

Unitary Councillor Report

(Snippets) Report from Cllr David Hopkins, Cllr Victoria Hopkins & Cllr Alice Jenkins – Representing Bow Brickhill at MK Council

September 2019

The next meeting of the **Local Stakeholder Group** has been scheduled for 2 October, 6-7.30pm, Room 1.05/1.06 at Civic, agenda and papers enclosed. We've had to change from the 26 Sept as originally intended, and Neil only be with us for the first hour, hence I've shifted the item on July's minutes further down the agenda.

You may wish to review the draft workshop report referred to at the last meeting, which is still available at <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/assets/attach/61137/190124%20MKSE%20Workshop%20report%20draft%20.pdf>

Andrew Turner - Development Plans & Delivery Manager | Development Plans

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E: andrew.turner@milton-keynes.gov.uk

W: <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/>

S106 Calculator

Education	Contribution
Total Early Years	
Primary pupils	
Secondary pupils	
Post 16 pupils	

Leisure Recreation & Sports	Provision Cost	Maintenance Cost
Playing Fields		
Local Play		
Neighbourhood Play		
Community Hall		
Local Parks		
District Parks		
Swimming Pool		
Allotments		
Sports Hall		

Social Infrastructure for a development scheme on allocated proposed employment land	Contribution
Library	
Adult continuing education	
Crematorium / Burial Grounds	
Museums & Archives	
Health Facilities	
Waste Management	
Waste Receptacles	
Social Care – Day Care	
Social Care – Older Persons Housing	
Emergency Services	
Voluntary Sector	
University for Milton Keynes	
Milton Keynes College	
Inward Investment	
Public Art & Culture – 1% (estimated)	
Carbon neutrality (estimated)	

Transport	Contribution
Highways	
Public Transport	
Pedestrian / Cycle	
Travel Planning	

S106 Planning Obligation Response Template

Planning Application

Application No:		Proposal:	
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Consultee Information

Organisation		Name	
Date Completed		Your Ref:	

Contribution Information

Theme / Topic of contribution A separate table should be completed for each separate contribution	
Contribution Amount	

<p>Purpose of contribution / Where Spent (define specific project/s)</p> <p>*Regulation 122 of CIL (a) necessary to make development acceptable in planning terms: (b) directly related to the development: and © fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development</p>	
<p>Justification / evidence basis</p>	
<p>Timing of payment / trigger (if appropriate)</p>	
<p>Other comments</p>	

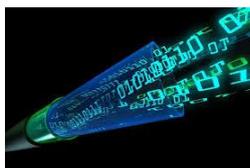


Travellers - Sorry for the late update on the current unauthorised encampment at Wavendon. There has been some delays in auctioning this mostly due to there being some confusion over the landowner serving notice. In general terms until this has been done we cannot consider using Police powers to evict.

We have now confirmed that the landowner served notice at the start of the week requesting the group vacate the land within 48hrs. As you are aware they are still there however the landowners have now employed bailiffs and an eviction is due to take place tomorrow morning (Friday) which will be supported by Thames Valley Police.

I would be grateful if you could not share this any further at this stage to prevent any plans being compromised however I wanted you to be assured there is a plan in place.

Andy Pearce | T/Inspector 5942 | Milton Keynes South Neighbourhood Policing Team |
Telephone 101 | Internal/Ext. 343 6110
Address Bletchley Police Station, Sherwood Drive, Bletchley, MK3 6TP



City Fibre is due to begin rolling-out their fibre network to the Wavendon Gate and Browns Wood areas during September 19. Further details of how this will affect particular streets will be available on roadworks.org <https://roadworks.org/> over the coming weeks. It is likely that the work will be completed by the end of 2019



Street Works From the 16th September – 30th September a road closure will be in effect on Walton Road to accommodate the section 278 works for the Abbey Developments 17 homes housing development. the works include a number of sewers and drains being construction across the road and the associated civil works including new bellmouth, pedestrian crossing and street lights.

- Works on Wavendon Gate Ortensia Drive for section 278 works for the new(134 dwellings) housing development to begin on 9th September – 22nd November. Majority of these works to be carried out under priority boards / temp traffic lights.

