



# Portfolio Priorities

Localities and Strategic Partnerships  
Communities & Localism Select Committee  
July 2021



# Overview

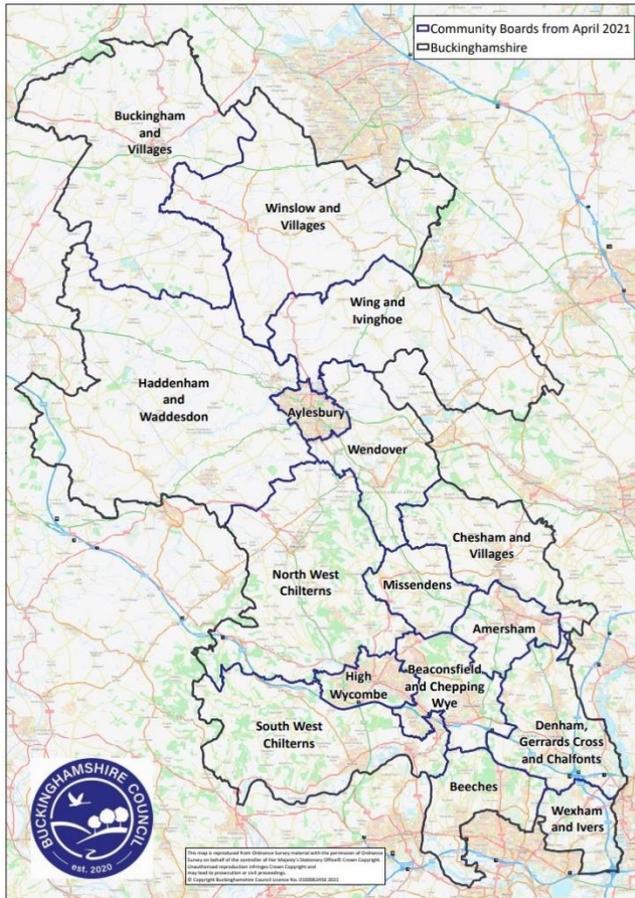
The Localities and Strategic Partnership service is diverse and fast paced. It is closely connected to every councillor and every service area within the Council.

We are ambitious about what can be achieved through exceptional, innovative engagement and collaboration. Teams proactively problem-solve, deliver on projects and drive change. Building on strong connections between Buckinghamshire Council, its partners and our communities to work with others in creative ways to make Buckinghamshire a prosperous, safe and healthy place to live, work and grow.

## **My Priorities are to:**

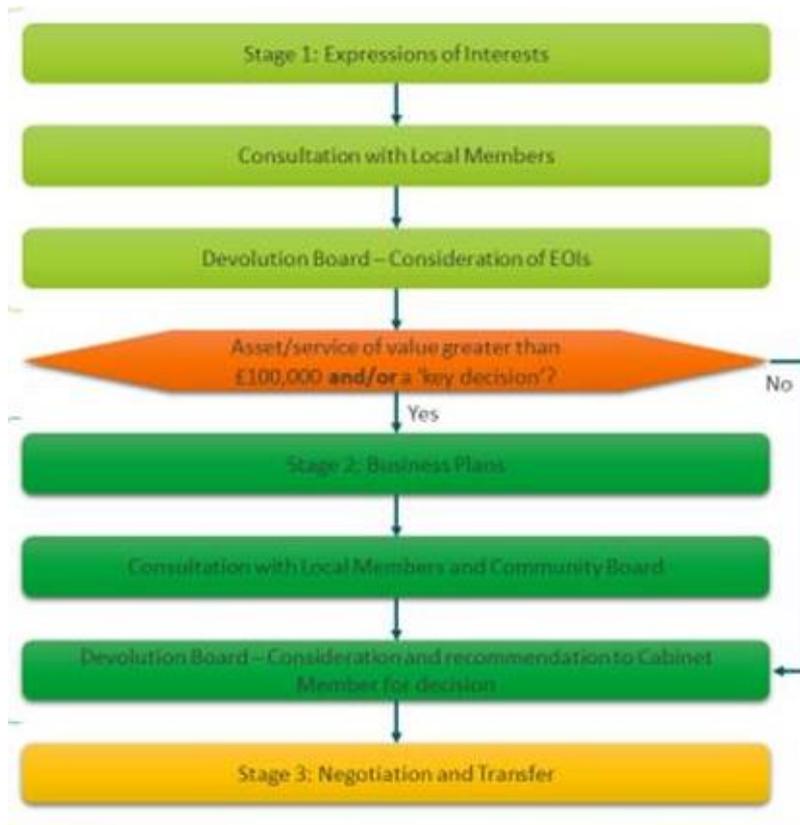
1. Develop the Localism model, at its heart of which is 16 Community Boards that connect the council to partners and its communities to provide tailored local support and solutions to issues.
2. Deliver at pace the local Devolution programme.
3. Work with the Police & Crime Commissioner to help prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime. Support tackling offences like speeding, illegal parking and rural crime.
4. Work with local community groups, voluntary groups and town & parish councils to support local communities and build effective relationships.
5. Collaboratively deliver a community 'helping hand' offer for vulnerable residents.

# 1. Develop the Localism Model at its heart of which is 16 Community Boards that connect the council to partners and its communities to provide tailored local support and solutions to issues.



- Working together: local voices, local choices, local action
- The boards are a great way of connecting the council to communities and partners
- Bringing the council and community together to improve outcomes for residents and tackle local issues
- Connecting with community groups, partners and residents to understand what matters to them and work together to problem solve.
- Community Boards are open for anyone to take part, they are council committees with a little bit of a difference
- It's activity all year round and action groups help explore local priorities, projects, and creative ways to make local changes
- Boards to proactively support council priorities at a very local level and in a way which is the best fit for that local community.

## 2. Deliver at pace the local devolution programme



- Devolution is central to the new Buckinghamshire Council localism agenda
- We are keen to energise devolution programmes, shift power to communities and improving local services by better aligning these with local needs
- The devolution of services and assets to local communities, particularly to town and parish councils, can make a significant contribution in enabling them to be stronger, more resilient and sustainable
- A lot of planning time was lost due to the pandemic
- We have a devolution policy, webpages and have been developing a toolkit
- We have a phased approach to make sure we implement devolution well, learning as we go. We are now focusing on the pilots
- Looking forward to this post progressing our devolution programme at pace

### 3. Work with the police and the PCC to help prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime. Support tackling offences like speeding, illegal parking and rural crime



- Working together to make Buckinghamshire a safer place
- Ensuring the Council is compliant with crime-related statutory duties and to increase the safety of residents and reduce their fear of crime.
- Deliver services to support the community safety partnership and its work
- Ensure that the Council meets its statutory duties relating to crime reduction, ASB, Prevent, modern slavery and domestic abuse etc.
- Deliver services directly to residents to address ASB and crime hotspots and to prevent and reduce crime and disorder.

## 4. Work with local community and voluntary groups and town and parish councils to support local communities and build effective relationships.



### VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SECTOR STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

2021-2024

Better Together: A partnership approach to improving people's lives in Buckinghamshire



In partnership with the VCSE Recovery Board



### All Councils Charter



Working together for the people of Buckinghamshire



A shared commitment between Buckinghamshire Council and the parish and town councils of Buckinghamshire

- There are a number of key partners but two are particularly critical for this portfolio:

Voluntary Sector and Town & Parish Councils

- One of our focus will be on publishing a co-designed Town & Parish Charter
- Support the VCSE Board – excellent examples of collaboration
- Review of Council funding to VCSE completed November 2021

