



Cllr Jilly Jordan & Cllr Caroline Cornell

Newton Longville Parish Council Meeting, Monday 18th August 2025

Help shape a safer Buckinghamshire – community safety survey now open

How can we make Buckinghamshire safer? That's the question the Safer Buckinghamshire Partnership is once again asking residents, workers, businesses and students across the county as it launches its 2025 Safer Buckinghamshire Survey.

The Safer Buckinghamshire Partnership is a multi-agency partnership that brings together experts from the police, fire service, probation, health, and social care services to tackle crime and improve community safety.

Building on the insights from last year's survey and the ongoing Safer Buckinghamshire Strategy 2023–26, the partnership is now seeking views to help shape its priorities and actions for the coming year. The survey focuses on:

The impact of crime and anti-social behaviour in local communities

Experiences of reporting crime or anti-social behaviour

How safe or unsafe people feel living, working, or studying in Buckinghamshire

The survey is open to anyone who lives, works, or studies in Buckinghamshire and will run until 3 October 2025.

You can complete the survey online at:

[2025 Safer Buckinghamshire Survey](#)

Buckinghamshire continues to be a safe and welcoming place, but we know there are areas and times where issues arise. This survey will provide us with vital insight into the real experiences of our communities. Your feedback helps us understand what matters most and where we need to focus our efforts. It only takes a few minutes to complete, and your voice really will make a difference.

You can read the full [Safer Buckinghamshire Strategy 2023–26](#) online to learn more about the five key priorities: neighbourhood crime, anti-social behaviour, serious violence, violence against women and girls, and exploitation of vulnerable people.

Boost your job prospects with a Skills Bootcamp. We have the courses – all we need is you!

Whether you're looking for your first job or keen to progress your existing career, having the right skills and knowledge is essential in today's competitive marketplace. To help residents in Bucks to boost their employability prospects, Buckinghamshire Council has launched its latest programme of Skills Bootcamp courses and is encouraging people to sign up now.

Funded nationally by the Department for Education and coordinated locally by Buckinghamshire Council, in partnership with a variety of education providers, Skills Bootcamps are free courses offered to anyone aged 19 or over in a range of specialist fields of work. Courses in the latest programme in Bucks include catering & hospitality, early years & childcare, construction, technology, film & TV, management & leadership and digital.

All courses are free and are flexible in nature, allowing participants to fit their learning in around existing commitments. Experienced tutors lead the courses, offering expert knowledge of the subject area. At the conclusion of each course participants are given a guaranteed interview to help them prepare for applying for jobs in the real world.

We know how hard it can be to get that first foot on the career ladder or to change your career path. Not everyone wants to go to university or spend years studying for a particular type of role. That's where Skills Bootcamps come into their own. These short, tailored courses are accessible to anyone aged 19 or over, giving people a chance to learn new skills in an area of their choosing, giving them a boost in their job-seeking journey.

Hundreds of people have taken part in previous courses and have told us how useful and interesting they found them. Many courses are very popular and get booked up quickly, so I'd advise taking a look now and get booking quickly.

To find a full list of Skills Bootcamp courses and to book your place visit the website:
<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-and-safety/skills-opportunities-and-employment/enrol-in-a-skills-bootcamp/>

Buckinghamshire Council continues to expand SEND provision across the county

Buckinghamshire Council is continuing its commitment to supporting children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) by significantly increasing the number of specialist SEND school places available across the county.

As part of this ongoing work, the Council is expanding provision at existing special schools, bringing forward new SEND sites, and exploring options to create new specialist SEND units within mainstream school settings.

Over the past five years, Buckinghamshire Council has invested over £10m in additional SEND provision creating 328 additional SEND places, with 298 of these already open and in use. These places have been created through expanding existing special schools and opening new SEND units at mainstream schools. Nearly 300 more SEND places are being planned over the next four years, at an estimated cost of around £18 million. The projects will be funded through the Government's High Needs Capital Funding grant and S106 developer contributions for SEND provision. A further 100 new places should be open for the next academic year.

It is an absolute priority to make sure every child in Buckinghamshire has the education they are entitled too. The pressures on SEND services are well-known and we are making major progress here in Buckinghamshire in increasing capacity in the system so every child who needs additional help with their education can get the tailored support they need.

