a legal requirement, this plan is produced to ensure that the area planning enforcement teams of the new council are aligned as possible to ensure that the approach to planning enforcement is consistent across the Buckinghamshire Council area and support public-council relationships by managing expectations.

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 Planning enforcement is an integral part of the planning system and underpins the overall planning process. Prior to the Transformation Programme, it is important to harmonise the existing processes and to provide a single enforcement service across the whole Buckinghamshire Council area.
- 1.2 Whilst the Transformation Programme will build upon the vision for the service and create a single enforcement team operating across the new council area, the adoption of a Local Enforcement and Monitoring Plan in the interim period will promote a unified approach to planning enforcement and will be the starting point for service improvements.

2. Content of report

Planning Enforcement – the Vision

- 2.1 The planning enforcement service is a discretionary service but is an essential part of the development management process. An efficient and responsive planning enforcement service can ensure there is confidence in the whole planning process, ensuring that regulations are complied with and breaches of planning controls are dealt with.
- 2.2 Effective enforcement is important to:
- tackle breaches of planning control which would otherwise have unacceptable impact on the amenity of the area;
 - maintain the integrity of the decision-making process;
 - help ensure that public acceptance of the decision-making process is maintained.
- 2.3 The ambition therefore is to create an exemplar service, that is innovative, sets high standards and targets, learns from best practice across the UK and creates an environment where Buckinghamshire is known for its effective enforcement regime. The vision for the service is to provide a comprehensive, proactive planning enforcement service that adopts an authority-wide approach to planning enforcement using all available tools and resources from across the Council as well its relevant partners.
- 2.4 Therefore, a transformed enforcement service will provide a holistic approach to enforcement across the whole planning service, using resources available across all teams with proactive monitoring of compliance with planning permissions. The service will also explore links to the Council's other enforcement services to create a comprehensive enforcement team approach that is not bound by bureaucratic or professional boundaries.
- 2.5 There will also be an increased focus on compliance rather than simply reacting to potential breaches with proactive monitoring of planning conditions being fully embedded in the service provided. Focusing on compliance of developments from the outset will eventually reduce the need for formal enforcement. This will help to identify breaches of control at an early stage rather than reacting to those breaches to be reported. In investigating alleged breaches of planning control, the new service will also provide an appropriate 'out of hours' enforcement service.
- 2.6 The vision for the service will be realised through the Planning Transformation Programme which will be delivered during the first year of the new Council. Therefore, the new enforcement service will initially utilise the best practices from

each of the legacy Councils but will then continue to review and build on those practices to further improve and develop the service. This will create an efficient and effective planning enforcement service that promotes and encourages planning compliance across the area and pursues meaningful formal enforcement actions where necessary.

- 2.7 It is important, ahead of the Transformation Programme, to harmonise the existing processes and to provide a single enforcement service across the whole Buckinghamshire Council area so that customers can expect a consistent approach. Therefore the adoption of a Buckinghamshire Council Local Enforcement and Monitoring Plan is an interim position to cover the first year of operation of the new service and will promote a uniformed approach to planning enforcement by one single Buckinghamshire Council team across the new council area.

3. Local Enforcement Plan

- 3.1 The preparation and adoption of a local enforcement plan is important because it:
- allows engagement in the process of defining objectives and priorities which are tailored to local circumstances;
 - sets out the priorities for enforcement action, which will inform decisions about when to take enforcement action;
 - provides greater transparency and accountability about how the local planning authority will decide if it is expedient to exercise its discretionary powers; and
 - provides greater certainty for all parties engaged in the development process.
- 3.2 The legacy Councils had all published individual Local Enforcement Plans (LEP's) and whilst there was very a similar approach in terms of the investigation process, service provision differed slightly. This was predominantly in relation to what the plans say the Councils will do and within what time scale.
- 3.3 Table 1 below shows the level of service in the legacy Local Enforcement Plans together with the service being proposed in the draft LEMP.

	Priority	Current Council plan timescales				Proposed for BC	Notes
		C&SB	WDC	AVDC	BCC		
Log on database and acknowledge	All	5wd	2wd	3wd	n/a	3wd	C&SB currently achieve a 3WD internal target.
Investigate and make a site visit (if necessary)	A	2wd	1wd	1wd	5wd	1wd	Due to the nature of alleged unauthorised waste & minerals sites as well as the level of service demand (Circa 40 a year)) BCC generally visit all their cases within 1wd. C&SB treat Priority A cases with urgency and aim to meet the 1WD target presently.
	B	10wd	10wd	10wd (investigate and decide on action)	5wd	10wd	BC proposes to have a 2 priority system.
	C	20wd	10wd	25wd	5wd	n/a	C&SB currently aims to achieve a 10WD internal target to visit Priority C cases. AVDC took a different approach, aiming to complete the initial investigation and reach a decision on a course of action in 25 days.

