

Notes from Kate Walker

Wycombe CB update – 25 April:

Ward partnerships – at a local level working with cllrs, partners, stakeholders and residents to identify key areas of focus, challenges and initiatives to improve opps for people who live in the wards

Action plans developed with ward councillors and some local stakeholders to address key challenges in the wards. Focus on top 3/4 priorities with a view to develop the action plan over the coming year with residents and the local community, reflecting feedback and taking on board local intelligence and insight.

Common themes:

- Access to health services, advice and information
- Community clean ups
- Improving use of open spaces – parks, playgrounds and common areas
- Support for vulnerable people – families in poverty, addressing social isolation for adults in supported living, early years support and new mums
- Community led initiatives to improve community cohesion
- Spaces for young people and youth engagement
- ASB priority for town centre as well as some specific local streets and local spaces

Some of the initiatives that are in development at the moment:

- Community café's in West Wycombe (Sands) – a talking café enhancing the offer at Hope Church as a great community asset; scoping mental health café
- Castlefield road safety project – £1million allocated to the Castlefield Project, to address the speeding issues (Rutland Avenue, the Middle Way, Spearing Road, Cross Road, Whitelands Road)
- Community clean ups – walkabouts taking photos and working with the quality of public realm theme on a programme for council and community clean up – abbey, castlefield, micklefield and open spaces like the melbourne rec
- Loneliness and isolation for adults living in sheltered accommodation e.g. lunch clubs to improve social interaction
- Community cohesion – local events and activities
- Working with themes on new initiatives like play streets, smokefree playgrounds

Community engagement

- meeting with local stakeholders, getting to know the areas, understanding what is already happening in the areas and scoping potential for new initiatives.
- Out and about in Feb and have a survey out now asking residents to tell us what they like about where they live but also what they'd like to see improved.
- Want to hold local workshops to delve deeper into these conversations with residents and partners in the wards.

Really appreciated the member engagement to drive this forward, and support from the CB too. Ask – promote the survey to help us gather views from local people and stakeholders.

SURVEY:

please help promote our survey to people in Wycombe - Share your views about where you live

Our [Opportunity Bucks programme](#) aims to improve opportunities for people living in the [10 areas](#) where people are experiencing most hardship in Buckinghamshire.

Please help spread the word about our Opportunity Bucks survey where we want to gather the views from people who live in these areas. We want to hear about what matters to them about where they live to help develop local action plans to improve opportunities for people in these key wards across Aylesbury, Wycombe and Chesham. Please share the below content with your local networks/members, contacts, family, friends and neighbours. If you have any questions please get in touch with us at communities@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

We want to hear from people living in High Wycombe, West Wycombe and Sands

We want to make sure that everyone in Buckinghamshire has the same opportunities to reach their potential and live happy, healthy lives. Our [Opportunity Bucks programme](#) is focusing on targeted areas within our main towns, Aylesbury, Chesham, and High Wycombe, and is working with people identified within these areas to improve those opportunities.

We want to understand:



1. what you like about where you live
2. what you'd like to see to make it even better
3. how we can work together on local initiatives to improve:
 - Education and youth engagement – giving everyone the chance to learn and develop
 - Jobs, careers, and skills – ensuring there is access to suitable employment
 - Quality of public realm – transforming the place you live (including public spaces)
 - Standard of living – reducing the number of people living in hardship
 - Health and wellbeing - improving physical and mental health

Share your thoughts by [completing the survey before midnight on Sunday 14 May](#).

Find out what areas we are focusing on and more about the Opportunity Bucks programme at www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/opportunity-bucks


Social media post:

If you have social media please share using the following (see attached image for social media)

Do you live in Aylesbury, Chesham or High Wycombe?  
Buckinghamshire Council wants to know:

1. what you like about where you live

2. what you'd like to see to make it even better
3. how we can work together on local initiatives to improve: education & youth engagement, jobs, careers & skills, quality of public spaces, standard of living and health & wellbeing.

Share your thoughts before midnight on Sunday 14 May 

www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/opportunity-bucks-survey

This is part of our Opportunity Bucks programme which focuses on making sure everyone in Buckinghamshire has the same opportunities to reach their potential and live happy, healthy lives.

Find out more about Opportunity Bucks at www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/opportunity-bucks