

YOUR Buckinghamshire



SUMMER IN BUCKS
complete our activity trail

WIN a tour of
Pinewood Studios

INVESTING
in our roads



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Welcome

to the summer edition of 'Your Buckinghamshire' magazine

After a difficult winter it was so good to emerge into spring and now into summer. Everything feels so much better with longer days and more sunshine. Recently I was proud of the way so many communities across Buckinghamshire came together to celebrate the coronation of our new King. I enjoyed our local street party and I hope you took part in similar events too.

As we're all aware, the tough winter took a really heavy toll on our local road network with a record number of defects reported to the council as a result. So please take a look at pages 12-13 which detail how we're working to improve the roads this summer, investing millions of pounds in this top priority work.

Despite the better weather, I know too that energy costs and household bills remain high. So we're continuing our support for residents who need it most, helping with food vouchers, home energy schemes and much more through our Helping Hand service. You can read about this support on page 11.

And last but not least, I hope you all enjoy completing the summer trail we've put together – pull out the middle pages of the magazine and see how many you can tick off!

As ever, to get regular updates on all this and more, sign up to my regular free email newsletters at [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/signup](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/signup)

Martin Tett

Leader, Buckinghamshire Council

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Have you subscribed to our eNewsletter yet?

This is your way to find out about the latest news as well as updates on our services such as road improvement works, bin collection changes and other important local information.

Sign up to receive our regular updates
[buckinghamshire.gov.uk/signup](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/signup)



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We make every effort to ensure that all information within is correct and accurate at the time of going to press.

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Introducing our new Chairman

Patricia Birchley is Buckinghamshire Council's new Chairman, starting in post on 17 May having been elected by councillors at the council's Annual General Meeting.

The Chairman has several duties, including leading Full Council meetings and acting as the official representative of Buckinghamshire Council on civic and ceremonial occasions and events.

Patricia has been a councillor in Buckinghamshire for 17 years, having previously served as a Cabinet Member and Select Committee Chair, so brings a wealth of experience of working with residents to the role. She will serve as Chair for the next year and says she's very much looking forward to it. Her chosen charities are 'Medical Detection Dogs' and the local 'Scannappeal' raising funds for this vital equipment across Buckinghamshire hospitals. Patricia says she's selected these charities because of the critical work they do – early detection of illness is so important so fundraising for these charities is close to her heart.

You can find out more about the work of the Chairman at [buckinghamshire.gov.uk](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk) and searching 'chairman'.

Customer Partnership Panel

Get involved and be part of the conversation. We need you to tell us how we can improve the council's online services, digital forms and the ways we communicate with you.

Join the Customer Partnership Panel and tell us what you think. We'll listen to your feedback and look for ways to improve. The majority of surveys will be online.



Join the panel today and get ready to share your views:
[buckinghamshire.gov.uk/customer-partnership-panel](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/customer-partnership-panel)

**Save time...
do it online**



Pay council tax the easy way

Over 76% of residents pay Council Tax by Direct Debit because it's safe, reliable and easy to set up.

Make the switch to Direct Debit and you can choose from six different monthly payment dates plus you can spread your payments over 10 or 12 months to help with budgeting.



Set yours up today. Scan the code or visit [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/pay-council-tax](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/pay-council-tax)



Remember you can access most council services online - from finding out when your bins are collected to contacting us direct. Go to [buckinghamshire.gov.uk](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk) to find out about all your council services.



The fight against fly-tipping

Buckinghamshire Council has a zero-tolerance approach to fly-tipping and we clamp down hard on anyone caught in the act. Last year (2022/23) we successfully fined 59 people for illegally dumping everything from furniture and household rubbish to building materials and garden waste, a total bill to the dumpers of just under £84,000.

Fly-tipping is a criminal offence; it blights our countryside and costs the council and taxpayers thousands of pounds every year to clean up.

In our fight against fly-tippers, we make use of a variety of techniques, from hi-tech cameras, to sifting through dumped waste by hand to gather evidence to catch the culprits.

We also urge residents not to pay cash for anyone to take their rubbish away for them. It's not always the case, but if you pay cash, it is more likely that your waste will be dumped illegally, and this can result in you also being prosecuted.

We are grateful to everyone who passes on information regarding fly-tipping to us so we can clear it up quickly and investigate. If you see fly-tipped waste anywhere in Buckinghamshire please report it – **[buckinghamshire.gov.uk/fixmystreet](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/fixmystreet)**

Most waste items can be taken to a local household recycling centre (HRC) where they can be disposed of for free.



Find your local HRC: [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling)

★ Win a VIP tour at ★ Pinewood Studios!

Celebrate the British film industry by peeking behind the closed doors of the world-famous Pinewood Studios, based in Iver Heath.

Here is your chance to take a look* around the lot and to hear about the history and the facilities that the iconic film Studio has to offer. The special VIP tour even includes a goody bag you can take home with you!

For your chance to win an exciting VIP tour with Pinewood Studios for two people, simply tell us how many film reels are hidden in this magazine.

Email your answer, along with your name, to: magazine@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Or post your answer with contact details to:
Pinewood Studios VIP Tour Competition
Buckinghamshire Council Communications Team
The Gateway, Gatehouse Road
Aylesbury, HP19 8FF

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES IS TUESDAY 1 AUGUST 2023.



*Please note that the visit is subject to terms and conditions. We cannot guarantee you access to any sets or stages. This is a VIP Tour but may not be exclusive to you. Other VIP Tour winners (and on some dates, students) may be present on your chosen day. Vouchers are valid until February 2024.

Addressing the need for affordable housing in Bucks

Our commitment to delivering affordable homes drives us to proactively identify and promote suitable sites. This bold approach is designed to make sure that more people – particularly younger residents – can access affordable homes in Buckinghamshire.

Through our planning system we aim to maximise affordable homes on all development sites, which can account for up to 48% of new houses, depending on the location. This strategy has led to the construction of around 640 new affordable homes annually.