Table 1 (The timescales highlighted red in the table indicate where the proposed BC plan is more stringent than the existing plans).

- 3.4 Ahead of transformation, the draft LEMP for Buckinghamshire Council ensures a single approach but recognises that improvement on the priority timescales can be achieved from the outset. The LEMP therefore proposes a 2 point priority system as follows:

Priority A	Undertake an investigation and carry out a site inspection (if necessary) within 1 working day
Priority B	Undertake an investigation and carry out a site inspection (if necessary) within 10 working day

Priority A cases includes unauthorised works to listed buildings, TPO or conservation areas tree matters, development that has the potential to cause irreversible harm and alleged breaches of condition that causes significant harm to amenity, living conditions, trees, wildlife, ecology, archaeology or heritage asset etc. This prioritisation is based on planning judgement and will be made at officers discretion.

Whilst it is recognised that this approach requires some change to existing practice, it is considered that this change is achievable by the teams and will provide an immediate benefit to the public by way of better action times to breach of planning control. It will not require a significant change nor their put undue strain on existing resources and will set the tone for refreshing the planning enforcement service in preparation for the transformation programme. It is important to point out however that even during this transformation stage, the Council will ensure it acts consistently as a single team across the proactive mode whole of Buckinghamshire and that there will be no variations of service across any of the legacy areas.

- 3.5 In 2019, the combined cases received by the legacy authorities was 1750. Of these, less than 6% were in the highest priority category. The 5-year data trend predicts a similar volume to be received in 2020.

3.6 Whilst it is impossible to provide an accurate guide regarding the length of time taken to resolve breaches of planning control the Council will continue to progress cases as quickly as possible and target to close 75% of all cases within 20 weeks of receipt.

3.7 The team will monitor the consistency of application through the use of Key Performance Indicators. These KPI's will be based on the time scales set out in Table 1 above and will be monitored monthly by the existing Team Managers/Team Leaders with reports to the Head of Service at appropriate intervals.

4. Out of hours standby service

4.1 The vision for the service is to ensure that a comprehensive out of hours service is provided. However in the interim and prior to transformation, officers will aim to provide an out of hours standby service during Bank Holiday weekends and the Service Director will also consider all short term options available to expand the service beyond Bank Holiday weekends.

5. Dependencies

5.1 To minimise the dependency on other teams such as IT, the plan refers to publically available webpage content (ie. www.gov.uk).

6. Other options considered

6.1 The only other alternative option considered is to not adopt a Local Enforcement Plan. It is considered that the lack of a Local Enforcement plan reduces the public-council relationship and fails to promote transparency.

6.2 This option was considered but decided that it was not an appropriate option for the reasons set out above.

7. Legal and financial implications

7.1 Financial Implications

There are limited financial implications of publishing a local enforcement plan but it is considered that the plan will enable the Council to better engage with the public about the service and to better defend Local Government Ombudsman Complaints.

7.2 Legal implications

There is no legal requirement for the Council to publish a Local Enforcement Plan nor is there a requirement as to what content must be provided. Nevertheless, the

LEMP aims to ensure an over-arching consistency in the approach to enforcement across the new Council area.

8. Corporate implications

8.1 This plan has been created in line with the overarching enforcement policy which was agreed by CIG and Informal Shadow Executive in January 2020

8.2 Changes to the plan will require the enforcement teams to understand the new implications on the delivery of their service if the plan is adopted. Where there have been differences in timescales identified, the new plan has adopted an appropriate timescale that ensures that the teams are able to make meet the requirements of the new plan without severely impacting on resources or service delivery. Consultation and communication

9. Equalities Implications

9.1 The primary users of the enforcement service will be members of the public. This draft LEMP explains in plain English what, why and how the new Council will provide the enforcement service, signposting where necessary other sources of information.

9.2 The document promotes a consistent approach to enforcement across the area but allows the existing teams to continue to operate without significant change or undue pressure on resources.

9.3 Above all the draft LEMP does not over commit the new council, set it up to fail nor provide hostages to fortune.

10. Consultation

10.1 There is no requirement for public consultation on this draft plan.

11. Communications Plan

11.1 The Local Enforcement Plan will be published on the Buckinghamshire Council website.

11.2 The Council will liaise with those reporting an alleged breach of planning control throughout the investigation. This will be at the initial acknowledgement and at key stages (ie if a planning application is submitted, if a formal notice is issued or if the case is closed). In addition, the Council will provide an update on the investigation when requested to do so by the reporter. At appendix A is a flowchart detailing the customer service viewpoint.

12. Next steps and review

- 12.1 The LEMP sets out that the plan will ordinarily be reviewed every 3 years or at a point of significant change. It is therefore proposed that this plan be adopted but that the plan be reviewed and significantly amended once the Planning Transformation Programme has taken place and the service has been re-shaped to deliver an improved, efficient and proactive enforcement service.