In addition, if the Department for Education confirms the new SEND Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Free School that was agreed under the previous government, a further 152 specialist places will be created.

We would like to thank all schools that have come forward to explore the opportunity to provide additional SEND places, we really value the close relationship we have with our schools which is helping us all to meet the need for extra places for our children."

For more information about SEND provision in Buckinghamshire, and help, support and advice about SEND, visit: [Bucks SEND Local Offer | Family Information Service](#)

Buckinghamshire Council rolls out summer support for families

This summer, Buckinghamshire Council is once again offering a range of support for eligible families to help children stay active, engaged and well-fed during the school holidays.

The popular Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is returning with a wide variety of free, fun-filled holiday clubs and activities for children and young people from Reception to Year 11 who receive benefits-related free school meals. Funded by the Department for Education, the HAF programme also includes a healthy meal with every session, helping to ensure children are fuelled for a day of fun and learning.

From sports and outdoor adventures to creative arts and cookery, there's something for everyone, with sessions running across dozens of venues throughout Buckinghamshire. Families can book up to 16 sessions over the summer period using a HAF voucher, which will be sent via email or text message from [HolidayActivities.com](https://www.holidayactivities.com).

In addition to the HAF programme, the council is also providing £50 digital food vouchers to eligible families to help with grocery costs over the summer holidays. Funded by the Department for Work and Pensions through the Household Support Fund, these vouchers are sent via schools or early years settings and can be used at most major supermarkets.

For more information on the HAF programme and how to book, visit the [Buckinghamshire HAF webpage](#). To learn more about the food voucher scheme, visit the [Free Food Vouchers page](#).

Eight Buckinghamshire Council parks awarded coveted Green Flag Award, officially recognised as among the country's best

Buckinghamshire Council is celebrating after receiving Green Flag Awards for eight of its parks: Higginson Park in Marlow, Vale Park and Bedgrove Park in Aylesbury, Heartlands in Buckingham, Hughenden Park and the Rye in High Wycombe, as well as Black Park and Langley Park Country Parks.

These parks are among 2,250 across the UK to achieve the award, which is the international quality mark for parks and green spaces.

The news that these Buckinghamshire Council parks have met the standards required for accreditation is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the teams who care for these green spaces, ensuring they can be enjoyed by both residents and visitors.

These awards are a testament to the high quality of our parks and green spaces in Buckinghamshire and reflect the hard work of all the teams and volunteers who care for them. It is also wonderful to see Langley Park Country Park receiving a Green Flag for the first time since the formation of Buckinghamshire Council in 2020.

Crucially, these parks are a vital green space for communities in Buckinghamshire to enjoy nature, and during the ongoing cost of living crisis it is a free and safe space for families to socialise. It also provides important opportunities for local people and visitors to reap the physical and mental health benefits of green space.

The [Green Flag Award Scheme](#), managed by the environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy under licence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for green space management across the UK and internationally.

The annual canvass is about to begin in Buckinghamshire – are your electoral details up to date?

The annual canvass ensures that we keep the Register of Electors updated. It also helps us to identify any residents who are not currently registered to vote, so they can be invited to register.

Please look out for messages from us during July and August, so we can make sure that we have all the current and correct details on the register.

You will receive either an email or a letter in the post from Buckinghamshire Council and all you need to do is to read the email or letter carefully and follow the instructions on how to respond, if necessary. It's very quick and easy! We recommend responding online where possible, but you can also respond by phone or by post.

If you're not currently registered, your name won't appear on the messages we send. If you need to register to vote, the easiest way to apply is online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote, but you will still need to respond to our message.

It's important you're registered to ensure that you have your say in the next election, simply follow the instructions sent to you.

We strongly encourage everyone to respond as early as possible. Doing so helps reduce the need for costly reminder notices and follow-up visits by council staff. Responding online is especially helpful – it cuts down on printing, postage, and travel, all of which have an environmental impact, it also helps save money. In fact, residents responding online last year helped us save nearly £32,000 on printing and postage costs."

Further information on the annual canvass can be found on the Election pages of the council's website at: www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/confirm-voting-details

Any residents who have any questions can contact the council's Electoral Registration team at elections@buckinghamshire.gov.uk or by calling 01296 798 141.



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