An example of this is the recent sale of unused council land at Horns Lane in High Wycombe. This sale paves the way for 50 affordable homes managed by social housing provider Sovereign – addressing the urgent need for affordable housing in the local area.

The Horns Lane development is just one example of our proactive approach. Building on this momentum, another project at Bellfield in

High Wycombe will see 68 affordable homes constructed on council land, while further affordable housing developments have been recently completed at sites in Aylesbury, Buckingham and Waddesdon.

By significantly increasing the availability of affordable housing options, we're creating a more inclusive and accessible housing market. Our efforts are focused on making a meaningful difference for all Buckinghamshire residents, as we work tirelessly to improve our community.



New affordable homes at Kingsbrook, Aylesbury

We're with you every step of the way, as you do something amazing!

We're launching a fresh appeal for more people to sponsor our Ukrainian guests in Buckinghamshire, becoming 'Rematching Sponsors' to provide a temporary home for local Ukrainian individuals and families who are moving out of their initial accommodation.

We support you every step of the way – you meet your guest in person before making any decisions and you will also receive payment for being a host.

One of our Ukrainian guests, Tania talks about her experience of rematching:



"I came to the UK with my 9-year-old son and 75-year-old mother. After our initial sponsorship ended, we were struggling to find a private rental property we could afford. We asked the council for help with a rematch and they found a wonderful host called Fiona who has a beautiful dog who my son loves. Before Fiona came forward to help us we thought we would have to be split up to find suitable housing, but now we are able to stay together. Fiona is very supportive and gives us all kinds of practical advice. I am so grateful to everybody who helps and supports Ukrainians in these hard times and I admire the generosity of your hearts."



More information, including the wealth of support available, can be found online:
buckinghamshire.gov.uk/become-a-rematching-sponsor

Starting secondary school

Starting secondary school is an exciting time! However, for some children and their parents or carers it can also be a bit uncertain as they think about getting used to a new school environment, routine and curriculum.

As well as speaking to your child's new school about any questions you may have, Buckinghamshire Family Information Service has an information page about moving up to secondary school with tips, resources, and links to courses for young people to help them get ready for the exciting transition.

To find out more visit
familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk and
search 'moving up to secondary school'!

Photo ID needed to vote

From now on whenever you go to your polling station to vote, you need to show a valid form of photo ID or a Voter Authority Certificate.

To find out more

Visit buckinghamshire.gov.uk/how-to-vote/ or contact Electoral Services on 01296 798 141 or elections@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Our next scheduled elections are on 2 May 2024 to elect a Police and Crime Commissioner. In the meantime, by-elections and neighbourhood plan referendums will be held when required.

From June we'll be contacting electors and households to check the electoral register is up to date. Please follow the instructions to ensure you remain registered to vote.

A flourishing future for Bucks

Buckinghamshire is a county with a clear plan for the future, being driven by the new Buckinghamshire Growth Board. This alliance of key public and private sector partners is committed to positively shaping the county's future.

The Growth Board ensures coherence across economic, environmental, health, wellbeing, and infrastructure initiatives. It serves as a single point of engagement with the Government on local and regional matters and has been instrumental in crafting Buckinghamshire's 2050 strategic vision.

This vision aims to create a resilient county, bolstered by successful businesses, vibrant communities, and a rich, cultural, heritage and natural landscape.

A prime example of investment in Buckinghamshire is the recently approved Wycombe Film Studios.

These state-of-the-art facilities will become a creative hub, fostering economic growth by generating approximately 750 direct jobs, 450 indirect jobs, as well as offering exciting new opportunities for education and training. It reflects Buckinghamshire's status as a global destination for the film industry, also being home to the world-famous Pinewood studios.

The council has set up a dedicated film office to build on the success in attracting productions to film on location and maximise the economic and social benefits of filming in the form of employment opportunities, increased spend with local businesses and 'screen tourism'.

Find out more about the ambitious growth and investment plans for the county at:
buckinghamshire.gov.uk/business/growth-and-investment



HS2 and East West Rail update



We all know of the massive impact these projects are having across the county. We are constantly monitoring HS2 and East West Rail (EWR) activity, responding to concerns from residents and taking these up with both companies.

These cover many issues, from mud on the road, damage to the road network and the huge environmental impacts of both projects.

Councillors in the impacted areas work tirelessly, fighting these causes on residents' behalf and within the council we have a HS2 and EWR Engagement Team made up of two Community Liaison Officers and two HS2 and EWR Marshals who also monitor the projects and respond to concerns on a day-to-day basis.

The HS2 Act 2017 gives the project sweeping powers so the council is limited in what we can influence, particularly in terms of planning and

the necessary traffic management arrangements to support construction activities.

However, we do as much as we can to respond to concerns and issues arising and resolve or take mitigating action to minimise the disruption and inconvenience caused by the HS2 and East West Rail projects.

In recent months we've secured commitment from both EWR and HS2 to fund some targeted roads repairs given the impact the construction traffic is having in some parts of the county. Following our interjection, this list of specific repair works on their lorry routes will now be funded by HS2 and EWR accordingly, including twelve impacted roads damaged by EWR traffic in the north of the county. Some of the repairs have already happened and some are coming through this year. Details are on the council's website.



You can contact the HS2 and EWR community engagement teams via our mailbox: EWRANDHS2enquiries@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

In early spring Buckinghamshire Council became aware of HS2 cutting back trees in Sheephouse Wood near Charndon. This is a Site of Special Scientific Interest with ancient oak trees and other important habitats.

Therefore we have served HS2 Ltd with a Tree Protection Order prohibiting destruction of these trees, allowing us more time to discuss with HS2 as to why they are taking this action.



Buckinghamshire Council, Great Missenden Parish Council, Great Missenden Village Association, HS2 and EKFB have completed a village revitalisation project with new planting, bike racks, pathways and planters.

