



Cllr Jilly Jordan & Cllr Caroline Cornell

Soulbury Parish Council Meeting, Monday 21st Sept 2026

Share your views and help us keep Buckinghamshire safe

Residents, workers, businesses and students across Buckinghamshire are being invited to share their views on crime, anti-social behaviour and community safety as the 2026 Safer Buckinghamshire Survey opened Monday 10 August.

The survey, launched by the Safer Buckinghamshire Partnership, gives people the opportunity to have their say on the issues that matter most to them and helps shape future community safety priorities across the county.

The Safer Buckinghamshire Partnership is a multi-agency partnership that brings together organisations including Buckinghamshire Council, the police, fire service, probation, health and social care services. The Board develops an annual action plan and works together to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in Buckinghamshire, helping to keep it a safe place for everyone.

Building on the findings from previous surveys and the partnership's ongoing work to make Buckinghamshire an even safer place to live, work and study, this year's survey seeks views on:

- The impact of crime and anti-social behaviour in local areas
- Your experience of reporting crimes
- How safe or unsafe you feel in Buckinghamshire

The feedback gathered will be combined with an in-depth analysis of crime in the county and will help the partnership better understand local concerns and identify where action and resources should be focused over the coming year.

The survey is open to anyone who lives, works or studies in Buckinghamshire and will run until 11.59pm on Friday 2 October 2026.

To complete the survey visit the [Your Voice Bucks](#) website.

The Safer Buckinghamshire Survey is an important opportunity for people to tell us about their experiences and the issues that matter most to them. The survey only takes a few minutes to complete, but the feedback we receive helps shape our priorities and ensures our work is focused where it can make the biggest difference. I would encourage anyone who lives, works or studies in Buckinghamshire to take part and make their voice heard.

For more information about the work of the Safer Buckinghamshire Partnership, visit the [website](#).

New strategy aims to help Buckinghamshire residents live independently for longer

Buckinghamshire Council has approved a new Better Lives Strategy, setting out how adult social care services will help people live independently for as long as possible and access the right support at the right time.

The strategy outlines a new approach focused on prevention, early help and supporting people to maintain their independence, helping residents stay healthy, safe and connected to their communities for longer. It aims to ensure people can access the information, advice and support they need before problems reach crisis point.

Built around three key themes – Living Independently, Regaining Independence and Living with Support – the strategy sets out how the council will work alongside residents, carers, communities, health partners and local organisations to improve outcomes for adults across Buckinghamshire.

The strategy includes commitments to make information and advice easier to access, strengthen community-based support, help people recover their independence after illness or injury, and give people greater choice and control over the support they receive. It also recognises the vital role carers play in helping people live fulfilling and independent lives. Isobel Darby, Buckinghamshire Council's Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, said: "Most people want to live independently and maintain control over the decisions that matter to them. Our Better Lives Strategy sets out how we will support residents to do just that by helping people access the right support at the right time.

"Carers play a vital role in helping people live independently and we are committed to making sure they can access the advice, information and support they need. Our new service for unpaid carers of all ages across the county, delivered by Mobilise, is a great example of our commitment to carers. The service went live on 1 July 2026 and was developed in partnership with carers to better meet their needs: [Support for carers in Buckinghamshire](#)

"This strategy is about working together with residents, carers, partners and communities to help people achieve the outcomes that matter most to them. By building on people's strengths and supporting independence wherever possible, we can help more people live well, stay connected and remain independent for longer."

To help explain the Better Lives Strategy and what it means for residents, Buckinghamshire Council has produced a short video featuring Councillor Isobel Darby. The video outlines the strategy's key priorities and how it will support people to live independently for longer. Watch the video [here](#).

As part of the strategy, residents are being encouraged to explore the wide range of information, advice and support available through Care Advice Bucks. The online resource helps people find guidance on staying independent, planning for future care needs, support for carers and information about local services and community organisations.

The Better Lives Strategy also supports the council's ambition to develop a sustainable, high-quality care and support system that offers residents greater choice, flexibility and personalised support when it is needed.

Residents can find out more about the Better Lives Strategy and the support available by visiting: buckinghamshire.gov.uk/better-lives-strategy

Temporary closures planned for Aylesbury and Langley household recycling centres

Buckinghamshire Council is advising residents who use Aylesbury and Langley Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) of upcoming temporary closures to allow essential drainage improvement works to be carried out.

Aylesbury HRC will close from Wednesday 2 September 2026, with the last day for residents to use the site being Tuesday 1 September. The site is expected to reopen before the end of December 2026.

Langley HRC will close from Wednesday 9 September 2026, with the last day for residents to use the site being Tuesday 8 September. The site is expected to reopen before Easter 2027.

The temporary closures are needed to allow essential drainage works to take place to ensure both sites remain legally compliant and can continue operating in the future. The scale of the works means the sites must be completely emptied and cannot remain partially open while construction is underway.

Residents who normally use Aylesbury HRC are encouraged to use Aston Clinton HRC during the closure period. Aston Clinton is open seven days a week and staff from Aylesbury will be temporarily transferred there to help support additional visitors. Residents to the north of Aylesbury may also find Buckingham HRC more convenient.

Residents who normally use Langley HRC, including eligible residents from Slough, are encouraged to use Burnham HRC or Beaconsfield HRC while the site is closed. Burnham HRC will move to seven-day opening for the duration of the closure and staff from Langley will be transferred there to support increased demand.

The works at Langley are expected to take longer than those at Aylesbury due to the more complex nature of the project, including essential tree works that must be completed before the main drainage improvements can begin.

