Buckinghamshire Councillors Annual report 2021/2022 to Turweston Parish Council

The following table provides some 'highlights' from the Annual Report.

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITIES

- Community Boards have delivered 412 projects, total committed budget of £3,724,061
- Achieved match funding of £2,101,681, £0.71 in match funding for every £1 of Community Board funding
- Delivered 112 environment projects, total of £688,623, including -
 - Tree planting, woodland activities, forest schools and 'Go Green' initiatives not only tackling environmental issues, also addressing mental health and providing new skills
 - Improvements to parks, green spaces creating new communal areas and community gardens
- Delivered 29 economic recovery projects, total £200,536 including -
 - Supporting people to access training or employment, support for setting up a new business, and providing financial advice and support
 - Supporting shops and businesses in our town and villages with shop local campaigns
- Bucks Online Directory launched asearchable directory with 3,000 community groups and organisations listing local activities and support.
- Rolled out of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme
- Ran the Active Communities Pilot Project, a community-based approach that engages with local people and various assets within a community
- Launched our first ever Buckinghamshire Adult Safeguarding campaign with our partners – See Something, Say Something, Do Something.
- Wellbeing for Education Return programme was successfully cascaded across all schools in the county. Providing additional mental health and emotional well-being support.
- Over 600 days of patrols carried out by Street Wardens, dealing with 1637 incidents, campaigns or matters

PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE

- Domestic Abuse partnership Board launched in line with new statutory duties contained with the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
- Financial Insecurities Partnershipestablished in April 2021 with partners from the Voluntary & Community Sector VCS
- The Helping Hand team have successfully utilised just under £3.5 million of grant funding, provided through the Local Support Grant and Household Support Fund, to support financially vulnerable families. Provided just over £2.4m worth of holiday food voucher support via schools and early years settings to families with children eligible for pupil premium, early years' pupil premium or 2-year-old funded free education places.
- The Family and Carer Support Service in One Recovery Bucks has provided 228 family group support interventions and 1,650 family one to one interventions.
- Launched 'community cafes' which provide 60 face-to-face appointments each week for residents to speak with adult social care workers and with other agencies. 343 residents have been helped to date.
- Children's Services in Buckinghamshire are no longer judged to be inadequate.
- 15 new foster carers (25 placements) and 14 new adopters approved between 1 January and 31 December 2021
- 89.3% of schools were rated good or above by Ofsted as of 31 December 2021
- 76% of care leavers aged 19-21 are in Employment, Education or Training.

IMPROVING OUR ENVIRONMENT

- Adoption of Climate Change & Air Quality Strategy
- Pilots held at three locations to test to implementation of Moving Traffic Offences and a public consultation held with a view to being one of the first Council's to introduce these restrictions outside of London.
- Delivered carriageway, footway, drainage and structures capital programme of £34M this year.
- Invested £4m in drain and gullies work programme to clean each of the 85,000 gullies in Buckinghamshire at least once and repair those that needed it Can this be amended to reflect spend in 2021- email to Ruth C 4/4/22.
- Bus Service Improvement Plan completed introducing 60 Real Time Bus Displays to provide passengers with live information on how full the buses are.
- Personal Transport Budgets launched as an alternative option for SEND students, giving over 360 families so far freedom and flexibility to make their own transport arrangements and supporting children's independence.
- Big Bucks Tidy Up as part Keep Britain Tidy Great British Spring Clean, plus additional litter and cleansing campaigns which accounted for nearly 3000 miles of additional mechanical sweeping and over 2000 hours of additional litter picking and detritus removal.
- 6 Green Flag Awards for our Parks
- Buckinghamshire Council are one of the leading non-London authorities when it comes to issuing enforcement notices. BC issued 54 notices between Jan and Dec20 resulting in us being the 5thhighest outside London and 12th overall.
- 900 Planning enforcement cases closed by Nov21 - a significant increase since Nov20, plus Enforcement Notices were being upheld on appeal.
- Zero-tolerance approach to fly tipping. As of Mar22 - 98 cases have been fully investigated, 50 suspects reported for prosecution, 48 Fixed Penalty Notices issued, and we have seized and disposed of two commercial fly tippers vehicles.
- Successfully lobbied HS2 and EWR to agree a process for road repairs in Bucks.

INCREASING PROSPERITY

- £15m Future High Streets Funding programmed for delivery, including £3m direct investment from the Council – unlocking a 3-year regeneration and public realm scheme for great economic and social recovery outcomes of the town centre lan to re-word please
- Just under £1million of Reopening High Streets Safely and Welcome Back Funding invested in towns and villages across Bucks to support high streets during lockdown(s)
- Over £950,000 top up vouchers committed to improve broadband in rural areas funded through getting building fund
- The Additional Restrictions Grant has seen over £22 million re invested to support recovery of vital businesses across Buckinghamshire. Nearly