The future of planning in Buckinghamshire

In Buckinghamshire we are dedicated to using thoughtful planning and development to create places that serve those who live, work, and visit our beautiful county.

To help create these places, we're working on two long-term plans: The Local Plan for Buckinghamshire and the Local Transport Plan.

Our Local Plan will establish policies for development, covering:

- **Building the right number and size of homes.**
- **Creating pleasant living spaces with shops and recreational areas.**
- **Contributing to essential infrastructure like roads, schools, and health facilities.**
- **Protecting the environment by supporting wildlife, scenic landscapes, historic places, and managing flood risks.**

We've listened to your feedback from an online survey between November 2021 and February 2022 and a public consultation that took place this spring. Many of you expressed appreciation for the wildlife and countryside as cherished aspects of our county. However, concerns were raised about the need for suitable housing especially for workers in vital sectors like health,

education, and emergency services. High house prices make housing availability and affordability a significant challenge, which our Local Plan aims to address while prioritising nature and countryside protection.

Our new Local Plan will carefully identify development areas and protect those needing sensitive management. It will set out key requirements for new developments, ensuring an appropriate mix of housing, land allocation for job opportunities, and vibrant living spaces with shops and public areas. Environmental protection is a top priority, and the plan will nurture wildlife, preserve scenic landscapes and historical sites, and help to address climate change.

We also recognise the close link between planning and transport. New homes, shops, and workplaces must be accessible, well-connected to roads and public transport networks, and easy to walk, wheel and cycle around. That's why we're committed to well-planned transport schemes from the start of any development, as part of our Local Transport Plan.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration to build a better future for Buckinghamshire as we further develop these plans.



For more information on the Local Plan for Buckinghamshire, please visit:
buckinghamshire.gov.uk/local-plan

Black Park lake



Aylesbury train station



Buckingham Park, Aylesbury – a development with green space and traffic-free routes



Bucks Climate Challenge

Working together for a greener future

Buckinghamshire Council is committed to reducing our carbon footprint and protecting the planet for future generations. Our goal is to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 at the latest, and we're making great progress towards this aim.

One of the ways we're making Bucks greener is by planting more trees!

Our Bucks Tree Mission includes a commitment to plant over half a million new trees, one for every resident. This is part of our Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy.

We're making significant progress towards our tree-planting goal, with over 145,000 trees planted since October 2022. This includes:

- **Grange Farm** – 14,700 trees and shrubs planted at this site to create a new woodland in Hazlemere. Volunteers, including 60 school children, attended a planting day run by Chiltern Rangers.
- **Bury Farm** – 14,300 trees and shrubs planted at this site in Amersham, creating a new woodland.
- **Platinum Way** – 4,038 trees planted along this walking, wheeling and cycling route with volunteer planting co-ordinated by Chiltern Rangers.

We're also working with Forestry England to create a new woodland near Wing, where 132,000 trees will be planted over the next 12 months. During April, Forestry England has already planted over 109,000 trees at the new Wing Woods.

Of course, our Bucks Climate Challenge initiative involves more than just tree planting. Take a look at some of the other actions we've been taking:

- Introduced new e-bike and e-scooter rental initiatives.
- Delivered energy performance improvements to hundreds of homes.
- Extended and improved active travel walking, wheeling and cycling routes in Aylesbury, Wendover and Marlow.
- Installed additional EV charging points and added more electric vehicles to our fleet.
- Encouraged the use of low and ultra-low emission taxis and private hire vehicles via a new licensing policy.

We've delivered the Buckinghamshire Solar Together scheme to help residents and small businesses install solar PV and battery storage. We've also secured funding for projects such as air quality sensor trials and waste vehicle upcycling.



Cllrs Gareth Williams and Jilly Jordan join local school children planting trees at Grange Farm

Join us in making a difference in our daily lives by making small changes that can all add up to a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable environment for everyone in Bucks. This could be anything from unplugging or switching off your electrical devices, to walking or cycling instead of driving.



Visit [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/climatechange](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/climatechange) for more information.

Continuing to offer a Helping Hand to residents

Our Helping Hand service continues to offer support to those who need it most. We have been allocated £4.8m of the Household Support Fund from the Department for Work and Pensions, which we are using between now and March 2024 to:



helpinghand

- Help residents pay for bills, food and other essentials
- Provide digital food vouchers for eligible children during school holidays
- Support voluntary and community groups in their efforts to help local residents
- Provide assistance to other vulnerable groups including pensioners, those with disabilities and care leavers.

Anyone who needs help can apply direct to our Helping Hand team for financial support with bills and other expenses. Go to [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/helping-hand](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/helping-hand) or call 01296 531 151.

HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) programme

Our HAF programme will run through the summer school holidays, providing free, high quality holiday activities and clubs for children and young people in Reception to Year 11 inclusive, who receive benefits-related free school meals. A hot meal is provided at every session.



Find out more and check if you are eligible:
[buckinghamshire.gov.uk/haf-summer](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/haf-summer)

Join our Community Food Chain

Buckinghamshire's Community Food Chain aims to highlight the variety of local support services that help coordinate distribution of food to people in need.

Demand at food banks has increased and supplies can run low so please consider donating to your local foodbank if you can. Volunteers are always needed too to help run these community initiatives.

If you can help go to our website:
[buckinghamshire.gov.uk/help-your-community](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/help-your-community)



Whatever your situation, we have lots of information on our website for anyone experiencing cost-of-living pressures: [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living)

Repairing our roads

Over recent months our highways teams have been out all across the county, working hard to make repairs and improvements to our roads. This year we have allocated £34 million to spend on roads as part of our £105 million, four-year investment.

Over the winter our roads took a real pounding, with a combination of heavy, persistent rain and freezing temperatures. This has resulted in an increased number of potholes and other damage to road surfaces.

We know this has been a problem across the whole country, not just in Buckinghamshire. It's why the Government has committed a pot of £200 million specifically to dealing with potholes and in Bucks we have been given £2.3 million from this to help towards repairing as much of the damage as we can – plus we are lobbying for more.