Residents can find details of all Buckinghamshire HRCs, including opening times, accepted materials and live webcam feeds, on the Buckinghamshire Council website. Residents are encouraged to [check the website](#) and plan their visits before travelling.

Your Bucks, Your Say: help shape the services that matter most to you

Buckinghamshire Council is at a key stage in planning next year's budget and is inviting residents, businesses and local organisations to help shape these financial plans in a consultation that opens today.

Every day, Buckinghamshire Council delivers services that support people and communities across the county. From caring for vulnerable adults and children to maintaining roads, collecting waste and recycling, supporting town centres and helping people into work, these services play an important role in everyday life in Buckinghamshire.

These are also the services that support the council's vision to improve everyday life for all residents, as set out earlier this summer in the council's plan for the next five years. This plan outlines how residents will be able to access better opportunities, be part of thriving communities, be supported when they need help, live in and visit great places and feel their local services offer value for money.

The council is now planning the budget for the next financial year that will pay for the services that will deliver this vision and the council's commitment to Buckinghamshire residents.

Buckinghamshire Council's annual **Your Bucks, Your Say** consultation has launched today (Monday 7 September), giving our residents, businesses and community groups the opportunity to take part in developing the 2027/28 budget priorities.

Like councils across the country, Buckinghamshire Council is facing increasing pressure on its finances. Around three quarters of the council's budget is spent on four essential services: adult social care, children's services, home-to-school transport and temporary accommodation for people experiencing homelessness.

Changes to the way local government is funded also mean that a growing proportion of money raised locally in Buckinghamshire is being redistributed elsewhere, creating additional financial challenges for the council.

Despite these pressures, Buckinghamshire Council remains in a robust financial position with value for money one of its most important pillars. The council is continuing to plan ahead, finding smarter and more efficient ways of working, making good use of technology, reducing waste and making big savings while protecting the services residents depend on most, with the current budget plans maintaining weekly bin collections, investing in roads and town centres and programmes to support people into work particularly younger residents.

Steven Broadbent, Leader of Buckinghamshire Council, said:

"The decisions we make about how public money is spent affect the services that people rely on every day, which is why it's so important that we hear directly from residents, businesses and community organisations before any final decisions are made."

"Buckinghamshire is in a robust financial position, but like councils across the country we continue to face rising costs and increasing demand for many essential services. We must make sure every pound is spent wisely and focused on the areas that make the biggest difference to people's lives."

"We've worked hard to protect frontline services, invest in our communities and find new and more efficient ways of working. At the same time, we want to make sure our plans reflect the priorities of the people we serve."

"Whether you're a resident, run a business or are part of a local organisation, I'd encourage you to take a few minutes to complete this consultation. Your feedback will help shape our spending priorities and ensure we continue to focus on the services that matter most across Buckinghamshire."

The Your Bucks, Your Say consultation runs from **Monday 7 September until Sunday 18 October 2026**.

Residents, businesses and organisations can take part online at [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/your-bucks-your-say](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/your-bucks-your-say). Paper copies are also available from libraries and Council Access Points across Buckinghamshire.

Town and Parish Council customer service VIP line

You can make contact with us via the following email address:

parishsupport@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

There is a dedicated Town and Parish Council customer service VIP phonenumber where you can reach a member of our customer team on 0300 303 5640, 9am to 5:30pm Monday to Thursday, and 9am to 5pm on Friday.

Jessie Bath, Member Liaison Officer



Jessie Bath is a Planning Senior Business Support Officer, working within the Member Liaison Office for the Planning & Environment area.

She supports Members, Town & Parish Councils and the Planning & Environment teams to answer questions/enquiries they may have.

Planning & Environment covers the following areas:

- Planning – Development Management
 - Planning – Major Developments
 - Planning Enforcement
- Planning Policy (i.e. NPPF (National Planning Policy), 5 Year Land Supply, S106, Neighbourhood plans)
 - Heritage and Archaeology
 - Ecology
- SuDs – Strategic Flood Management
 - Building Control
- Highways Development Management
 - TPOs (Tree Protection)
- Landscape and Urban Design

One of the avenues to support communications between Town & Parish Councils and Officers are the Planning Surgeries, which we first set up in August 2023.

Schedules for these are circulated before each quarter, and the surgeries are well worth you attending if you need any Planning & Environment support, or if you just want to know more about the service.

Additionally, and you may already be aware of this, but we hold annual Town & Parish Councils forums, where our Planning & Environment teams give updates on each area and cover any policy or legislative changes you should be aware of.

To find out more about our Member Liaison Officers, email:
memberliaison@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Planning Liaison Surgeries, Q3 (Jul-Sept)

- Members can request a 20-minute appointment by emailing memberliaison@buckinghamshire.gov.uk, they will receive a Request Booking Form by automatic reply. The Member should then complete the form and return to the email address above.
 - The meetings are held via Teams. A link to the online meeting will be included when an invitation is sent to the Member.
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- At least **two working days' notice** is required to request a Member Liaison Surgery appointment.

Please contact the dedicated Town and Parish Council customer service VIP phonenumber where you can reach a member of our customer team on 0300 303 5640, 9am to 5:30pm Monday to Thursday, and 9am to 5pm on Friday for a date if required

Current Dates:

Planning Town & Parish Representative Liaison Surgeries (July – Sept 2026)

Date	Time	Planning Area
Tuesday 1 September	10-11.15am	Planning Area 1
Monday 14 September	10-11.15am	Planning Area 1
Monday 28 September	10-11.15am	Planning Area 1

If you require any further assistance in relation to the above, then please contact memberliaison@buckinghamshire.gov.uk



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