13. Background papers

None.

14. Your questions and views (for key decisions)

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this report please get in touch with the author of this report. If you have any views that you would like the cabinet member to consider please inform the Democratic Services team. This can be done by telephone on 01296 382343 or email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

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Buckinghamshire Council

Buckinghamshire Council Planning Enforcement and Monitoring Plan

DRAFT

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1 Overview

- 1.1 An effective Planning Enforcement service plays a key role in upholding the integrity of the planning process and provides an important contribution to maintaining public confidence in the planning system.
- 1.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) therefore encourages Local Planning Authorities to publish a local enforcement plan to appropriately manage planning enforcement matters in their area.
- 1.3 Buckinghamshire Council has decided to adopt a Local Enforcement and Monitoring Plan to set an overview of the service and an understanding of the planning enforcement function within the overall planning service.
- 1.4 This plan sets out the way in which Buckinghamshire Council will investigate alleged breaches of planning control and how our decisions on formal enforcement action will be made.

2 Background

- 2.1 As the local planning authority, Buckinghamshire Council, has a duty to investigate reports of alleged breaches of planning control and the discretion to take formal enforcement action where appropriate.
- 2.2 As a new planning authority, it is important to ensure the seamless amalgamation of the legacy enforcement services to provide a single enforcement service. This document provides a single service approach to planning enforcement across the whole of the new area.
- 2.3 Buckinghamshire Council aims to provide an efficient and effective planning enforcement service that is focused on protecting its area against harmful development in a way that is clear, consistent and proportionate.
- 2.3 The Council also has the requirement to monitor mineral and landfill permissions and a duty to ensure that appropriate periodic inspections of waste sites are carried out.

3. The purpose and aim of the planning enforcement service

- 3.1 The purpose of the planning enforcement service is to investigate alleged breaches of planning control, taking enforcement action where appropriate. The aim of the service is to remedy planning harm being caused by breaches of planning control.
- 3.2 To undertake works without first obtaining planning permission is not a criminal offence and the planning legislation specifically allows for the submission of planning applications for development already undertaken. In this respect, the enforcement of planning control does not therefore seek to punish people for undertaking works without first obtaining planning permission. The key consideration in deciding whether to take formal enforcement action is, **if** a planning application had been submitted, would that application have been refused or only granted with conditions.

4. Investigation of alleged breaches of planning control - What you can expect

- 4.1 The Council investigates a variety of alleged breaches of planning control. Such breaches may include unauthorised building works, changes of use, breaches of planning conditions, unlawful works to trees and hedgerows. Issues that we are unable to investigate include party wall matters, fly-tipping, graffiti, noise concerns, building site health and safety concerns etc.

More information about what we can and cannot investigate can be found on the Council webpages together with relevant details of the relevant service, department or authority. You will also find information on how to report a breach of planning control and what information we need from you to pursue an investigate the matter.

- 4.2 Upon receipt of a report of an alleged breach of planning control we will undertake an informal triage process to ascertain if the report is a planning matter and/or if the matter requires further investigation. The triage process may include:
- Determining if it is a planning matter
 - Identifying if it is permitted development
 - Researching the planning history of the site
 - Identifying any special designations or constraints e.g. Listed buildings
 - Searching other Council data or publicly held information.
 - Contacting the person responsible for the alleged breach to discuss the works being undertaken.
- 4.3 If the matter reported is not a Council issue or if no alleged breach of planning control is identified, then the reporter will be notified accordingly and the planning enforcement service will take no further action.
- 4.4 Where the matter being raised falls within another Council service area the reporter will be advised accordingly and their concerns and details will be forwarded on as appropriate for further investigation. Alternatively, the reporter will be signposted to the relevant service area to pursue the matter directly.
- 4.4 Once a decision is made regarding further investigation, the matter will be logged on the Council's database accordingly and given an appropriate level of priority. There are two priority levels which are set out in table 1 below and are determined by the type of breach reported.

5 Enforcement Priorities

- 5.1 In order for us to make best use of our resources, alleged breaches of planning control are prioritised in accordance with the planning harm caused by the alleged breach. This enables the us to ensure that the most harmful cases are quickly investigated and actioned accordingly. The priority given to a case may be subject to change as the matter is investigated.
- 5.2 All valid reports of breaches of planning control will be logged on the Council's database, acknowledged and investigated to an appropriate level.
- 5.3 Investigation priorities are split in 2 categories – A & B.
A description of the priorities and their associated timescales are set out in table 1 below:

Table 1 - Priorities for investigating Breaches of Planning Controls

Priority A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unauthorised works to listed buildings • Unauthorised works to protected trees or hedgerows • Breaches of planning control that could cause serious or irreversible harm. • Breaches of conditions that likely to cause significant harm to amenity, living conditions, trees, wildlife, ecology, archaeology, or heritage assets. 	<p><u>Planning enforcement service response:</u></p> <p>Undertake an initial investigation including a site visit (if necessary) within 1 working day.</p>

Priority B	
<p>Alleged breaches of planning in relation to all other building works not covered by those described in priority A including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-compliance with pre-commencement conditions that do not fall into Priority A. • Advertisements, fences, walls, satellite dishes, most householder type breaches of control. • Alleged unauthorised mineral and waste developments. 	<p><u>Planning enforcement service response:</u></p> <p>Undertake an initial investigation including a site visit (if necessary) within 10 working day.</p>

- 5.4 The Council will, if necessary, undertake a site visit and will do so in accordance with the timescales set out in the priorities table above.
- 5.5 We will provide an update to interested parties on the investigation at key points as identified in the 'Customer Experience Path' at appendix 1. Key points include when formal action is taken or if a planning application or appeal is submitted. However, if in the meantime, if you require an update on the investigation then we can be contacted via the contact details on your acknowledgement letter/email or through the details in the council's website.
- 5.6 Investigations into alleged breaches of planning control often overlap with other legislation enforced by other public bodies/Council departments such as Environmental Health, the Environment Agency, Building Control and Housing. Where an activity does not fall within the remit of the Council's planning enforcement service to investigate, the investigating officer will advise the reporter accordingly and with details of the relevant investigative authority (where possible). Sometimes the responsibilities of two or more authorities may overlap and in these situations we will seek to work with those other agencies to remedy the breach(es) occurring. Where appropriate the officer will take details from the reporter and forward such details to the relevant team, in accordance with the council's privacy notice.
- 5.7 We will communicate planning enforcement successes via a number of communication channels. We may seek to use our relationships with Town and Parish Councils and Community Boards to advertise where the team has successfully resolved breaches of planning control as well as using local press releases and social media platforms when appropriate.

6 Investigation and assessment of the Breach of Planning Control

- 6.1 The Council will investigate the alleged breach of planning control.
- 6.2 Where a breach of planning control has occurred the we will consider the planning merits of the development being undertaken, taking into account national and local planning policies, and will decide on the most appropriate of action.
- 6.3 When making that decision we will take into consideration the public interest and the expediency of formal enforcement action.

7 Investigation Outcomes

- 7.1 Once the investigation is concluded it could result in a number of different outcomes. These are outlined below:

7.1.1 No breach established

The reported matter has not occurred, has ceased, or is outside of planning control.

7.1.2 The development is immune from enforcement action

Breaches of planning control become immune from enforcement action if they have existed for a certain period of time. More information in relation to the time periods for immunity can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ensuring-effective-enforcement> (Note: There is no period of immunity for unlawful works to a Listed Building).

7.1.3 A breach planning control has occurred but causes no planning harm.

The fact that a breach of planning control has occurred does not automatically mean that formal action will be taken. Some breaches of planning control are minor and therefore cause limited or no planning harm (i.e. if an application were to be submitted it would be unconditionally approved). In these instances, the Council will use its discretion not to take further action as it would not serve a useful purpose or be a good use of our resources to do so. We will however advise the offender of the breach of planning control advising that planning permission is required for the works undertaken and of their right to regularise the development retrospectively under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

7.1.4 Negotiation to find a solution.

Resolving breaches of planning control can take a long time, particularly when taking formal enforcement action. The amount of time it takes to resolve a breach of planning control very much depends on the severity of the breach combined with the actions and/or reactions of the land owner(s)/occupier(s).

Negotiations can often lead to a quicker resolution and to a better overall outcome. Where appropriate we will seek to negotiate with the owner/occupier and will consider options to address the planning harm resulting from the breach. The negotiation process may involve works being undertaken to remedy breaches of planning control to bring a development in line with permitted development rights or involve the submission of a retrospective planning application.

7.1.5 Invite a Retrospective Planning Application.

Upon investigating a breach of planning control, officers will consider the likelihood of planning permission being granted for the development upon application. Where appropriate, we will invite the submission of a planning application in an attempt to regularise the breach of planning control. In determining the application, the Council could impose conditions on the planning permission to address the harm being caused by the unauthorised development and/or in order for the Council to retain control of the development. This approach allows the planning merits of the development to be fully and openly considered. Applications for retrospective planning permission are considered in the same way as those for proposed development. The Council may, where it is appropriate and reasonable to do so, suspend any formal enforcement action whilst a retrospective planning application is being considered. However, where appropriate, the Council will not allow the application process to unreasonably delay enforcement proceedings.