We're working on it

Repairing this damage as quickly as we can is a top priority for the council and under our new Buckinghamshire Highways contract we're doing the following:

- We expect to have repaired around 4,500 potholes by the start of June, subject to weather conditions – we're completing around 700 repairs every week
- We've increased the number of crews repairing potholes from six to fifteen and they're working seven days a week
- We're working overnight on some schemes to complete high priority works as quickly as possible
- We're making use of our emergency powers to fast-track essential repairs
- We've introduced our time-saving three-in-one Pothole Pro machine – more on that opposite!
- Our extended plane and patch programme and wider maintenance and improvements programme have begun in earnest
- We've fixed nearly 500 streetlights so far in 2023/24
- We are continuing to clean and fix 85,000 gullies and the grass cutting programme has also started

New partnerships

Earlier this year we began our new Buckinghamshire Highways partnership with two specialist companies working with us to carry out repairs, maintenance and major highways projects across the county. We're excited to be working with Balfour Beatty Living Places and Atkins, who bring with them much expertise and experience. Crews are responsible for everything from street lighting to winter gritting and gully cleansing as well as road maintenance.



Making permanent repairs across Bucks

We aim to make our road repairs permanent and lasting but if the weather is wet unfortunately, we can't do this. During the winter months we face more wet weather and even in the summer there can be long spells of rainy weather so sometimes we have to make temporary repairs until the weather improves and we can go back and make a permanent fix.

With works needed throughout the county, we liaise with ward members, town and parish councils and Community Boards when planning and delivering our programme of repairs. We have dedicated teams who co-ordinate direct with local communities to keep everyone informed.



How to report a road issue

The easiest way to tell us about any issue with roads or pavements is via our online FixMyStreet portal. It's quick and easy to log any issue and you can also upload pictures.

We then assess all reports and arrange appropriate action based on priority.

[buckinghamshire.gov.uk/fix-my-street](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/fix-my-street)

Introducing the Pothole Pro

We have added a new tool in our fight against road damage in the form of the Pothole Pro. This specialist piece of machinery is designed to make pothole repairs faster. It is being put to good use making permanent repairs to many problem potholes around the county.

The machine cuts into the road surface where a pothole has appeared. It neatly cuts around the edge of the hole to allow a watertight repair. It then brushes away and collects up the waste materials afterwards. Highways teams can then lay and compact the new asphalt surface to complete the repair quickly and effectively.

Plane and Patch

Sometimes where damage is more widespread, or a number of potholes have formed in an area, it is more practical to repair a larger section of road than individual potholes. In this instance we make regular use of our Plane and Patch technique. The damaged road surface patch is cut out and completely resurfaced with new material. This work can be used to cover sites as small as a standard hotel room and some as big as around six tennis courts.



Coordinating roadworks by other companies

In addition to the works we carry out as a council, there are often separate works being undertaken by utility companies dealing with gas, water, electricity and broadband networks. These are essential works that need to be carried out and as a council we have limited ability to stop them. We have a team that co-ordinates these works to limit the impact on local communities as much as possible. We work closely with companies to ensure they comply with any restrictions that are put in place and complete the works on time. We have powers to issue fines for non-compliance and will use them if needed.



Keep up to date with all the latest information on our roads on our website:
[buckinghamshire.gov.uk/highways](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/highways)

The Coronation

The King's Coronation last month was celebrated in style by communities across Buckinghamshire. Here are some of our favourite snaps capturing this memorable occasion.



The Guildhall, Wycombe and Old County Hall in Aylesbury were lit in red, white and blue



The flags were waving in Amersham



The council ran a crown competition for local schools – here are the judges and winners!



Town centres and villages were decorated across the county by talented crafters!



Local events saw some famous faces! Royal sisters Princess Beatrice and Eugenie appeared at celebrations in Chalfont St Giles and 'Love Island' TV stars Jessie Wynter and local lad Will Young dropped in on Grendon Underwood's village event



It was all too much for 3-month-old Ellie, cradled by Revd. Angela Mann



His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire, The Countess Howe and the then Buckinghamshire Council Chairman Cllr Dev Dhillon attended events across the weekend

Summer in Bucks

Summer on your doorstep!

Summer is here so there's no better time to get out and about to explore! And the good news is, you don't have to venture far to find fun things to do, interesting places to discover and new activities to enjoy.

Beautiful Buckinghamshire

When the sun is shining, the best place to be is outside and in Buckinghamshire we are spoilt for choice with great places to explore. Whether you want a short stroll or a longer ramble, there are walking routes to suit all ages and abilities across the county. Our Simply Walk programme offers free weekly walks at locations around Bucks all year round.

 buckinghamshire.gov.uk/simply-walk

If you want to plan your own route, look at our handy online maps for inspiration.

Or, if cycling is more your thing, there are also lots of cycle friendly paths including our network of greenways, many of which have been recently extended and upgraded including the Platinum Way in Aylesbury.

 buckinghamshire.gov.uk/walk-and-cycle



Family friendly fun

The ever-popular **WhizzFizzFest** is spreading fun far and wide this summer. Across Buckinghamshire, look forward to a whole host of creativity and fizztastic entertainment for all the family from 1 to 15 July. And we're joining with partners to create three spectacular free events in Aylesbury, Chesham and High Wycombe.  whizzfizzfest.org.uk

The Bucks Open Weekend from


27 to 30 July offers another opportunity to take part in a range of fun activities and events.

The theme this year is One World with activities centred on inclusivity and connecting communities as well as the environment and sustainability. Find out more

 buckinghamshireculture.org/projects/open-weekend



If you are stuck for ideas of things to do with the kids, take a look at the Buckinghamshire Family Information Service website which lists details of lots of activities and events across Bucks for all ages and interests.

 familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/things-to-do

Many local town and parish councils are running free events for families this summer. Keep an eye out in your local area to see what's on.

