



Beeches Community Board minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Beeches Community Board held on Thursday 28 October 2021 in Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting, commencing at 6.00 pm and concluding at 7.57 pm.

Members present

D Anthony (Chairman), J Carey, G Chapman, J Dax, D Dhillon (Vice-Chairman), C Linton, K Pritchard, P Rowley, and G Sandy

Also in attendance

M Bergh, R Binstead, R Dale, J Ellis, S Garwood, C Geen, S James, A Ord, A Polding, R Patterson, J Pearce, A Simone, G Thomas and A Turner

Apologies

R Bagge and T Egleton

Agenda Item

1 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the members and guests to the Beeches Community Board meeting

2 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30 June 2021 were agreed as an accurate record

3 Declarations of interest

None

4 Thames Valley Police Update

Deputy Commander Rachael Patterson informed the Members on changes to their Senior Management Team. DC Patterson had taken over as Deputy Commander for Chiltern and South Bucks and Emma Burrows had taken over as Superintendent.

Inspector James Ellis updated the Members on Neighbourhood Policing Teams, work the Thames Valley Police (TVP) were doing on behalf of communities, and identified shared priorities between TVP and Beeches Community Board. The presentation slides referred to in the meeting would be appended to these minutes. DC Patterson

welcomed feedback from Members and ideas of what they would like to see in future TVP updates.

In the discussion that followed the following points were raised:

- The Police had improved at identifying cases of drug trafficking, which had contributed to the recorded rise year on year. TVP had been targeting drug suppliers to help reduce the wider problem and had a dedicated Stronghold Team that focuses on reviewing the information intelligence of drug activity, hotspot areas, likely users, and dealers. Examples of successful prosecutions could be seen on the TVP social media feeds.
- TVP prioritise their work according to the Threat, Harm Opportunity and Risk (THOR) Model and they utilised a daily management process to ensure their time was well scrutinised. Comparatively to other Local Policing Areas (LPAs), Chiltern and South Bucks was second in levels of victim satisfaction and had maintained 70% satisfaction and above.
- The concern raised surrounding drugs had been reflected in the TVP neighbourhood priorities and was often tackled as part of anti-social behaviour. Inspector Ellis directed Members to the Policing Issues Forum to escalate the discussion further.
- Chris Geen, Team Leader for the Community Safety Team for Buckinghamshire Council and Serious Violence Lead for the Buckinghamshire Partnership, informed Members of the work being undertaken on early intervention initiatives. The Community Board and other partners were noted for their key role in identifying young people and referring them onto the Council or Police to arrange for youth service engagement. Community Board funding was also highlighted as a positive contribution to mentoring services and interventions.
- The importance of reporting and referring young people was stressed and Members were made aware of a Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Group that works with young people.
- Issues surrounding Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMOs). Regarding the Farnham area, the Community Safety Team had worked with multiple agencies on enforcement and HMO inspectors had checked licencing compliance. The team had been exploring other avenues such as working with the legal team to look at opportunities for Community Protection Notices (CPNs). It was suggested that Members escalate the issue to the national level.

5 Community Safety Update

The Community Board received a Community Safety update from the Buckinghamshire Council's Community Safety Team, presented by Chris Geen. Members were informed of the Community Safety Team restructure and Mr Geen referred to a presentation, which would be appended to the minutes.

6 Service Director Update

Simon James, Director of Education, was in attendance to present the update. The following points were highlighted:

- The main pressure for Children Services was the recruitment of social workers. This was to reduce the reliance on agency staff and improve consistency for children and families.
- An Ofsted Inspection was expected within the calendar year, to examine safeguarding procedures and Children Services. It was hoped that this would be a good reflection on the reputation of the service and be a positive effect on future staff recruitment.
- The budget for education and skills was heard, with per pupil funding due to increase for schools to provide greater support and resources to children. There was on-going support over the holidays for families to provide food and activities. Focus had been placed on identifying skills businesses need in the local community and matching them up with individuals. Training had been provided to those seeking work, such as digital skills.
- Mr James emphasised how grateful children and schools were for the community board funding. The funding had been used to tackle priority areas, such as children's mental health, to raise awareness and provide more resources.
- Live consultation was open for the Council's annual budget for 2022-2023. Mr James encouraged Members to raise awareness and get residents involved. The Community Board was informed of the campaign in connection to adult social care; 'See Something, Say Something, Do Something', to raise awareness of reporting abuse or neglect of adults. In regards to the Burnham area, Mr James informed the Board of the sufficiency work to ensure that there were enough school places for local residents. This included a 5-10 year projection to ensure these needs would be met.