7.1.6 Formal Enforcement Action

Almost all formal enforcement action is based on planning merits and can therefore only be taken where the development fails to meet the aims of the National and Local Plan Policies. In some cases, it will be necessary for the Council to take formal enforcement action against a breach of planning control.

Formal enforcement action will be taken where it is reasonable and justified to do so. Such scenarios may include:

- Where negotiation has failed to resolve the breach of planning control occurring.
- Where a breach of planning control has a serious harmful impact that it requires formal action.

All enforcement action follows an investigation and will be taken in accordance with the scheme of delegation.

7.1.7 How will we deal with the most serious types of breach of planning control?

The Council will use all resources available to investigate alleged breaches of planning control. Serious breaches of control will be strictly enforced, but particularly where those breaches have a significant detrimental impact on living conditions, the local area, or where the breach has the potential to cause irreversible harm. In such cases, the Council will use all the tools available to remedy the harm being caused. In some instances, the Council may decide that the breach of planning control is so serious that it warrants immediate cessation. The Council may therefore issue a temporary stop notice, or an enforcement notice accompanied by a stop notice.

Most formal notices have a right of appeal either to the Planning Inspectorate or through the courts.

7.1.8 Further Legal action

The failure to comply with the requirements of a formal notice is a criminal offence. Where such an offence is committed, the Council will gather information about the offence, assess that information and decide the best course of action. This may be by seeking prosecution proceedings, applying for a high court injunction, undertaking works in default (aka direct action) or continue to work with the offender to seek a suitable resolution. Where a crime has been committed and a successful prosecution has been secured, the Council will consider whether to make an application under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

When deciding on the best course of action, the Council will assess whether there is sufficient evidence to pursue the matter, whether such action is in the public interest and the expediency of pursuing the action.

7.1.9 The breach of planning control has been remedied.

A remedy to a breach of planning control can occur as a result of one or more of the other outcomes listed above. For example, planning permission may have been granted, or the offending development has been removed. Nevertheless, in more cases, upon the remedy of a breach of planning control the Council will close the enforcement case and notify the relevant interested parties accordingly. In some case it may be that formal action (ie. prosecution or other legal action) may continue beyond the point of the breach being remedied. The decision to continue with this action will be made on a case by case basis and will be in line with the Councils corporate enforcement policy.

7.2 More information on the approach the Council takes to formal action can be found in the Buckinghamshire Council Corporate Enforcement Policy.

8 Proactive monitoring of Planning Permissions

8.1 The Council offers a mainly reactive planning enforcement service responding to alleged breaches of planning control. The Council will introduce proactive monitoring of key planning conditions on larger development sites and will take enforcement action where necessary.

8.2 Whilst the responsibility to adhere to planning permissions and comply with associated conditions lies with those undertaking the development, we recognise the importance of addressing harmful breaches of planning control. As a result, where possible, the Council will use its resources and promote cross department liaison to identify breaches of planning control and monitor compliance with conditions imposed on planning permissions.

- 8.3 The Council also has a duty to monitor mineral and waste permissions and we will also actively inspect all landfill, mineral and waste sites within Buckinghamshire in line with our statutory duties.

9 Role of the Parish and Town Councils

We recognise that parish and town councils can play an important role in the provision of an exemplar enforcement service. Town and parish councils have a great deal of local knowledge and awareness of activities in their area. We will seek their views on the delivery of the service and will engage, where appropriate, on enforcement matters. We will notify parish and town council of formal actions taken in their area and, where appropriate, will encourage them to aid in the detection of breaches of planning control as well as contributing to monitoring developments and in the compliance process.

10 Major infrastructure developments

- 10.1 Major infrastructure developments such as HS2 and Highway network works etc have their own Act within which they operate. The developments are generally enforced by their own internal monitoring team with complaints investigated by a commissioner, particularly in relation to HS2. Alleged breaches of planning control related to these developments will be investigated accordingly and the enforcement team will work with other internal teams as well as external partners to seek as resolution. However, such projects are not immune from enforcement action and the Council will pursue enforcement action against unauthorised development where it is appropriate to do so.

11 Commonly used terms explained

- 11.1 If you experience dealings with Buckinghamshire Council as the local planning authority, you may hear/read words used such as: discretionary, proportionate and expedient. These are explained below:

11.1.1 Discretionary

There is no statutory requirement for the Council to take enforcement action against alleged breaches of planning control. Enforcement action is based on planning merit which requires a planning judgement as to whether or not formal action is appropriate. In some cases, the Council may decide that enforcement action will not be taken and that an alternative approach is more appropriate (e.g. a retrospective application, further negotiation, no further action etc).

11.1.2 Expedient/Expediency

When assessing whether formal action should be taken, the Council will ensure that the action is reasonable, proportionate and is in the public interest in order to achieve a satisfactory result. The Council will consider what the effect of formal action will be and if it will have a meaningful outcome. The term expedient or expediency in planning enforcement relates to the 'planning balance' for taking action, not convenience.