Your summer sorted

Check out our ideas for things to do in Bucks this summer. There's a wide variety of attractions to suit all ages, interests and budgets. Take a look at visitbuckinghamshire.org to find out more.

We've also highlighted some options and ideas that are completely free or low cost here.

How many  will you tick off?

1. Enjoy a picnic in a park

Grab a blanket, pack your favourite drinks and snacks and enjoy a spot of alfresco dining. Visit your local park or venture further afield.

 buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parks



4. Go for a walk, ride or scoot

With miles of pathways linking up towns and villages across Bucks, our network of greenways is a great place to explore on foot, bicycle or scooter. Family friendly paths allow easy access for all ages.

 buckinghamshire.gov.uk/walk-and-cycle



2. Keep cool in the pool

When temperatures soar, a trip to the swimming pool can be the perfect way to keep cool. Our leisure centres across the county mean you don't need to travel far to find a local pool.

 buckinghamshire.gov.uk/leisure-centres



3. Discover your local library

Escape into a completely new world with a book from your local library. Libraries also host a variety of special events throughout the summer, many of which are free.

 buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries



5. Climb a hill & enjoy the view

Coombe Hill, Ivinghoe Beacon, Whiteleaf, it's not hard to find a hill to climb in Bucks and when you reach the top you can enjoy the panoramic views.



6. Immerse yourself in history & culture

From stately homes to ancient monuments, Buckinghamshire has many historic buildings and places of interest to discover. Why not plot your own historic adventure around Bucks?

[buckinghamshire.gov.uk/museums](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/museums)



7. Get close to nature

Go on your own animal or insect exploring adventure. Borrow a book from the library or find information online and see what you can find.

[buckinghamshire.gov.uk/country-parks](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/country-parks)

8. Get active!

Make use of your local park or open space and get active! Visit one of our many play parks or outdoor gyms or if it's wet outside, why not move indoors to a leisure centre.

[buckinghamshire.gov.uk/leisure-centres](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/leisure-centres)

Whatever the weather

Don't let bad weather spoil your fun this summer, there are plenty of indoor options to keep you entertained. Our leisure centres offer a host of activities for all ages including swimming, climbing, racquet sports, soft-play and much more.

👉 [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/leisure-centres](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/leisure-centres)

Libraries are also the perfect destination to spend a few hours. Apart from the wide variety of books and magazine, there are clubs and activities for all ages and interests.

👉 [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries)

Why not get your children involved in this year's Summer Reading Challenge, a free and fun way to encourage younger children to read more?

👉 [summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](https://www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

And don't forget our fantastic museums! Get lost in history, culture, art and much more at Wycombe Museum and the Discover Bucks Museum in Aylesbury.

👉 [discoverbucksmuseum.org](https://www.discoverbucksmuseum.org)

👉 [wycombemuseum.org.uk](https://www.wycombemuseum.org.uk)

Explore the great outdoors

Our country parks, Black Park, Langley Park and Denham, offer a wonderful way to enjoy the great outdoors.

The parks also host a variety of events throughout the year for both children and adults, including pond dipping, bug-hunting and conservation projects.

Or what about a spot of outdoor theatre? Langley Park is hosting two performances at the end of July.

👉 [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/country-parks](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/country-parks)

And don't forget your local park is a great place to meet with friends, enjoy a picnic and have fun in the different outdoor play areas.

👉 [familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/things-to-do/parks-and-outdoor-spaces](https://www.familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/things-to-do/parks-and-outdoor-spaces)



Love exploring with Love Exploring!

Love Exploring is a free app which residents can use to explore local parks and green spaces more through walking. The app, which covers green areas in Aylesbury, High Wycombe and Chesham, creates bespoke activities and games to suit all ages, from young children to adults including audio guides, augmented reality games and quizzes which involve hunting the area for clues.

👉 [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/country-parks](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/country-parks)

And don't forget your local park is a great place to meet with friends, enjoy a picnic and have fun in the different outdoor play areas.

👉 [familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/things-to-do/parks-and-outdoor-spaces](https://www.familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/things-to-do/parks-and-outdoor-spaces)



Could you help build a child's future?

There are over 500 children in our care across Buckinghamshire, waiting to be part of a family that will help them grow and succeed.

We are seeking people from all kinds of backgrounds to come forward and offer a caring home through fostering or adoption. You can help build a child's family regardless of your sexual orientation, relationship status, faith or ethnicity.

For those who want to adopt, we are specifically looking for families who can offer a home to an older child, children who need to be raised alongside their siblings, children who have specific needs and children from a range of different cultures and ethnicities.

Our fostering community is thriving in Buckinghamshire and we want to add to our successes, especially when we can keep our children living in Buckinghamshire. We will be with you at every step of your journey; the Fostering and Adoption Teams are ready to speak with you to explain and discuss how you can "be the change" in a child's life.



If you have ever thought that fostering or adoption might be for you, please do get in touch to find out more: [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/fostering](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/fostering) and [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/adoption/](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/adoption/)



CHILTERN OPEN AIR MUSEUM



DOG FRIENDLY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2020-21

'Beautiful hidden gem' TripAdvisor

Where buildings come alive through history




STEP BACK IN TIME







Lots of special events to see visit www.coam.org.uk for full details

Chiltern Open Air Museum, Newland Park, Gorelands Lane,
Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, HP8 4AB



SUMMER OF FUN!



Dino Day: 25 June



Let's Get Colourful on a train ride adventure!

THOMAS the Tank Engine DAY OUT THOMAS

22/23 July & 7/8 Oct



Peppa Pig: 13 August



SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2023

PAW Patrol: 10 Sept

Buckinghamshire Railway Centre
Station Road, Quainton, Nr Aylesbury HP22 4BY
Pre-book at www.bucksrailcentre.org



Could you be a school crossing patroller?

Whatever the weather, our school crossing patrollers are there with a smile on their faces and a cheery greeting, carrying out such an important job helping children and their families get to and from school safely every day.