Jonjo McBride - Highway Adoption Engineer - 01908 252362

Jonjo.McBride@milton-keynes.gov.uk



Dear Greensand Country Charter Member,

Thank you for your continued support in raising the profile of the Greensand Country brand, through your ongoing communication and marketing activities.

Please see attached some new logo variations which we have had designed for use by Charter Members and which we would love for you to use within your future digital and print marketing materials.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss the Greensand Country Charter in more detail.

Anne Walsh - Communications & Marketing Officer (Greensand Country Landscape Partnership)



Expressway - The anti-expressway

movement had gradually been spreading east from Oxford and environs, where they are already holding placards and blocking roads.

<https://www.noexpressway.org/> is the place to get the latest news but there is also <https://www.noexpresswayalliance.org/> and I'm not sure how the two are related.

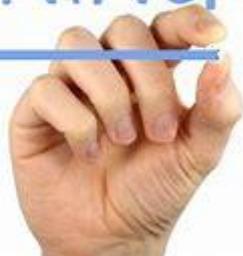
Of recent note is the Heartlands group <http://www.englandseconomicheartland.com/Pages/roads.aspx> (a cooperative effort by local council affected by the arc) Earlier this year their Programme Director addressed the necessity for the connection infrastructure: <http://www.englandseconomicheartland.com/latest-news/Pages/martin-tugwell-blog.aspx> and funding for it to be provided in what looks to me like a little poke at central government.

But of course last autumn the National Infrastructure Commission took a veiled pot-shot at local authorities' commitment - well that's how I read it - to the arc <https://www.nic.org.uk/news/national-and-local-leadership-needed-to-meet-growth-arc-potential/>

My impression is that both sides, the LAs and the NIC, are putting some distance from the arc project in case it all crashes into an unfunded muddle (when someone realises that Crossrail and HS2 are bottomless money pits!) MKC has just taken a step backwards itself, and I'm sure there are very sound political reasons for doing so.

As soon as Highways England state the preferred route for the Expressway this autumn (if indeed they do and I wouldn't put money on it) I would expect the Winslow effect to hit the villages between there and here and Little Brickhill will once more be revolting! I think it is only the fact the people around here don't realise the enormity of the project and the horrendous damage it will do to our local environment and how it will redraw the map of North Bucks that they too don't have the placards out. But I suspect it's only a matter of time

PLANNING



Training - The Head of Planning at MKC is organising a Development Management “Demystifying Training” session to be held on 15th Oct for parish councillors



Snippets

David Buckley is dealing with the application **19/01818/OUT- South Caldecotte** - Outline application including access for warehouse development (edited description)

The application was screened as to whether it required an Environmental Impact Assessment by the Local Authority and is currently being re-screened by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Govt. (MHCLG) which was requested by the applicant.

We have requested a timescale for this but the MHCLG have advised they will tell us when the 21 days timeframe has commenced. The planning application is still live and consultation responses are being considered.

I have got the scoping application (19/02185/EIACO) for the development of the land north of Brickhill Road allocated (Policy SD11) in Plan:MK for the south east MK Strategic Urban Extension. Essentially the developers (Gallagherstates) have skipped the step where they ask if they need an Environmental Impact Assessment, assumed we would require one and are now asking what we want the EIA to cover and what information they need to provide on those issues. The obvious answer is that they need to cover highways/transport, ecology, flooding/drainage and archaeology, but I've only just got it and more issues may come to light as I work through it.

Jeremy Lee - Senior Planning Officer
East Team (Development Management)

South Central Ambulance Service governor elections start in September.

Do you want to make a difference to your local emergency and non-emergency services?

We have vacancies for Public Governors across Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Hampshire.

We provide 999, NHS 111 and patient transport services in Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire

and Hampshire and patient transport services in Surrey and Sussex.

Governors have lots of important responsibilities such as appointing and holding to account the chair and other non-executive directors, contributing to the development of the Trust's strategy, and engaging with the members who elect them.

Governors need to be confident communicators and able to speak to our members and the public about healthcare matters. To be eligible to be a Governor you must be a member of the constituency you wish to stand for and be 16 or over.