7 Update on Action Groups

Mr Pearce updated the Community Board on the Infrastructure and Highways action group, that had met twice since the last meeting. In July, the group had reviewed funding applications to be funded in this financial year. The applications that were discussed and the following recommendation by the action group can be viewed in the reports circulated within the agenda.

For the September meeting, the action group reviewed applications submitted for the coming financial year through 2022-2023. They also discussed the active travel strategy, which the action group had agreed to raise with parish councils and neighbouring community boards.

Cllr George Sandy presented the update for the Supporting Economic Development Action Group. The group met in September and discussed ways to encourage the local economy to grow. The area of focus was Burnham high street and the group identified the parking as a barrier to shoppers. It was suggested that there was a need for free parking for a short period of time to enable people to shop locally. Other suggestions included an increase of available cycle racks, an expansion of local markets, more specialised markets, loyalty cards for local residents, and more CCTV cameras to prevent anti-social behaviour. The action group also received a presentation from the managing director of Buckinghamshire Business First, to

consider potential solutions for the business community within the Beeches area. Members were informed that the action group broadly supported the Net 0 Project, to improve accessibility for businesses. The group was planning to liaise with the Burnham Business Association to submit funding applications for relevant projects.

Cllr Dev Dhillon presented an update for the Improving Our Environment action group. The group met in September and had a number of actions to take forward including:

- Investigate appropriate sites for the Jubilee Tree Plantations
- How to reduce plastic waste
- Consult all 5 parish councils to install water fountains, similar to the fountain in Black Park
- Liaise with other Community Boards to gauge interest in solar panels and the possibility of getting a discount from the provider
- Find land for community gardens
- To look into a footpath between Taplow train station and the Burnham Parish to encourage walking

The Community Board was informed that the next action group meeting would be on the 10th November 2021. Cllr Dhillon called for all Members, organisations and charities to get involved in community projects.

Mr Pearce updated the Members on the Wellbeing Action Group. The group had met twice since the last Beeches Community Board meeting and had been working on a few ongoing projects. These include:

- Outreach work with the Family Support Team to send staff to areas in the Beeches, particularly Burnham, to engage with young people and identify need for a possible youth outreach project.
- Project for dementia awareness. A virtual dementia tour was to be delivered in Farnham Common with 4 sessions running throughout the day.
- Intergenerational projects in schools. The group was planning to contact other schools to get involved to bring older and younger people together.
- Reduce social isolation and combine it with getting more people active. It was discussed how to reactivate Movers and Shakers, as the former provider was unable to. The group planned to work with colleagues within the Community Engagement Team on how this can be provided.

8 Community Matters

There were no questions from the public during this item.

9 Public Health Profile

The Community Board noted the annual report from the Council's Public Health Team. Mr Pearce explained that the report gave a good overview of benchmark figures showing where the Community Board ranks amongst others in Buckinghamshire, particularly for figures such as population, crime, life expectancy, and areas that suffer from deprivation more than others. The recommendations on potential projects the Community Board could consider funding to address any

highlighted issues would be circulated amongst members.

10 Funding and Applications Update

Members noted the applications received since the last meeting. This includes the following:

- 2 projects with Buckinghamshire Mind, which had been discussed in the Wellbeing Action Group and had been approved.
- 4 applications for highways projects, which 2 had been agreed.
- An application from the Rotary Club of Burnham Beeches for a Christmas parcels project. The Board was in discussion with colleagues within the Community Support Team to explore the possibility of using the household support grant for food-related projects over the winter period.
- The Board had received an application from a Children's Respite Charity, which would be circulated to Members.

Overall, the Community Board had allocated about 65 thousand pounds, with over 200 thousand pounds still left in the budget. Mr Pearce informed Members that organisations had approached the Board with some large-scale projects and emphasised that there was still funding available to allocate before the end of the year.

In response to an enquiry into the approved footway extension on Blackpond Lane, Mr Pearce explained that a purchase order would need to be made for Transport for Bucks to carry out the work and schedule it in. However, work was likely to be minimal during the winter period due to bad weather. When the work has been scheduled, the Parish Council, as applicants, would be kept up-to-date.