We have around sixty patrollers in Buckinghamshire. These are paid positions and we currently have vacancies in our team.

If you would like further information on School Crossing Patroller vacancies in your area please contact:
Georgina Longley on 01494 586 639 (South) or
Corinne Randall on 01296 383 432 (North).

Photo: Cllr Steven Broadbent meets members of the team including patrollers John Wicks and Brian Kennedy

Domestic Abuse

How to get help and support

Did you know, 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men experience domestic abuse in their lifetime. That's 21,000 people a year in Buckinghamshire or 57 people every day.

We want Buckinghamshire to be a place where as few people as possible are affected by domestic abuse, but those who are can get help to end the abuse and go on to live the lives they want.

To help our zero-tolerance approach to domestic abuse, we have introduced our new **Buckinghamshire Domestic Abuse Partnership website**. The website provides helpful advice on how to spot the signs, where to get support and tips on how you can help someone experiencing abuse.



If you have concerns about a family member, friend or your own relationship, support is available:

- If abuse is taking place now or a situation may become heated or violent **dial 999**
- To report abuse that is not an emergency visit **bucksdap.org.uk**



or call:

- 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline (Women's support) **0808 2000 247**
- Respect Men's Advice Line **0808 801 0327**



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& Garter**

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Join our family

Nursing | Dementia | Short breaks



Our loving, compassionate care helps our family of veterans and their partners to live life to the full. We welcome anyone who has served in His Majesty's Armed Forces, including Reservists and those who completed National Service.

We offer award-winning care, exceptional food and great company, creating a warm, homely environment for the people we support. Our Wellbeing Programme has something for everyone with our wide range of activities and outings. We also provide in-house physiotherapy.

Helping loved ones remain connected is really important to us. Family gatherings are celebrated and visitors are welcome to join in the activities. We also have a dedicated relatives' website featuring photos, stories and news direct from the Home.

To find out more about our care:



- Scan the **QR code** with your smartphone camera
- Telephone us on **01494 927 555**
- Email us hw.enquiries@starandgarter.org
- Visit us online at starandgarter.org/hw
- Drop by at **Hughenden Avenue, High Wycombe, HP13 5GG**

Registered Charity no. 210119.



Caremark (Aylesbury and Wycombe)



Multi-award-winning doctor-led home care for **all ages** throughout **Buckinghamshire** that provides:

- Independence in your own home
- Freedom
- Happiness
- Dignity

Supporting you with

- Short visits
- Long visits
- Respite care
- 24-hour care (live-in care)
- Complex Care
- Childrens Care
- Learning Disability Care
- Physical Disability Care
- Dementia Care

Supporting you for:

- Personal Care
- Medication Support
- Nutrition and Hydration
- Meal Preparation
- Mobility
- Companionship
- Shopping
- Transport
- Social Activities

t: 01296 641 662 e: aylesbury@caremark.co.uk
www.caremark.co.uk/aylesbury-and-wycombe



"Mum has settled in so well because time has been taken to understand her likes and dislikes. She has been nourished both physically and emotionally."

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At every one of our homes and services you will find a welcoming environment, companionship and freedom from worry, together with great care and friendly faces everyday.

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Respite Care | Services for Adults Living with Learning Disabilities

To discuss your care needs and arrange a visit

0333 005 8735 enquiries@fremantletrust.org

www.fremantletrust.org

We mean business

At Buckinghamshire Council, we recognise the important role that businesses play in supporting our local economy, creating employment for residents and contributing to vibrant towns and villages.

The local growth hub - Buckinghamshire Business First - is the support hub for all businesses in Buckinghamshire, so whether you're starting up, growing your business or need some advice, check out the support available completely free of charge to any business in the county.

Buckinghamshire Business First supports a growing community of over 14,000 local businesses with knowledge, guidance, advice, contacts, and opportunities for growth.

Get involved. Join online at bbf.uk.com, email info@bbf.uk.com or call **01494 927 130**.

Get involved in local decisions



It's really important that residents help shape local projects and services and can feed into decisions the council makes on their behalf.

You can do this by taking part in all kinds of public consultations and engagement activities which are happening right across Buckinghamshire.

For example, more than 1,500 people fed their views into how the council should spend this year's budget, and which services should be prioritised, directly influencing and shaping the final plans and being fully involved in the process.

We engage and consult residents on a huge variety of topics and projects.



Your opinion matters so make your voice heard by going to yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com and having your say.

Supporting our armed forces

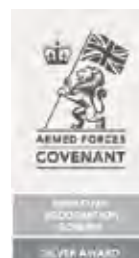
Our servicemen and women and their families make significant sacrifices to protect our country.

As a council, we recognise and appreciate their service. We have signed the Armed Forces Covenant – a voluntary pledge showing our commitment to making sure those who serve or have served in the armed forces, and their families, are treated fairly and are not disadvantaged as a result of their service.

Actions include implementing a guaranteed interview scheme for serving reservists and all ex-service people, coordinating the Buckinghamshire Civilian Military Partnership Board and setting up an armed forces staff network.



Every June during Armed Forces Week we celebrate our armed forces community with flag-raising events in Aylesbury and in Wycombe, where this photo was taken in 2022.



We have been recognised with a Silver Award by the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme, which acknowledges employers who have provided a high level of support to the armed forces community.

Recently we held a networking event to boost support for and sign-ups to the covenant by local businesses and charitable or voluntary organisations.

If you are interested in signing up and want to hear about our experience, email armedforces@buckinghamshire.gov.uk



Daffodil Care provides person centred services to adults struggling to live independently in their own homes within the Buckinghamshire area in the UK.

Our services are tailored to support anyone above the age of 18 years and over struggling to live independently in their own homes within the community. Our innovative programmes are designed for social inclusion and building sustainable change. Daffodil care programmes promotes community engagement; confidence, self-esteem, and independence. Our services support individuals to develop abilities or to regain their abilities in order to take control of their lives in a more positive pathway. Daffodil Care also supports with gaining life skills; getting employment, practical training or education.