Members have until the autumn to complete an application to become a Governor

If you've got what it takes to join our team, go to our website <https://www.scas.nhs.uk/about-scas/council-of-governors/governors-election/> to sign up as a member and find out how to become a Governor.

Margaret Eaglestone - Foundation Trust Membership and Engagement Manager

South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
Northern House, Talisman Business Centre, Talisman Road, Bicester, Oxon OX26 6HR
Mobile: 07795 602907

Email: margaret.eaglestone@scas.nhs.uk

Web: www.southcentralambulance.nhs.uk



Caldecotte South Update - The Secretary of State is still considering whether it is EIA development, needing an Environmental Statement or not, which will have an impact on the time scales.

I will have a discussion with managers on likely outcomes/ timescale early next week (2 September) and try to give you a bit of a clearer update.

David Buckley - Senior Planning Officer (Development control)

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M: 07775110877

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W: <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/>

Milton Keynes Council | Planning Service | Growth, Economy and Culture | Civic Offices | 1 Saxon Gate East | Milton Keynes | MK9 3EJ



Milton Keynes Council Development Review

Forum

Key Points

Overall Aims of Forum

- Streamline the planning application process by addressing stakeholder comments on design at the pre-application stage
- Improve quality of design elements within schemes
- Raise profile of design across MK
- Allow for greater input by local stakeholders on design issues with aim of reducing local objections

Purpose

- An opportunity for developers to present their scheme at pre-application to

stakeholders and make any changes in light of comments received

What is in Scope

- Focus is on design (layout and building/s appearance but can include landscaping and highway related matters eg parking)
- A report of what was said at Forum will form part of case officers application report

What is out of scope

- Discussion on principle of development or developments impact on surrounding area eg road network

Timing / Sequencing of Forum in the Planning Application Process

- Application should ideally come to the Forum after initial review of scheme by officers as part of the pre-application process.

Status

- The Forum is voluntary although MKC initiated schemes will be submitted to the Forum

Logistics

- The Forum will take place every 2 months on Monday at MKC Civic Offices from 6pm -7.30pm
- Meetings will be informal
- A maximum of 2 applications will be presented and discussed at each Forum. The format for each application will be as follows:
 - o Presentation by the applicant/agent – 15 minutes
 - o Questions and views from stakeholders present – 15 minutes
 - o Response by applicant to questions/comments – 15 minutes

Cost

The Forum will form part of the pre-application process. The Forum is not open for applicants who do not enter into a pre-application or PPA agreement with the Local Planning Authority.

Chairing Arrangements

- The Forum will be chaired by someone from the Urban Design Team supported by the relevant case officers



Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Appeal by Wavendon Properties Ltd

Site Address: Land to the east of Newport Road and west and east of Cranfield Road, Woburn Sands, Buckinghamshire, MK17 8UH

Following a High Court challenge to the Secretary of State's decision on this appeal the Court has ordered that the appeal be re-determined. This does not necessarily mean that the Secretary of State will reach a different overall decision.

I am the Case Officer dealing with the appeal. If you have any questions, please contact me.

As confirmed in the Secretary of State's letter of 16 August 2019 the inquiry will be re-opened. This will be with a different Inspector. The Inspector/Secretary of State will consider any relevant evidence previously submitted, unless it is expressly superseded by its originator during this 'redetermination' process.

The Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State, invites you to send further representations (including any statement of case and copies of any documents to which you intend to refer) relating to the following;

- the adoption of a new local plan (Plan:MK), with the associated identification of housing expansion areas
- the announcement by the Highways England, in September 2018, that corridor B (central option) had been selected as the preferred corridor for the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway
- Changes to national policy and planning guidance

Alison Dyson | Major Casework Team

The Planning Inspectorate

3J, Kite Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN

Alison.dyson@planninginspectorate.gov.uk | 0303 444 5304

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planninginspectorate> | @PINSgov

This communication does not constitute legal advice. Please view our Information Charter before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

