



Cllr Jilly Jordan & Cllr Caroline Cornell

Parish Council Meeting, Monday 20th April 2026

Changes to bin collections over Easter and household recycling centres move to summer opening hours

Residents across Buckinghamshire are being reminded that bin collections will be operating to a revised timetable over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend and from 1 April all Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) will move over to summer opening hours.

Bin collections due to take place on Good Friday 3 April, will move to Saturday 4 April, and with no collections on Easter Monday 6 April, all collections that week will take place one day later than usual. Please check the table below for the revised collection days. Bins or containers need to be presented by 6.30am.

Easter collections

Normal collection day	Revised collection day
Friday 3 April (Good Friday)	Saturday 4 April
Monday 6 April (Easter Bank holiday)	Tuesday 7 April
Tuesday 7 April	Wednesday 8 April
Wednesday 8 April	Thursday 9 April
Thursday 9 April	Friday 10 April
Friday 10 April	Saturday 11 April

Residents who might be using the Easter Bank Holiday to get started on some spring cleaning or gardening are reminded that on 1 April, Buckinghamshire's 10 household recycling centres will move to their longer summer opening hours of 9am – 6pm on usual days. All sites will also remain open over the Easter bank holiday weekend, including Good Friday and Easter Monday. Please check the website before you travel so you can avoid busier times and remember to bring a proof of address to show to staff at the entrance to demonstrate you are a Buckinghamshire resident.

Garden waste can be collected at the kerbside fortnightly with a valid subscription. To sign up or renew garden waste subscriptions, residents can visit buckinghamshire.gov.uk/garden-waste. This can also be taken to the local household recycling centre free of charge.

For more information including how to check your Easter bank holiday bin collections, where to find your nearest household recycling centre and what you can and cannot recycle, visit:
<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling>

Buckingham Household Recycling Centre reopens

Following the successful completion of essential drainage works, Buckingham Household Recycling Centre (HRC) has re-opened

It's been closed since before Christmas to allow for these important site works which have now been completed on schedule.

The council put in place interim arrangements during the closure including picking up additional household waste from homes with residents able to use branded sacks for this purpose. Residents in the north of the county have also been able to access Milton Keynes HRCs at Bleak Hall and New Bradwell **by appointment only** – this arrangement was available until Tue 31 March.

As the works that have taken place involved drainage works they are not directly visible and it's important to note that there is no change to any arrangements on site.

The site re-opened on **Thursday (26 March) from 9am** and as with all HRCs, will move to summer opening hours from 1 April.

We thank residents for bearing with us during this closure and hope it hasn't caused too much inconvenience. We thank FCC Environment and staff for setting the site back up to open as planned. The site will operate in exactly the same way as previously and we look forward to welcoming back our customers and don't forget to check our website for our opening hours and advice on recycling and waste. Given that we've been closed for some weeks, we could see the site busier than usual so would advise you to check the webcam for up to date info on queues and how busy the site is."

For further information about Buckingham HRC [please visit this webpage](#)

Council updates Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Licensing Policy to improve safety and accessibility

Buckinghamshire Council has updated its Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Licensing Policy to further strengthen passenger safety, improve accessibility and support the local licensed trade across the county.

The revised policy – shaped by a year of engagement with drivers, operators, disability groups and residents – introduces improvements to driver application processes and changes to vehicle standards, including accessibility requirements and zero-emission ambitions. It also updates the “safe and suitable” criteria for licensed drivers in line with changes to national guidance.

For drivers and operators, the updates provide clearer and more consistent requirements across Buckinghamshire, helping the licensed trade plan for future accessibility and environmental expectations. For residents, the policy ensures hackney carriage and private hire vehicles continue to offer a safe, reliable and inclusive way to travel.

Our priority is ensuring everyone in Buckinghamshire can travel safely and confidently. These updates reflect what we have heard from both the trade and the public, and they strike the right balance between protecting passengers and supporting drivers.

We want to thank all those who contributed to this review – your feedback has been invaluable in shaping these improvements as we continue to strengthen the licensing system for the benefit of all.