11.1.3 Harm

When considering the expediency and subsequent proportionality of formal enforcement action, the Council give significant regard to the planning harm associated with a breach of planning control. Planning harm is the collective term used to describe the negative impacts of a development.

12 Service Provision

- 12.1 Everyone (including those reporting an alleged breach and persons suspected of a breach) will receive the same standard of courteous and impartial professional service at all times.

- 12.2 We will hold your personal details in the strictest confidence in line with GDPR requirements.
- 12.3 Where we identify a breach of planning control the Council will contact the owner/occupier and state clearly the alleged breach that has occurred, the options available and timescales to resolve it.
- 12.4 Throughout the enforcement case, we will be open to meaningful negotiations to remedy a breach even after formal action has been commenced.

13 Anonymous/vexatious/ repetitive reports

- 13.1 The Council will not normally investigate anonymous reports of alleged breaches of planning control but retains the discretion to do so. Repetitive or vexatious reports will not be investigated.

14 Review

- 14.1 This plan will be reviewed at least every 3 years or following a significant change in legislation, national or local policy.

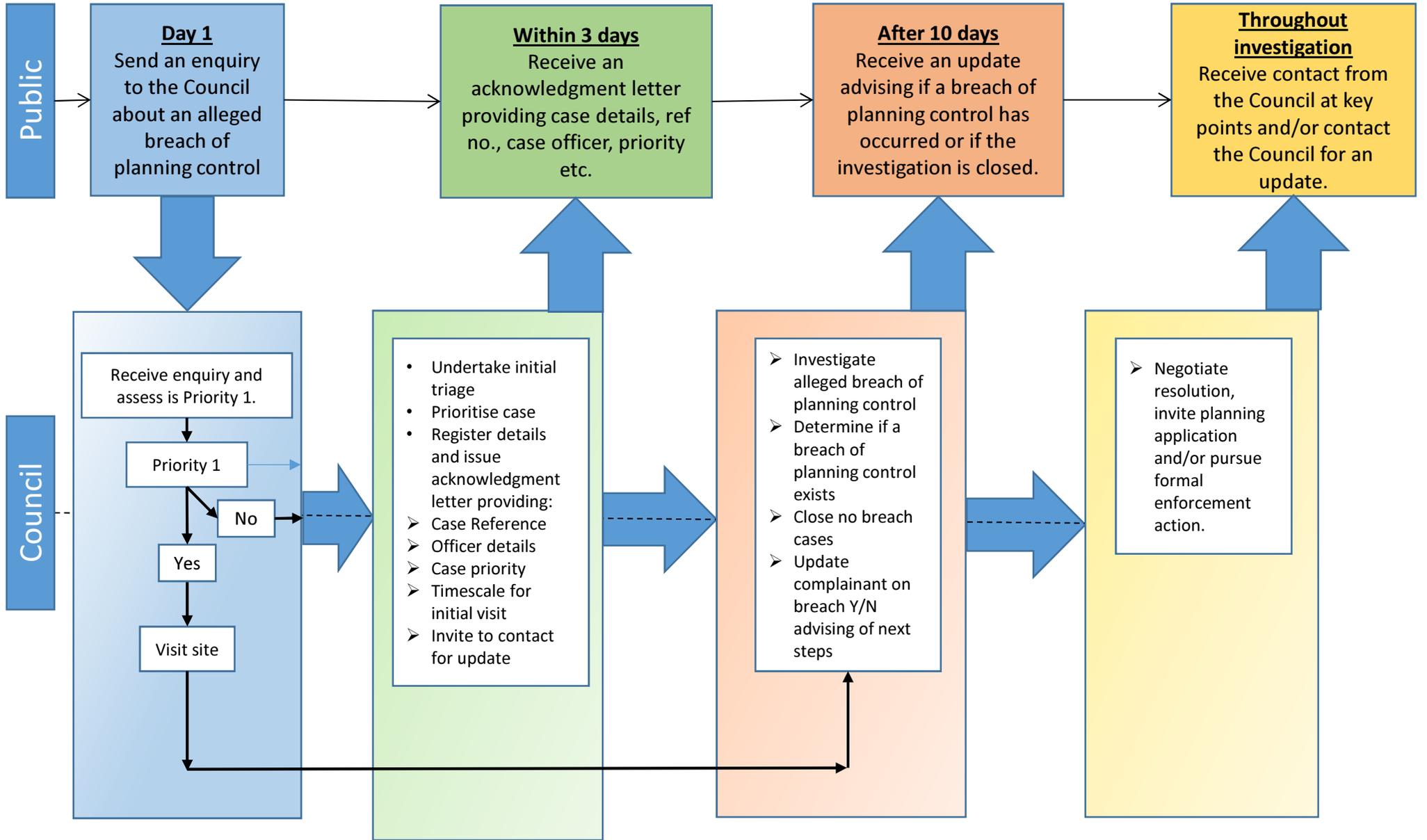
15 Equality

- 15.1 As required as part of the Equality Act 2010 Section 149, in the drafting of this plan due regard has been taken of the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and to advance equality of opportunity between different groups and foster good relations between different groups. It is not considered that the LEMP would conflict with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 or the Council's policy on equality.