AND

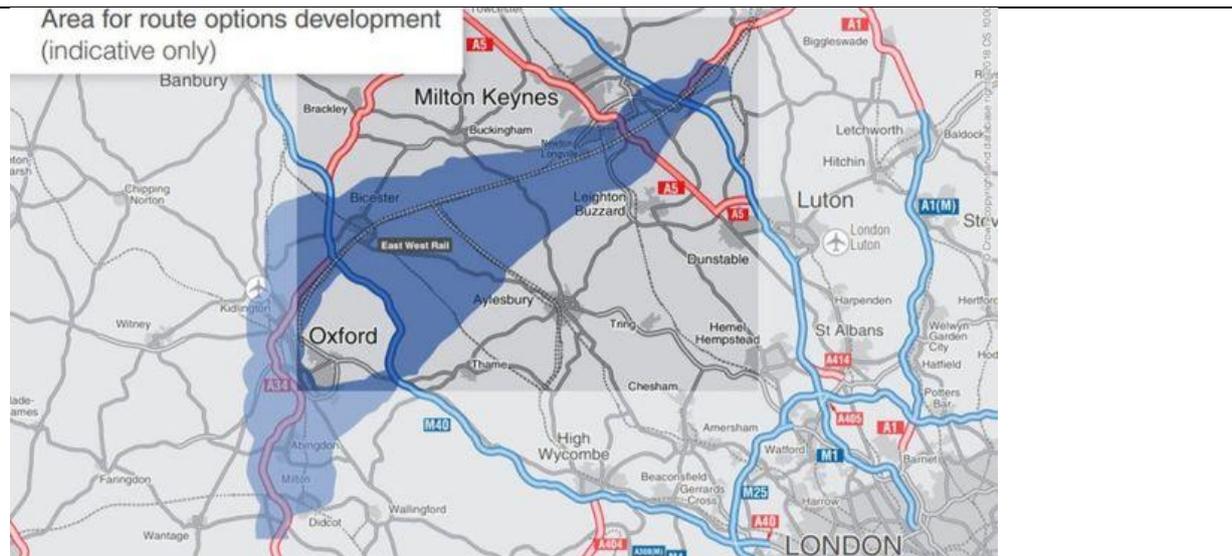
We will be transferring case files across to Planning Inspectorate colleagues this week and I will include your name on a list of interested parties (together the Parish and Town Council contacts). Someone from the Inspectorate will then be in contact, in due course, to outline the next stage of the process.

Chris Bazley-Rose

Planning Casework Manager | Planning Casework Unit | 5 St Philips Place | Colmore Row | Birmingham B3 2PW

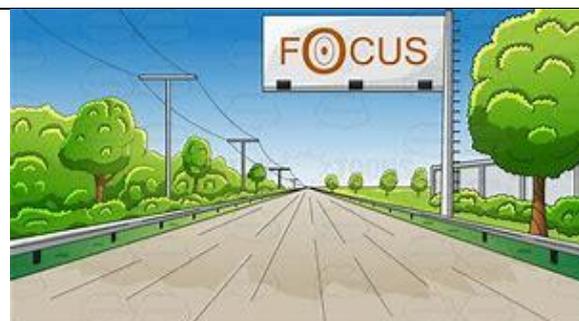
Christopher.Bazley-Rose@communities.gov.uk 0303 444 1853

Expressway Timeline



Date	Event
Autumn 2017	Commitment by the Chancellor for construction to commence on the missing link before the end of the Road Investment Strategy (RIS2) in 2025
2018	Corridor announcement
Autumn 2019	Public consultation on route options*
2020	Preferred route announcement*
2025	Construction starts*
2030	New link opens to the public

*Indicative timetable, subject to preferred route options



East West Rail – Timeline

What is being proposed?

East West Rail Western Section will re-establish a passenger and freight railway between Oxford, Bedford, Milton Keynes, and Aylesbury. Phase 2 involves improving and reconstructing underused and disused sections of the former railway and represents a significant piece of infrastructure investment.

Why do we need to build this?

This scheme will enhance the rail network, create more journey opportunities with reduced journey times and better connections to the Great Western, West Coast and Midland Main Line services, avoiding the need to travel via London. It will reconnect major centres including, Aylesbury, Milton Keynes, Bedford, Bicester, Oxford.