11 Action Plan Update

Mr Pearce informed Members that this update would be a staple on the agenda, to set out what the Community Board was working on and to pull together the work of the action groups. This would be appended to the agenda for any queries and to keep Members up to date.

12 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 26 January 2022 at 6.00pm

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Beeches Community Board 2021

James Ellis
Neighbourhood Inspector
Chiltern & South Bucks Policing Area

Current Policing 'Landscape'

- ❑ Residential Burglary: -55.5% year to date, -47.1% rolling 12 months
- ❑ Serious Violence, including knife crime: -47% year to date and -40% rolling 12 months
- ❑ Personal Robbery: -30.8% year to date, -28.8% rolling 12 months

However...

- ❑ Harassment: 53.5% year on year
- ❑ Public Disorder: 88.2% year on year
- ❑ Sexual Offences: 10.7% year on year
- ❑ Trafficking of Drugs: 28.6% year on year

Background Factors:

- Post-lockdown – public attitude is less tolerant & more self-centred
- NCRS – crimes to be recorded unless proven otherwise

- ❑ But, only 1 in 5 calls to police are to report a crime. Concerns for a person's welfare, reports of missing persons, trespass, highway obstructions, noise nuisance and neighbourly disputes are just some examples of this 'hidden' demand on police resource.

NO FURTHER ACTION

DEMAND
SPECIALISMS

Collaboratively or Force owned resources dealing with serious and high risk crime e.g. Major Crime, JOU, DAU and CAIU.

PARTNERSHIPS
CR&ED
RESPONSE

Attend emergency incidents following borderless principles as tasked by the control room.
Officers in this team will not take OIC responsibility for any crimes.

INVESTIGATION

Attend non-emergency incidents and take OIC responsibility for all local crime.
This hub will include detective resources and undertake functions such as prisoner handling.

NEIGHBOURHOOD

This hub will have a geographical and problem solving function with a primary task of demand and vulnerability reduction.

LPA

Farnham Neighbourhood Policing Team

Geographic

PS Rachel Dale

PC Trevor Walker

PCSO Angela O'Connell
PCSO Shoiab Mahmood
PCSO Kam Benawra

Problem Solving

Problem Solving
Sergeant

Problem Solving
PCs



Community Priorities

Online voting by the public as to their priorities arranged via Bucks Council and/or PIP



Neighbourhood Priorities ratified by Policing Issues Panel – set in **Patrol Plans**

Community Board Priorities

- Lines of Communication with local Sergeant for quick-time problem-solving outside a formal CB setting
- Policing Issues Panel – independently chaired with CB representatives & TVP Inspectors
- CB Working Groups can support aligned priorities (e.g. CSW, NHW, Shop or Pub Watch, Rural Spotters)
- Physical improvements through CB funding (e.g. CCTV, ANPR, MVAS, road signs, street-side furnishings & layout)
- The widest possible representation within the CB provides better decision-making and can support policing decisions (i.e. LPA Commander's IAG)

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Quarterly Updates produced as a summary of Patrol Plans and published for the community – akin to a shareholders' report



Patrol Plans updated by Neighbourhood teams, to record their daily contribution to priorities

@TVP_ChiltSBucks

TVPChilternandSouthBucks



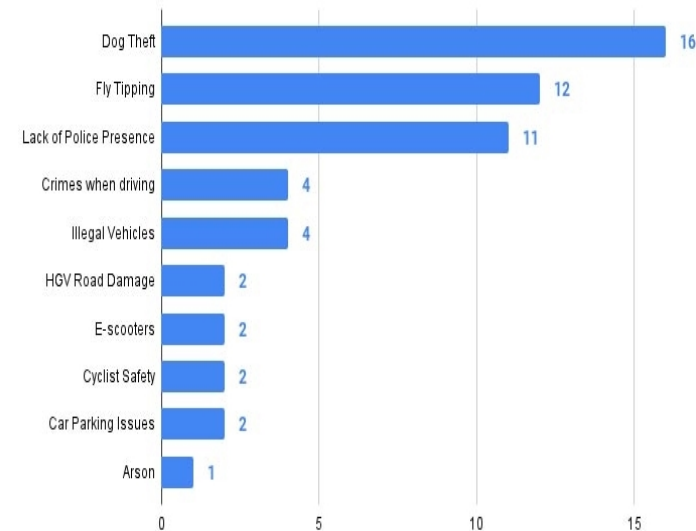
Neighbourhood Priorities

Chiltern & South Bucks Policing Issues Forum (csb-forum.org)