16 Enforcement Toolkit

- 16.1 More information about the types of action available to the Council including formal notices can be found at www.gov.uk/guidance/ensuring-effective-enforcement

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Report to Cabinet

Date: 16 June 2020

Title: Unitary Implementation Budget outturn at 31 March 2020

Please note that this item is being taken under general exception provisions as it has not had the required 28 day notice on the forward plan.

Relevant councillor(s): Cllr Katrina Wood, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member Resources

Author and/or contact officer: Richard Ambrose, Service Director - Corporate Finance
Elspeth O'Neill, Finance workstream lead

Ward(s) affected: None

Recommendations: It is recommended that:

- £620k is added to the 2020/21 Transition budget taking the total to £9.564m.
- The balance on the Unitary Implementation reserve of £2.67m is transferred to the Transformation reserve.

Reason for decision: To support the ongoing delivery of the Unitary Transition programme.

Executive summary

1.1 The overall outturn for the Unitary Implementation Budget for 2019/20 was £9.939m which is an underspend of £2.910m against the original budget. The last reported position (January 2020) reported a projected underspend of £1.157m. The main reasons for the change in outturn was in Resources where the underspend increased by £1m; and in Deputy Chief Executive where the underspend increased by £650k.

Unitary Implementation Budget outturn 2019/20

Project Management Office

1.2 Additional resources were brought into the PMO following the critical friend report from AMEO to ensure greater resilience and manage risk. Contingency was approved to meet these requirements and a very small underspend is reported.

Adults, Health & Housing

1.3 £64k underspend due to Housing project management being resourced by AVDC and work on licensing being deferred into 2020/21; Cabinet are asked to agree the carry-forward of this amount to allow completion of this work in 2020/21.

Deputy Chief Exec

1.4 The workstream underspend increased to £952k mainly due to a large increase in the underspend on Branding (£530k) and Legal (£120k). The work on Branding was put on hold due to Covid-19 and some branding changes were therefore not completed by 1 April. It is requested that the £500k underspend on Branding is added to the 2020/21 Transition budget.

Resources

1.5 Resources outturn resulted in a £1.243m underspend compared to forecast £233k as at January 2020.

- The HR budget was increased to provide capacity for Tier 4 activity which has now been reprogrammed to 2020/21 (£588k underspent compared to Jan estimate of £0).
- SAP Implementation was £236k underspent (compared to Jan estimate of £121k) linked to reduced spend on licences and consultancy; and delays around interface work resulting in this work slipping to 2020/21.
- ICT spend was £162k underspent (compared to Jan estimate of £56k) with spend on Member ICT budget delayed. This has already been included within the Transition budget for 2020/21.
- The remaining £135k contingency budget allocated to Resources Board was not required.

Communities

1.6 The Board is £174k underspend with costs linked to Street, Signage and Parking machines and rebranding activity coming in £103k below budget. £65k underspend is reported in Waste linked to lower staffing requirements in 2019/20. A request to carry forward this forward into 2020/21 has already been included in the Transition budget for 2020/21 for Waste; Cabinet are asked to agree to the carry-forward of a further £55k for Highways & Transportation.

Planning, Growth & Sustainability

1.7 The workstream is £349k underspent, primarily linked to Property. Specialist external consultancy support has been brought in to support both Planning and Economic Development.

1.8 The detailed outturn report is shown at Appendix A. This also shows a small overspend on the budget for exit arrangements, due to the restructure of executive assistants being brought forward into 2019/20. The overall programme contingency budget of £1m was underspent by £309k.

Legal and financial implications

1.9 The overall spend on Unitary Implementation of £9.939m has been funded from the Unitary Reserve. A total of £22.17m has been set aside for Unitary, this leaves a balance of £12.24m in reserves.

1.10 The Transition Budget previously agreed for 2020/21 was £8.944m. It is recommended that this budget is increased by £620k (to £9.564m) relating to Branding (£500k), Housing (£40k), Regulation (£25k) and Transportation (£55k) budgets. The remaining balance on the Unitary reserve is then forecast as £2.67m. It is recommendation that this is added to the transformation reserve of £14m.

Corporate implications

1.11 Delivery of the Unitary Implementation Programme is dependent on appropriate budgets being available.

Consultation and communication

1.12 The Budget monitoring position is reported regularly to Cabinet, Corporate Management Team and the relevant Directorate.