What are the main benefits?

The East West Rail scheme will support economic growth through residential and commercial development along the line of route, boosting business growth and attracting new business and inward investment. The upgrade of the route will provide additional network capacity to accommodate growth in freight and passenger markets by connecting the Oxford to Bedford railway with the Great Western, West Coast and Midland Main Lines.

Who pays for it?

The project is funded by the Department for Transport and by a £45m contribution from the East West Rail Consortium.

What is the new EWR Company? And what is their role in delivering the project?

The East West Railway Company has been formed by the Secretary of State for Transport to optimise the delivery of the East West Railway. This team reviewed the East West Rail proposals and led a value engineering and programme delivery review that identified how the value and benefits from this project can be realised as quickly as is possible. The new EWR Company will run Britain's first integrated rail operation for decades and be a separate organisation to Network Rail. The Company is looking at how the EWR route can be delivered and maintained.

How many EWR2 trains will run and to what destinations?

In addition to existing train services, there will be new services from:

Oxford and Milton Keynes; stopping at Oxford Parkway, Bicester, Winslow and Bletchley. There will be two trains each way per hour.

Oxford and Bedford; stopping at Oxford Parkway, Bicester, Winslow, Bletchley, Woburn Sands and Ridgmont. There will be one train each way per hour.

Milton Keynes and Aylesbury with stops anticipated at Bletchley, Winslow, and Aylesbury Vale Parkway. There will be one train each way per hour.

When will construction start and trains begin to run?

Depending on funding, construction of the line between Bicester and Bletchley will start at the end of 2019 with trains operating from 2023.



Speed Reduction Plan

Please note that the website is now live and accepting applications for 20mph speed limits:

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/highways-and-transport-hub/road-safety/introduction-of-20-mph-speed-limits-into-residential-areas>



Clear Sacks

The Council is confident with the changes in the delivery method for sacks that they are now on top of the requests that are coming through, if however you have properties that have experienced issues with receiving them prior to the changes last week then please let me know as I will be happy to arrange delivery of these myself.

Tony Brown - Waste Services Officer

Milton Keynes Council, Milton Keynes Waste Recovery Park, 9 Dickens Road, Old Wolverton, Milton Keynes, MK12 5QF

email: Tony.Brown@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Contacts

- For all Serco Landscape contract works enquiries, please contact Euan Darling or Mansour Moini - Please contact the helpline via the link below for new issues.
- For Tree (TPO TCA and Insurance related) enquiries contact Robert Widd.
- For Rights of Way, please contact Rosie Armstrong or James Walsh.
- For High Hedges enquiries and development related Tree issues please contact Stephen Narborough.
- For Planning, S106, Biodiversity and Ecology issues please contact Diane Evans or Phil Snell.
- For Flood Strategy please contact Ashish Patel.

To log a new issue or enquiry, go to: <https://my.milton-keynes.gov.uk/>



Roadworks - The new interactive service allows you to search for any planned works by area, road name, ward or parish, road type or reason. You can also see the current closures and those scheduled for the next two weeks.

Area	Road name	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	Finish Time	Type
WAVENDON	WALTON ROAD	16/09/19	24 hours	30/09/19	24 hours	ROAD CLOSURE
BOW BRICKHILL	Station Road	12/09/19	24 hours	19/09/19	24 hours	TRAFFIC SIGNALS (Multi-Way)

This tool will help you check what is planned for a particular route or area so you can avoid any issues that may affect your journey. The information is updated every week. Some works may be subject to changes due to unforeseen circumstances such as a road traffic collision or incident, weather conditions or operational reasons. Check the Highways View as an

Alternatively you can view the information shown in the Highways Register through a Google map based system on www.roadworks.org

Steven Shearer - Network Support Officer (Highways Services)

Direct: +44 (0)1908 253428

Switchboard: +44 (0)1908 691691

Email : Steven.Shearer2@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Visit Online : <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/streets-transport-and-parking>

Community SpeedWatch

Further to the recent Forum meetings, we are now writing with more information about the Community SpeedWatch (CSW) scheme.