May 2021 Survey - leading Residents' Concerns by Community Board Area

Amersham	Burglary - residential	ASB	Drug Dealing	Speeding	Cybercrime/ Fraud
Beaconsfield & Chepping Wye	Burglary - residential	ASB	Speeding	Cybercrime/ Fraud	Littering
Beaconsfield & Chesham	Burglary - residential	ASB	Speeding	Littering	Drug Dealing
Chesham & Villages	Speeding	Burglary - residential	ASB	Drug Dealing	Littering
Denham, GX, Chalfonts	Burglary - residential	ASB	Speeding	Drug Dealing	Littering
Missendens	ASB	Speeding	Burglary - residential	Littering	Drug Dealing
Wexham & Ivers	Burglary - residential	ASB	Speeding	Parking	Drug Dealing

May 2021 C&SB Survey - 'Other' Concerns named by Respondents



Statutory Duty to engage with local people which is included in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

The Wider Policing Focus



Burglary



Modern Slavery



Domestic Violence



Child Exploitation



Cyber-crime



Knife Crime,
Robbery & Serious
Violence



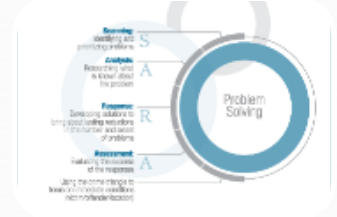
Rural Crime



Organised Crime



Drug Lines



Problem-Solving



**QUESTIONS
And
Answers**

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Serious Violence

Safer Buckinghamshire Partnership Serious Violence
Lead Chris Geen

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Serious Violence Support officer

Role of Community Safety Service

- Tackle ASB and Community Safety issues utilising LA Powers and utilising a problem solving multi-agency co-production partnership approach. Support (CSP) Safer Buckinghamshire Partnership).
- Work Themes:
 - Reduce Crime, Safer Streets
 - Support Victims of Crime
 - Modern Slavery and Exploitation
 - Domestic Abuse (Domestic Abuse Bill)
 - Safeguarding Vulnerable people e.g. Young people to Crime, Safer Bucks Plan BP Priority 2
 - Preparing LA for new Statutory Serious Violence Duty

Identified Drivers of Serious Violence Children and Young Persons

Adverse childhood experiences, school exclusions and involvement in violence. We know that young people who have experienced trauma are at greater risk of exploitation, especially within the increasingly violent drug markets. Changes to the drugs market, like the County Lines model of exploitation is fuelling Serious Violence as gangs fight for control of territory and settle scores.

These crimes also hit the poorest hardest, with the poorest fifth of people having hospital admission rates for injuries caused by violence five times higher than those of the most affluent fifth.

We also know that SV disproportionately affect BAME people as perpetrators and victims

The Serious Violence Crime Picture Thames Valley

- There were 3,142 serious violence (SV) offences in Thames Valley in 2020/21, which meet the VRU definition of Serious Violence. *
- There were 2,086 Serious Violence against Victim (SVV) offences in 2020/21
*caveat: does not include Sexual Offences or Drugs Offences
- There were 15 homicides in the Thames Valley in 2020/21, with 3 homicides in 2020 relating to the terrorist attack in Forbery Gardens, Reading. With 7 murders in Bucks, 4 of which are domestic related, 2 amongst groups of youths and 1 a public servant. 16 to 24-year-olds are more likely than older groups to die at the hands of another.
- In Bucks like many crime types, occurrences of Serious Violence involving young people fell in 2020, compared to previous years. (age group 15-25yrs)* Caveat: includes Violence against the Person, Sexual Offences, Robbery, Weapons, Drug Offences

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1217 occurrences of serious violence involving young people in 2020	-11% compared to 2019	807 occurrences where the suspect was under 25	-3% compared to 2019
		666 occurrences where the Victim was under 25	-23% compared to 2019



Hospital admissions for assault with a sharp object in England and Wales rose by **41%** from 2014-15 to 2018-19,²² and offences involving firearms increased by 42% from 2013-14 to 2018-19.²³

Hospital admissions

Data from NHS Digital shows that there were 4,091 finished consultant episodes (FCE) recorded in English hospitals in 2020/21 due to assault by a sharp object. This was 14% lower than in 2019/20 but 12% higher than in 2014/15.