We offer a range of expert services to people, who require additional support with:

- young mothers struggling with independent living and motherhood
- outdoor activities and community care assistance
- house cleaning, deep cleaning & de-clutter services
- pest control services
- young people transitioning into adulthood
- house clearance services
- daily living activities
- respite care
- sitting service
- shopping services

**WE ARE
RECRUITING...**

t: 01908 608 226



Daffodil Care provides support to homeless individuals and individuals sleeping rough.

CQC registered



**Over 25 years
of **trusted**
compassionate
home care**



At Abbots Care, our compassionate, person-centred approach ensures you or your loved one are in control of the care you receive, and how you receive it.

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W abbotscare.com



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Recycle more to win big prizes
and save the planet with

LitterLotto!



NEW HOME MODE
exclusively available in
Buckinghamshire
Recycling tips, bin schedule & prizes!



1. Download the LitterLotto App 

2. Snap & Bin* 

3. Win!



Download LitterLotto now and enjoy Home Mode exclusively available to Buckinghamshire Council residents! Recycle at home, win prizes and be notified about your bin collection schedule. *Pictures of litter and recycling must be taken and submitted directly through the LitterLotto app.

Be Healthy Bucks

Be Healthy Bucks is a free health and wellbeing service helping you to make simple changes and start feeling the benefits of a healthier lifestyle.

Be Healthy Bucks can provide support and advice on a range of health needs including stopping smoking, being a healthier weight, cutting down on alcohol and booking an NHS health check.



**Be
Healthy
Bucks**

The service will work with you to make small changes that can fit around your current lifestyle. You just have to be a Buckinghamshire resident and/or registered with a GP practice in the county.

Find out how Be Healthy Bucks can help you to live a healthier life at home - Be Healthy Bucks:

 bhb.maximusuk.co.uk



BetterPoints Bucks

Support your healthy lifestyle journey with the **BetterPoints app** by earning rewards.

Earn points from a variety of activities like walking more, stopping smoking or going to your local leisure centre. These points are automatically added to your account and can be redeemed with participating high street shops, local businesses or donated to a choice of charities and local food banks.

Join the BetterPoints challenge today at  bucks.betterpoints.uk


Funded childcare for two-year-olds

Parents or carers of two-year-olds who receive certain benefits may be entitled to 15 hours of funded childcare a week, worth over £3,000 in total. It is up to the eligible parent or carer whether they take up the full 15 hours or just part of it.



This funded childcare is provided by participating childminders, day nurseries, pre-schools and nursery schools (including those joined to a primary school) across Buckinghamshire.

To find out more including whether you are eligible, go to:

 buckinghamshire.gov.uk/apply-2-year-funding



Could you be a school governor?


School governors play a vital role in education, helping to plan the strategic direction of a school, ensuring money is well spent and holding school leaders to account.

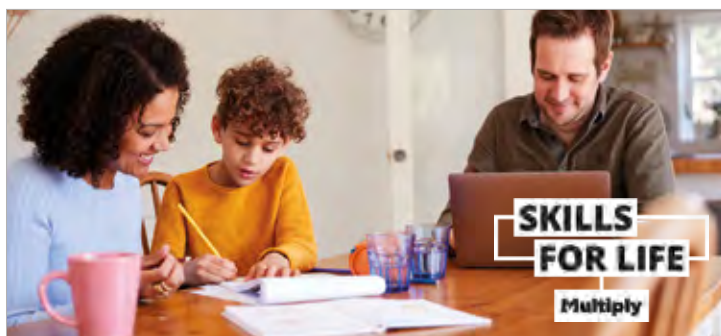
We are seeking people from all walks of life to volunteer as governors in schools across Buckinghamshire. Whatever your professional background, your skills could transform a school, and ultimately shape young people's opportunities to achieve.

Being a governor is a fantastic way to give something back to your community and can help you to develop transferable skills too – like team working, strategic thinking and project management.

You don't need to have children or experience of working in education – governing boards really value governors who can bring an independent perspective.

If you are over 18 and would like to find out more, please email:

 schoolgovernance@buckinghamshire.gov.uk



Buckinghamshire Adult learning is delivering

FREE courses & workshops IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Do you

- need a GCSE in Maths or English to get that next job?
- struggle to understand the words and numbers on your bills?
- want to help your children with their homework?

Courses to suit all levels

Find out more or to sign up:

studentenquiries@bucksinghamshire.gov.uk

adultlearningbc.ac.uk

01296 382403



Buckinghamshire
Adult Learning

OPPORTUNITY | SUCCEEDING
BUCKS | FOR ALL



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www.missendenabbey.co.uk
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Museum
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**Brilliant new displays, hands-on
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Aylesbury HP20 2QP



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ENGLAND



Spending
a lot to
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home?

You need to visit the
Energy Efficient Homes Fairs!

Sun 1st October - Haddenham
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More info and tickets online at
www.buckscommunityenergy.org/energyefficient

Want to reassure yourself that you are still safe to drive?



Why not consider a Mature Driver Assessment?

In your own car and on roads familiar to you, the assessment will last about 90 minutes and aims to:

- refresh your driving skills
- restore your confidence
- maintain your independence
- help you to drive safer for longer

For more information or to book an assessment, visit: www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk and search 'older driver'



Celebrating outstanding design in Buckinghamshire



Over the last few months we've asked for input on which recently completed development projects in the county should be recognised in the Buckinghamshire Design Awards.

These awards celebrate outstanding new places and spaces that enhance the design quality of our built and natural environment, while encouraging landowners and developers to create better spaces for living and working – and for nature to flourish.

We're pleased to announce that a shortlist of nominated projects is now available on Your Voice Bucks:

 yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com

A panel of expert judges will review the shortlisted projects this summer and select winners in each category. Get involved too by browsing the shortlist online and voting for your favourite project for the 'People's Choice Award'.