As discussed at the meeting, this is an offer for you to participate in the CSW and we realise it is not for everyone, so we'd be grateful for your views and ultimately if you are interested in participating, or not.

Intro

CSW is a joint partnership with Thames Valley Police (TVP), Milton Keynes Council (MKC), Parish and Town Councils (Local Councils). TVP provide operational support, initial risk assessment of sites, training and process the information of offending vehicles. MKC provide training and the equipment whilst Local Councils provide volunteers to carry out the CSW operations (and have an option to input the offending vehicle details into the Police National Computer).

Potential new sites for CSW within Local Council areas need to be agreed and risk assessed in conjunction with TVP. Ideally, there should be several sites within each Local Council area and the same site should not be visited repetitively on a daily basis.

When an operation is completed the paperwork, including as much information on the offending vehicles as practicably possible, should be passed to TVP via the Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) for processing. The registered owners will then receive a letter detailing the fact that their vehicle was observed to be travelling in the excess of the speed limit, location, etc. Therefore the accuracy of the recorded information is extremely important. This requires the volunteers to work as a team to ensure the data is effectively recorded on the information sheets. As mentioned above, TVP would also be interested in hearing from potential volunteers who might be interested in the role of inputting this information into the Police National Computer – please advise separately if you have anyone who may be interested in this element.

Repeat offenders will receive further action from TVP.

Where we are now

To date, MKC has provided a few sets of CSW kit for use, but has recently purchased additional sets of equipment to be used by Local Councils.

From feedback, the main issues were of not enough equipment to be shared effectively across the MKC area and having to collect and return the equipment to/from the MKC offices at Synergy Park.

With the introduction of the new kit, there's an opportunity for Local Councils to share the equipment between themselves (perhaps with one particular council acting as a 'hub'), or for Local Councils to liaise with their PCSO to decide if the equipment could be stored locally by the PCSO (subject to storage accessibility). Alternatively, you may wish to pass the equipment onto a neighbouring Local Council in a 'daisy chain' style operation to share the resource on an as and when you are able to run an operation.

'Drop-in' session

We realise it's easier to see how the equipment and operation might run in practice, so we're looking to run a 'drop-in' session for you to see the equipment and how it works.

This has been arranged at MKC offices at Synergy Park on Wednesday 18 September 1 – 4pm.

Please let us know if you are likely to attend the drop-in session, if you are already familiar with the scheme or not interested in moving forward with CSW.

Additionally, if you are interested in continuing with CSW or would like to come on board with the scheme, we would further welcome your views on how you think the transfer of the kit would work best for you – please advise us by email to road.safety@milton-keynes.gov.uk.

Additional info

At the recent Forum meetings we were asked a few questions and we have checked these with TVP here:

Numbers of notices issued – as at July 2019 6,517 letters have been issued across TVP area with 66 from SpeedWatch operations in MK.

The safety of volunteers – This is part of the TVP risk assessment and the aim is to reduce the risk to volunteers operating in line with our protocols and guidelines. As a general rule

it's strongly advised that volunteers not to get into any abusive conversations with members of the public.

TVP public liability insurance also protects the volunteers as stated below (from the Briefing notes):

Insurance

The Thames Valley Police are insured for the following:-

- Protection of the equipment in case of damage or loss
- Protection of the users
- Protection against damage/loss to third parties by the equipment users

Thames Valley Police Insurance will cover all volunteers and equipment providing they have been fully trained and briefed by the Neighbourhood Officer and are acting in line with our protocols, risk assessment and briefing document. A Community SpeedWatch Service Level Agreement must be signed by each volunteer. This will be retained by the Neighbourhood Officer to validate Insurance.

Finally, we've also attached full information on the scheme from TVP.