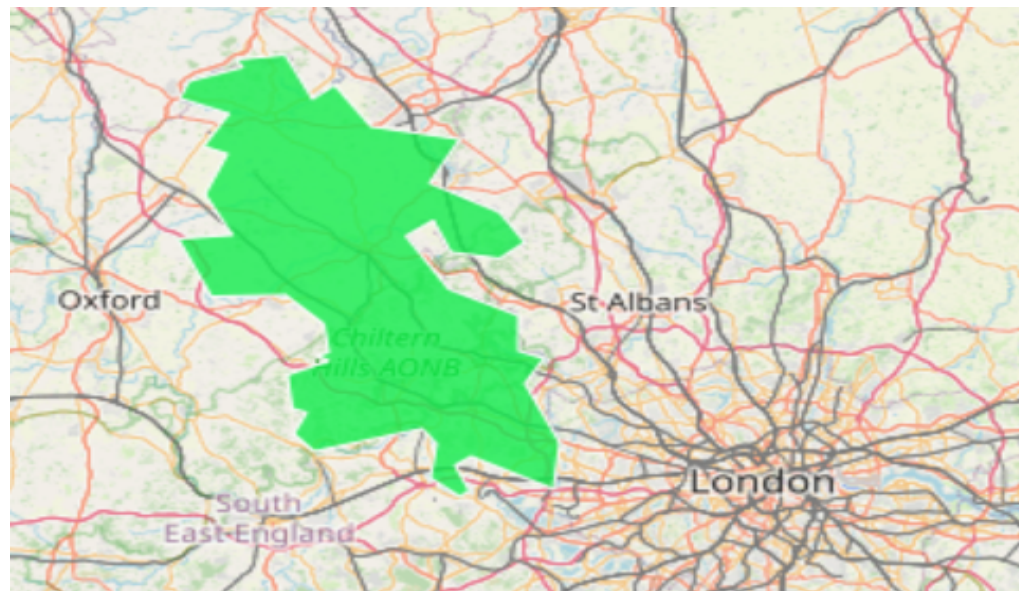
- Nationally Hospital admissions have seen year-on-year falls of 8% and 14% in 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively, and offences involving firearms were 14% lower in the year to 2020-21 than in the previous year. (Lockdown effect?)
- In 2020/21, of those admitted to hospital for assault by sharp object 17% were aged 18 or younger. Around 91% of people admitted to hospital for assault by sharp objects were male.

Buckinghamshire Young People Population Growth

Buckinghamshire population projected expected to increase nearly 5% between 2011 and 2026 with a rise by 4% to 536,454 by 2018, an increase of 20,358 from the latest 2013 mid-year estimate (516,096).

An extra 4,100 young people (0-19 years) in **Buckinghamshire** by 2018, an increase of 3% since 2013. This number will have been surpassed by 2021. (Census 21 data awaited)

What does this mean: Increase in **‘Demand’** on services and increased **risk** of more young people vulnerable to crime including serious violence.



What is being done to reduce Serious Violence

- **2018** [Serious Violence Strategy - GOV.UK](#)
- **2019** [A whole-system multi-agency approach to serious violence ...](#)
- **2020** HM Government announce Serious Violence Duty
- **2021** [Serious Violence Duty: draft guidance - GOV.UK](#)
- **New duty to be Law 2022**
- **2021** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/beating-crime-plan>
- **2019** Introduction of Regional Violence Reduction Units. Thames Valley VRU Police Managed in Partnership with 9 Local Authorities and other Statutory Agencies. YOS part of the Regional Board

National Strategy Public Health Approach to Tackle Serious Violence

The Serious Violence Strategy takes a public health approach to tackling violence – looking at violence not as isolated incidents or solely a law enforcement problem but instead as a preventable consequence of a range of factors such as adverse early-life experiences or harmful social or community experiences and influences.

A Whole-System Approach encompassing all Statutory Agencies, Police, NHS, GP's, Local Authorities, Probation, Prison Service, Education...

