



## **An update for Community Boards from Buckinghamshire Council (Issue 1 2023 – January 2023)**

### **Local Heritage Listing**

Using government funding, the council has developed a Local Heritage List to protect some of the most important heritage sites in the county that contribute to the local character of Buckinghamshire.

The Local Heritage List identifies locally significant heritage sites and celebrates their contribution to local identity and character. These sites include historic buildings (houses, chapels, agricultural and industrial buildings), archaeological sites (upstanding earthwork remains and buried sites), formal gardens, public open spaces, public works of art, monuments and street furniture.

Sites were nominated by local communities and council staff and evaluated by the council's heritage and archaeology team with volunteers also working on the project.

The Local Heritage List is different to statutory listing and designations (e.g. Grade I, II and II\* Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, and Registered Parks and Gardens), which are assessed nationally by Historic England.

Assets on the Local Heritage List will be recognised and considered in any future planning applications, helping to protect local heritage assets for future generations to enjoy. There have been more than 2,653 nominations for inclusion on the list and 771 of these sites are now being brought forward for adoption in Phase 1, with the rest being assessed for Phase 2.

To view a list of nominated sites, please visit the [Buckinghamshire Local Heritage List website](#).

### **ORCS funding for EV charge locations**

After successfully securing £407k from the [Office for Zero Emission Vehicles](#) (OZEV) via their [On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme](#) (ORCS), the council will now be installing 128 new EV parking bays in 16 of its car parks across the county – with work being completed by April 2023.

We are now looking for other opportunities to broaden the public charging network in local town and village community car parks in Buckinghamshire.

Our aim is to submit a combined bid to the On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme (ORCS) in March 2023, to provide the funding for this initiative. We will work alongside town and parish councils to assess what type of chargepoint might be suitable for each site, calculate the cost of installation and the power connection costs, and liaise with EV chargepoint suppliers on behalf of town and parish councils. We can also help to procure and manage the installation.

## **Local Plan update – sites to be published following call for sites**

Following the ‘Wider’ call for sites last year, over 700 sites have been submitted for consideration as land for possible future development within Buckinghamshire. Our previous calls for brownfield sites resulted in 300 sites being suggested. An interactive map showing these has now been published at [Brownfield CFS 2021-22 \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com)

A list of other sites which have been submitted as part of our wider call for sites will be available in the coming weeks. Officers have now started the process of evaluating each of the sites against the criteria of suitability for their chosen use, availability and deliverability over the plan period to 2040.

Work has commenced on an Employment and Retail Evidence Study and a Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (we expect to consult with the relevant statutory bodies on this shortly). We are in the process of appointing consultants for several other studies which are needed to inform the plan.

We are currently working to set out the overarching vision and objectives for the Local Plan for Buckinghamshire which will shape our work going forwards. In accordance with good practice on community engagement, the team is working on a forthcoming public consultation which will enable people to comment and give feedback on the draft Vision and Objectives.

## **Visitor Economy survey**

Buckinghamshire Council has launched a new Tourism Survey which will help to shape the future of Buckinghamshire’s visitor economy sector. The council is inviting input from residents, businesses and key stakeholders which it will use to help identify new opportunities and to support the future growth of the visitor economy across Buckinghamshire.

The survey will be an important contributor to a Visitor Economy Strategy currently being developed by Buckinghamshire Council and its partners. The strategy itself will aim to identify how Buckinghamshire can build on the opportunities within its visitor economy with a view to supporting businesses and creating jobs.

The survey findings will be used to get a better understanding of where to focus support for the sector and explore what tourism businesses see as their main challenges and opportunities now and in the future.

Tourism is an important part of our local economy, as visitors spending their time and money in Buckinghamshire support more than 13,000 local jobs and over 2,000 small businesses. Responses from the survey will be used to develop a strategy and action plan which will help the tourism sector in Buckinghamshire to flourish and grow, supporting local jobs, workers and industries into the future.

The survey is live now and will be running until 17 February 2023. Buckinghamshire residents, business owners and other tourism stakeholders can complete the survey [here](#).

## **Current and upcoming consultations**

As well as the Tourism Survey, take a look here to view other current consultations:

### **Buckinghamshire Council consultations**

Current consultations and surveys from Buckinghamshire Council are available to view on our website <https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/>

Where appropriate, we also list NHS consultations and surveys as well.