Next steps and review

1.13 The 2020/21 Unitary Transition Budget will be monitored on a quarterly basis by Cabinet.

Background papers

1.14 None.

Appendix A: Unitary Implementation Budget outturn 2019/20

Implementation Budget	As at 31 March 2020			Status	Commentary
	Budget £000	Actual £000	Variance £000		
Programme Management Office	1,071	1,067	-4		Additional resource brought into PMO following critical friend review. Budget reflects the contingency agreed in Jan 2020.
Adults, Health & Housing					
Housing	40	0	-40		Project support officer post has been provided by AVDC; anticipated this is a BAU role so no recharge was required.
Regulatory Services	40	16	-24		Taxi licensing work and gambling licence costs.
Total Adults, Health & Housing	80	16	-64		Overall budget is underspent
Deputy Chief Exec					
Localities	298	221	-77		Localities team fully resourced and events held.
Legal & Governance	669	343	-326		Legal costs lower than originally budgeted for with a request to carry-forward underspend as some work re-profiled in 2020/21.
Communications	87	72	-15		Relates to staffing and survey costs.
Branding	755	221	-534		Significant underspend with some work put on hold due to covid-19. Request to carry forward.
Total Deputy Chief Exec	1,809	857	-952		Overall budget is underspent
Resources					
HR	1,502	914	-588		Underspend now forecast following addition of contingency budget for Tier 4.
SAP HR / Finance	1,010	774	-236		Reduced cost of SAP licences and back fill costs. Underspend increased as work requirements with third party providers finalised.
Finance & Procurement	409	386	-23		Underspend reduced due to interim support brought in to support key areas.
ICT	2,284	2,122	-162		ICT programme outturn in line with forecast. Spend on Member ICT delayed awaiting decision paper.
Customer	753	664	-89		Underspend due to extra customer support staff backfill not being required and lower than anticipated equipment and software costs.
Civil Contingencies	10	0	-10		Budget not required.
Contingency	135	0	-135		Further use of contingency not required.
Total Resources	6,103	4,860	-1,243		Overall budget is underspent

Implementation Budget	As at 31 March 2020			Status	Commentary
	Budget £000	Actual £000	Variance £000		
Communities					
Highways & Transportation	200	97	-103		Underspend reflects actual spend on updating Parking equipment.
Waste & Street scene	87	22	-65		Budget originally allocated for 2 support posts. Mix of posts altered and request to carry budget forward.
Culture, Leisure & Wellbeing	6	0	-6		No spend required
Total Communities	293	119	-174		Overall budget is underspent
Planning, Growth & Sustainability					
Property	726	527	-200		Programme spend plus costs required for changes to accommodate Members and senior management team move to the Gateway.
Planning	200	104	-96		Planning support now in place; mix has changed from original envisaged and consultancy support now shared with Economy & Regeneration.
Natural & Built Environment	40	0	-40		A separate post is now no longer required; resource is shared with the Planning workstream.
Economy & Regeneration	47	62	15		Consultancy support has been brought in. The project support officer post has been repurposed to provide for a Growth Board support officer role.
Contingency	28	0	-28		No longer required
Planning, Growth & Sustainability	1,041	692	-349		Overall budget is underspent
Redundancy / Pension Strain	2,000	2,162	162		Overspend due to inclusion of the EA review.
Additional corporate management capacity	144	167	23		Spend on additional Corporate management capacity.
Contingency	309	0	-309		No longer required
Total Budget	12,850	9,939	-2,910		Overall budget is underspent

Appendix B: Updated Transition Budget 2020/21

Service area	Actual 2019/20	20/21 Revised Transition Budget
Programme Management Office	1,067	0
Deputy Chief Executive		
Localities	221	200
Legal & Governance	343	131
Communications	72	200
Branding	221	600
Total Deputy Chief Exec	857	1,131
Resources		
HR	914	527
SAP HR / Finance System	774	309
Finance	386	630
ICT	2,122	804
Customer	664	779
Civil Contingencies	0	0
Contingency	0	250
Total Resources	4,860	3,299
Adults, Health & Housing		
Housing	0	40
Regulatory Services	16	25
Total Adults, Health & Housing	16	65
Communities		
Highways & Transportation	97	135
Culture, Leisure & Wellbeing	0	0
Neighbourhoods	22	100
Total Communities	119	235
Planning, Growth & Sustainability		
Property	527	118
Planning	104	96
Natural & Built Environment	0	0
Economic Growth & Sustainability	62	20
Contingency	0	0
Total Planning, Growth & Sustainability	692	234
Redundancy / Pension Strain	2,162	4000
Additional corporate management capacity	167	100
Contingency	0	500
OVERALL TOTAL	9,939	9,564