David Frost - Road Safety Officer

01908 252572

Milton Keynes Council | Environment and Property | Synergy Park | Chesney Wold | Bleak Hall | Milton Keynes | MK6 1LY

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk

David Hopkins / Victoria Hopkins / Alice Jenkins

MKC Senior Staff List Corporate Core - MKC Senior Team 2019

Chief Executive	Michael Bracey	01908 252200
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Contact Us www.milton-keynes.gov.uk	Email: <i>firstname.surname@milton-keynes.gov.uk</i>	Tel: 01908 691691
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Resources Corporate Director	Paul Simpson	01908 253374
Service Director: Legal and Democratic Services	Sharon Bridglalsingh	01908 252095
Service Director: Finance and Resources	Steve Richardson	01908 252756
Head of Revenues and Benefits	Robin Bates	07738 636820
Assistant Director: Audit & Risk Management	Duncan Wilkinson	01908 252089
Service Delivery Manager: ICT	Hazel Lewis	01908 254117
Capital Programme Director	Kamran Rashid	07792 540523
Head of HR	Musrat Zaman	01908 254278
Head of Customer Service, Digital and Transformation	Vacant from November 2017	
People Corporate Director	Michael Bracey	01908 258041
Director of Public Health (Shared with Bedford & Central Bedfordshire Councils)	Muriel Scott	01908 254241
Service Director: Children's Services	Mac Heath	01908 253121
Service Director: Adult Services	Victoria Collins	01908 253270

Assistant Director: Joint Commissioning	Mick Hancock	01908 252091
Place Corporate Director	Duncan Sharkey	01908 253411
Service Director: Housing & Regeneration	Michael Kelleher	01908 254167
Service Director: Public Realm Services	Tom Blackburne-Maze	01908 252213

Service Director: Planning, Culture and Infrastructure	Vacant from August 2017	
Head of Economy and Culture	Pam Gosal	01908 252192
Head of Placemaking	Neil Sainsbury	01908 252708
Head of Development Management	Brett Leahy	01908 252609
MKDP Chief Executive	Charles Macdonald charles.macdonald@mkdp.co.uk	01908 253899
Independent Chair	John Duggan john.duggan@mkdp.co.uk	01908 253405
Director of Strategy & Futures	Geoff Snelson	01908 252665

Acting Service Director: Policy, Insight & Communication s	Sarah Gonsalves	01908 252275
Head of Communications	Kellie Evans	01908 252413

CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL'S SENIOR MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Our current three directorate model plus small 'corporate core' was put in place four years ago. While this has helped teams share some closer practices and standards, we're yet to achieve our ambition for fully joined up thinking and working across the whole organisation. This can be frustrating for us, for councillors and for service users.

A new senior management structure is being developed that will help us operate more effectively as one council. The proposals are:

A new Deputy Chief Executive role will lead our critical support services, as well as a number of other business areas.

Instead of the current structure of three Corporate Directors and ten Service Directors, services will be led by nine Directors, who would all be regarded as 'chief officers' and full members of our Corporate Leadership Team (CLT). As you may be aware Duncan Sharkey has left the Council and we will not be replacing either his former role (Corporate Director – Place) or the role of Corporate Director – People.

The corporate core would be replaced with a new Chief Executive's Office, led by an Assistant Chief Executive (replacing the current role of Service Director – Policy, Insight and Communications), whose focus will be on improving organisational effectiveness and performance. Public Health will move into the Chief Executive's Office.

Subject to political agreement, the new structure could be in place by early March. The CEO (Michael Bracey) will share full details then, including a detailed breakdown of who will be leading on specific areas.

Corporate Leadership Team - March 2019

Chief Executive - Michael Bracey, Head of Paid Service
Director - Health and Social Care Integration - Jill Wilkinson
Director - Finance and Resources - Steve Richardson
Director - Law and Governance - Sharon Bridglalsingh
Director – Environment and Property - Stuart Proffitt
Director - Growth, Economy and Culture - Tracy Darke
Director - Adult Services - Victoria Collins
Director - Children's Services - Mac Heath
Director - Housing and Regeneration - Michael Kelleher
Director - Strategy and Futures - Geoff Snelson
Director - Policy, Insight and Communications - Sarah Gonsalves
Director - Public Health - Muriel Scott