Working with Communities and the Charitable and Voluntary Sector

“Enabling, Encouraging, Mobilising, Collaborating and Co-producing together to Safeguard young people and protect our Communities”

A whole-system multi-agency approach to serious violence prevention

Outcome:
Achieve a
Whole System
Approach
across TV
including
Bucks



What is the Thames Valley Violence Reduction Unit doing

- VRU provides Strategic co-ordination and oversight and delivery of Home Office Strategy and project development and manages home office funding for projects. £1.8 million funding this financial year
- <https://www.tvvru.co.uk>
- VRU-TV area: Governance Board, Operational Board, TVT Data programme Board
- Thames Valley Together Data Sharing project (Integrated information sharing system) NHS, Probation, Local Authorities Key partners
- Funding for Intervention Providers: New Leaf Mentoring, Custody Divert, Hospital Navigators, Drug Youth diversion
- Community Projects: Intensive Engagement, Redeem Our Communities
- Education PHSE resources for schools to raise awareness 'Dees Story' Mentors in Violence Prevention
- Targeted Police Enforcement, Disruption Activities and Focussed Deterrence initiative (Aylesbury Pilot), Trauma informed Training programme for Officers
- Provided 40k to LA's to recruit 12 month fixed contract support worker to help prepare for SV Duty. (BC advert has gone out)
- Research funding 'Out of Court Disposals' and Oxford Uni academic research

What are we doing about SV in Bucks

- Safer Buckinghamshire Partnership (CSP) oversight SV Agenda
- Serious Violence Task Force now Operational to co-ordinate Partnership activities
- SV Plan Aims: Safeguarding young people up to 25years of age, Early Intervention
- Raising Awareness of forthcoming new SV Duty and joint TVP Intel Training to professionals
- **Project development and support activities:**
- Community Engagement Projects : I.E. Wycombe, ROC Aylesbury
- Intervention Support to professionals in Bucks and TVP: Intervention Menu/BOD, Community Boards Commissioning/Youth Interventions, FD project TVP, developing work with our Communities and Voluntary sector to support and divert young people
- Utilise BC services: 'Open Doors' Adult learning referral pathway, Safeguarding Vulnerable persons YP and Adults, continue to identify and develop intervention provision
- DWP employment support, 'Track to Success' railway employment project
- 10K Intervention fund for specialist Interventions (professionals use)
- 'Achilles Heel' Operational support to TVP (Law Enforcement support utilising Council Powers)
- BC Family Support Service and MASH/MACE (Multi-Agency Child Exploitation HUB) Early Intervention

Spotting the Signs

- Has young person become withdrawn from the family and/or school
- Is their school or college reporting worrying changes in behaviour, academic achievement or attendance
- Have they lost interest in positive activities such as sports clubs
- Do they stay out unusually late without giving a reason and are vague about their whereabouts
- Are they regularly going missing and refuse to state where they have been
- Have they stopped seeing old friends and started hanging out with a new group?
- Are they secretive about the contents of their bag
- Are they defensive if you ask what is in their possession or if they are hiding anything?
- Has their attitude changed about carrying knives/weapons for example 'justifying it by saying people carry them for self-defence'
- Have any items gone missing from the kitchen, tool box or garage?
- Have you found a weapon hidden amongst their possessions

Buckinghamshire referral Pathway

- All Child and Adult Safeguarding concerns must be referred into the **Buckinghamshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)** which co-locates with key partners e.g. MH, CCG, Police to Triage the initial response to safeguarding concerns in relation to children and vulnerable adults
- Some individuals will be suitable for Early Help from our Family Support Service and some may be escalated to the Child Protection Sect 47 Strategy meeting/Conference threshold or Sect 17 Child in Need.
- Early Intervention referrals gives us the best chance of Preventing a person from escalating into entrenched and difficult to reach behaviours
- Link to Professional Reporting:
<https://www.buckssafeguarding.org.uk/childrenpartnership/reporting-a-concern/report-a-concern-professional/>
- **The MACE (Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Hub)**
Deals with referrals for under 18s (under 25 for Care leavers) suspected or known to be involved in Child Sexual or Criminal Exploitation. Aim is to put in a package of support /interventions to divert and support a young person e.g. Mentoring

Keeping Communities and Safeguarding People in Buckinghamshire

“Its all of our Responsibility”

Any Q's

Thank You For Listening