Buckinghamshire Council will work with the licensed hackney carriage and private hire trade on the implementation of the updated policy, expected from September 2026.

Buckinghamshire Council launches new Growth Fund to boost the county's economy

Buckinghamshire Council has launched the Buckinghamshire Growth Fund and is now inviting Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from local organisations with ambitious,

investment-ready projects that can help grow the county's economy. EOIs are open until 5pm on Friday 17 April 2026.

The Buckinghamshire Growth Fund is a direct outcome of Buckinghamshire's Economic Growth Plan, adopted by the Council in September 2025. The Plan sets out a clear ambition to grow the local economy by 2% per year by increasing labour productivity, matching skills to opportunity, and supporting the creation of well-paid jobs. The Growth Fund has been designed specifically to help local businesses and partners deliver this ambition.

The Fund is made possible through the success of Buckinghamshire's Enterprise Zones, the fastest-growing employment areas in the county, at Silverstone, Woodlands (Aylesbury) and Westcott. These areas are home to some of the county's most innovative and rapidly expanding businesses and their growth generates further funds to the Council to enable reinvestment into wider economic development across Buckinghamshire.

The Fund is made possible through business rates receipts generated within three of Buckinghamshire's fastest-growing employment areas—the Enterprise Zones at Silverstone, Westcott and Woodlands (Aylesbury). These areas are home to some of the county's most innovative and rapidly expanding businesses, and their growth now enables the Council to reinvest in wider economic development across Buckinghamshire.

What types of projects can apply

Example project types include, but are not limited to:

- development of commercial, innovation or workspace
- site enabling or infrastructure works
- research and development
- skills and training programmes aligned to employer need
- business support and growth activity
- low-carbon and clean growth initiatives that strengthen long-term resilience

Projects that strongly support the Buckinghamshire Economic Growth Plan and its five priorities—high-value sectors, place and infrastructure, skills, innovation and partnership working—will score highest and have the best chance of securing funding.

This is a great opportunity for organisations to bring forward bold, investment-ready projects that can raise productivity, boost skills, support innovation and help deliver sustained economic growth in Buckinghamshire. We have world-class businesses and exceptional talent here, and this Fund will help unlock new opportunities for our communities and our economy.”

Who can apply

Applications are open to:

- businesses
 - education and research organisations
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- charities and not-for-profit organisations
- public sector bodies

Applicants must have operated in Buckinghamshire for at least **12 months**.

High-scoring EOIs will be invited to develop a full business case at the next stage.

How to apply

Organisations should visit this following link to find out more:

[Buckinghamshire Growth Fund – open call for Expressions of Interest | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

The Council's Economy & Investment Team can provide support and reasonable adjustments where needed.

It's good to talk - Council supports initiatives to combat social isolation and loneliness

Social connections and interactions play a key role in maintaining our health and wellbeing. As part of Buckinghamshire's Healthy Ageing Strategy and Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the council is committed to supporting older residents and communities to address loneliness and social isolation by supporting a range of projects and initiatives.

The Chatty Café Scheme is a national initiative designed to help people connect, share stories and enjoy friendly conversation.

Buckinghamshire Council has recently partnered with the scheme to bring 'chatty tables' to 15 local venues in the county. Since January, cafes have been operating in venues including Adams Park Stadium in High Wycombe, the Rhubarb Café in Aston Clinton, Wendover Library and Belgrave Lodge in Aylesbury.

To find your local Chatty Café visit: [Find a Chatty table – Chatty Cafe Scheme UK](#)

You can view Buckinghamshire's Healthy Ageing Strategy 2024 – 2029 online: <https://www.healthandwellbeingbucks.org/Resources/Councils/bucks-public-health/downloads/HealthyAgeingStrategy2024.pdf>

Buckinghamshire's Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy is also available to view online: [Appendix 1 for Health Wellbeing Strategy.pdf](#)

Age Friendly Bucks Programme

The Age Friendly Bucks Programme is a collaborative initiative designed to make Buckinghamshire more age friendly. It involves local organisations and residents working together to explore ways to enable people to age well and live a good later life. The programme is based on the World Health Organization's evidence-based framework of the eight interconnected areas that support older people to live healthy and active lives – including outdoor spaces, participating in society, and transport. Buckinghamshire is part of the UK network of Age Friendly Communities and is supported by the Centre for Ageing Better.

Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The Buckinghamshire Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy was developed in partnership with NHS organisations, Healthwatch, voluntary and community groups, social enterprises, and local residents. It runs across the life course and has three core priorities – empowering communities, prevention, and proactive care.

Stronger with Support – Help for young carers in Buckinghamshire

Providing regular care and support to a family member or friend is something many adults do every day, but did you know that lots of children and young people also carry out this role?

On average, across England, at least one child in every classroom is providing unpaid care to someone, often a parent, sibling, other family member or a friend.

In Buckinghamshire, there are 1,800 young carers registered with Carers Bucks. Schools reported 1,332 young carers in the school census 2025, but this underestimates the real

number of young carers in our schools. Data from a Carers UK report in February 2025 shows young carers often carry out duties which are not appropriate for their age, such as helping family members get washed or dressed, collecting prescriptions or administering medication, providing emotional support and overseeing family finances.

The responsibility of caring for another person can impact on young carers' own wellbeing and learning, leaving some feeling exhausted, struggling to concentrate, falling behind at school, and more likely to experience loneliness, stress and anxiety.

Young carers deserve the same opportunities as other young people to enjoy their childhood and shape their future.

Young Carers Bucks is part of Carers Bucks and supports young carers aged between 5 and 17 who live in Buckinghamshire and are looking after someone at home who is ill, disabled or otherwise needs help. They have a dedicated team of support workers to help young carers with the challenges of their caring role, from emotional worries to practical issues, school pressures or feeling overwhelmed. The charity runs a variety of youth clubs and group activities to help young carers relax and have fun with other young carers.

If you know a young person who you think might be a young carer, please encourage them to reach out, as recognising them is the first step to helping them thrive.

To find out more visit [Stronger with Support – Young Carers Matter Campaign](#)

Connect to Work scheme launches to help residents secure good-quality employment

Buckinghamshire Council is delighted to announce the launch of the 'Connect to Work' scheme which is being delivered by Intuitive Thinking.

Connect to Work is a nationally funded scheme and will support residents with long-term health conditions, disabilities, or those facing complex barriers to employment (including carers, veterans, and ex-offenders), to find and sustain employment.

Working with Intuitive Thinking, which have many years' experience in delivering supported employment programmes, means residents will be able to work with a dedicated employment specialist who will identify their skills, experience, wants and needs, and then tailor their work search accordingly.

The scheme not only supports people who are looking for work, but also those who are already employed and facing challenges due to a disability or health issue. This includes help to stay in work or to return after a period of ill-health. Support continues beyond starting a job, with ongoing coaching, training and advice to help residents remain in work and progress in their careers.

Councillor Steven Broadbent, Leader of Buckinghamshire Council, said:

"Connect to Work is all about giving people the support they need to thrive and realise their full potential.

"We want to help residents break down the barriers that make finding or staying in work difficult by offering personalised, practical guidance. Good, meaningful employment doesn't just provide financial stability, it strengthens people's health, confidence and wellbeing.

"That's why I'm so pleased to see this programme launched and ready to make a real difference in our communities.

"Residents who are ready to break down barriers and get the best start into a new job, are encouraged to visit the website buckinghamshire.gov.uk/your-best-start, and register their interest.

Councillor Broadbent added:

"In addition to Connect to Work, to help residents who are looking for employment, the council has launched **BEST**, the Bucks Employment and Support Tool. Funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to strengthen local skills and employment initiatives.

"The council partnered with students from Buckinghamshire College Group to design and build a simple, user-friendly tool that helps residents quickly find the support that that will help them in their job search."



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