<p>Finance and Resources Professional finance Revenue and benefits HR ICT Customer services LGSS Audit and risk</p>
<p>Environment and Property Highways Waste and Recycling Transportation Property Facilities Management Regulatory services Health and Safety</p>
<p>Growth, Economy and Culture Place Making Planning Economic development Arts and Heritage Historic environment Leisure Sports development</p>
<p>Law and Governance Legal services Democratic services Elections Civic events and mayoralty Councillor support Governance</p>
<p>Policy, Insight and Communications Policy Partnerships Performance Communications Information Governance Emergency Planning Community safety</p>
<p>Housing and Regeneration Tenancy management Repairs and maintenance Tackling homelessness Strategic housing Regeneration and development Private sector housing Resident engagement and support</p>
<p>Children's Services Schools Early years Youth and community Special needs and disability Safeguarding Family support Children in care Care Leavers</p>
<p>Adult Services Mental health Learning disability Physical disability Older people's services Hospital discharge Adult safeguarding Commissioning</p>
<p>Public Health Health improvement Health protection Public health services Needs assessment Strategy and Futures</p>
<p>Strategy and Futures Delivery of MK2050 Strategy Regional Local Enterprise Partnership Oxford to Cambridge Arc</p>

Decision-making in a Pre-election Period

Executive Summary

1. Purdah applies only to ministerial government departments, and does not prevent local councils or other public authorities outside of central government from making decisions during the pre-election period.
2. However, there are other rules relating to the extent to which certain decisions or actions can be publicised during a pre-election period, or the manner in which any publicity should take place.

The Rules

"Purdah" is a political convention originating in Whitehall, which is not codified in law. Purdah is often unhelpfully used to describe the rules relating to local government publicity during a pre-election period (see below).

In principle it reflects some common sense propositions:

1. Avoiding active engagement on politically sensitive matters in pre-election periods.
2. Ensuring the governing party does not:
 - a. gain unfair electoral advantage, or
 - b. commit successors to significant decisions.
3. Maintaining the impartiality of Officers during a period of potential transition.

Local Government

All councillors have a normal, and legitimate, political predisposition, and there is no reason (without further evidence) for concluding that during a pre-election period this is more likely to lead to a closing of minds than would otherwise be the case (*R (Lewis) v Persimmon Homes Teesside Ltd* [2008] EWCA Civ 746).

Section 25 of the Localism Act 2011 recognises the political realities. It states that a decision-maker is not to be taken to have had a closed mind, or been tainted by bias, in making a decision merely because they had previously indicated (directly or indirectly) a view on a matter relevant to that decision.

In essence it is business as usual but with the application of good judgement in controversial matters.

The pre-election Period and Publicity

Local authorities in England and Wales are under a duty to have regard at all times to the Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity (the Code) (issued under sections 2 and 4 of the Local Government Act 1986). The latest version of the Code that applies to local authorities in England was published on 31 March 2011.

Paragraph 34 of the Code in England states that, during the period between the notice of an election and the election itself (Dates to be inserted) local authorities should not publish any publicity on controversial issues or report views or proposals in such a way that identifies them with any individual members or groups of members. Unless it is expressly authorised by statute, publicity relating to individuals involved directly in the election should not be published by local authorities during this period although it is permissible for them to publish factual information identifying the names, wards and parties of candidates at elections.

Travellers - MK Council action

If an encampment is on public land (land owned by MK Council, MKDP or The Parks Trust) MK Council will visit the site quickly to assess the situation and gather any evidence needed.

Police responsibilities

MK Council work closely with Thames Valley Police to agree the best way forward on unauthorised encampments. The police may use powers under Section 61 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 to remove trespassers only if there is a significant impact to the local community or other users of the land, impact upon the land, a significant increase in local crime directly attributable to the encampment, or a risk to life. The police are also bound by the Human Rights Act. It is for the police alone to decide whether Section 61 should be used.

Dealing with anti-social behaviour

While many unauthorised encampments are short and cause minimal disruption, others can have a high impact on the local community.

Report a crime associated with an encampment to Thames Valley Police at www.thamesvalley.police.uk or on 101

Milton Keynes Council and Thames Valley Police will take action against individuals responsible for anti-social behaviour, working together to consider what kind of action is best for each situation

Report an unauthorised encampment to MK Council at www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/pay-report-apply/report-it