Judging and voting is from July to mid-September 2023 and winners will be invited to an awards ceremony in October 2023.

To find out if your pick is selected as a winner keep an eye on:

 buckinghamshire.gov.uk/buckinghamshire-design-awards-2023

Join your community board and make a difference!

Community boards engage with local communities to identify what changes are needed and then work in partnership to make them happen.

Have you been thinking about how you could make a difference in your town, village or local area? Our 16 community boards are known as places where residents can ask questions, share thoughts and see ideas come to fruition.

Over the past three years they have built relationships and networks and worked to improve their local areas.

As well as focusing on young people, the environment, community buildings, spaces, highways and improving health and wellbeing, the boards have also supported cost-of-living activities and have worked with Ukrainian guests.

Just take a look at what has been achieved over the past year: 334 projects totalling just under £2m were supported across the county, from setting up a repair café, to tree planting schemes, to creating a community hub where groups can meet. See some of the highlights on this page.

Find out more about your local community board, and how to get involved, by visiting our website and keying in 'community boards'.



Right: Whistle Brook sparkles after its clean-up.



Above: Celebrating the (drizzly) launch of the Lace Hill Orchard.



Left: The Risborough community bus provides much-needed transport, including to older people.

Transport for all

The Risborough Area Community Bus (RACB) provides much-needed transport, including to older people, and brings footfall and income to the town centre.

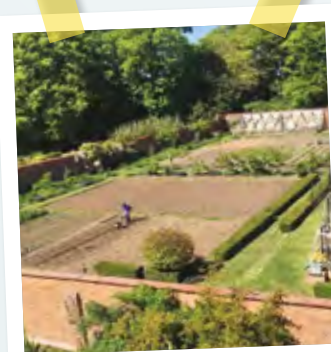
North West Chilterns Community Board supported a social media campaign to increase awareness, attract younger passengers and encourage people to leave their car at home.

As a result, RACB has seen an increase in usage, and the campaign is being extended for a further three months.

Secret haven

The Lady Ryder Memorial Garden is a secret haven, enclosed by a brick wall, for anyone with special needs, mental health issues or wanting to help restore the area to its former glory.

The all-abilities garden was designed and created with the support of South West Chilterns Community Board, including linking the applicant with a building firm who provided materials at a saving of thousands of pounds.



Above: The Lady Ryder Memorial Garden offers a tranquil place for all.

Free fruit fresh from the tree

The Lace Hill Fruit Orchard was organised by Lace Hill Residents Association in partnership with Buckingham Town Council, with funding from Buckingham & Villages Community Board.

Fruit trees were planted on an open space on the Lace Hill estate. The fruit will be available to the public for free, with maintenance carried out by the local residents association and volunteers.

Brook gets tidy up

Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board supported the Whistle Brook renovation and clearance project.

Dead hedgerows, trees and litter were cleared to open up the brook between Pitstone and Ivinghoe, offering opportunities for regrowth and improved biodiversity.

Transform your conservatory in just one day

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AFTER



£350 OFF

*QUOTE YB0623

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WARMER IN WINTER

"There is no doubt the conservatory is much warmer, and not darker either!"

David Birch, Chichester

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"We're so proud of our transformed conservatory that we have recommended Green Space to many of our friends and relatives."

Mr and Mrs Davies Somerset

COOLER IN SUMMER

"You could have fried an egg on the table in there in the summer, I now look upon the conservatory as a new room. It is quiet, restful and cosy."

Carol Doyle, Surrey

REDUCES ENERGY BILLS

"I've already turned the underfloor heating down. Lovely job guys, thank you!"

Anne Bird, Bristol

QUIETER IN BAD WEATHER

"For the first time we do not have to close the door to the conservatory when it rains to hear the TV."

Mr & Mrs Bailey-Webb, Warsash

"What a difference a day makes and yes, that's all it took to install."

Mr & Mrs Barber, Wells



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[greenspaceconservatories.co.uk](https://www.greenspaceconservatories.co.uk)

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Greener transport options in Bucks

We're committed to promoting eco-friendly transport options to improve air quality and reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Our five-year EV Action Plan aims to deliver sufficient charge points to provide 1,000 publicly-accessible EV charging parking bays by 2027. As of January 2023, we've already reached 210 EV charging units and are in the process of creating 64 more in our car parks, which will add a further 128 bays.

Active travel, including walking, cycling and using scooters, is the greenest way to get around.

Thanks to a £397,000 government grant, we're making active travel more accessible and enjoyable for you by:

- Creating new safe and inviting green travel spaces.
- Offering an alternative to driving by delivering new walking, wheeling and cycling routes in Bucks.
- Developing fun and engaging materials to inspire students to walk, cycle, or use scooters to get to school. (In a recent league of local authorities, we came top with the highest percentage of schools with a sustainable travel plan.)



High Wycombe's **PickMeUp** ride-sharing service, offering on-demand minibuses from 500+ virtual stops and carrying an average of 270 passengers per day, has proven so popular that we're planning a similar scheme for Aylesbury – which we hope to have up and running later this year.

E-scooter trials in Aylesbury, High Wycombe and Princes Risborough have been extended until May 2024. Learn more: buckinghamshire.gov.uk/escooters



More of us are recycling our food waste

When recycled, food waste can be turned into something useful.

Your food waste is taken to a special processing plant near Aylesbury where it is used to generate electricity to power the local community. It also produces a nutrient-rich organic fertiliser used in farming. This can only happen by recycling your food separately. When food is put in the rubbish bin, it is sent to be incinerated to create energy. However, food waste is composed of about 70% water, requiring lots more energy to burn it, making it less efficient than recycling.

What if I don't produce any food waste?

No amount is too small, it all makes a difference. Some waste like teabags, banana skins, coffee grounds or plate scrapings are hard to avoid, but they can all be recycled.

Should I use liners for my caddy?

You can use compostable liners, paper liners, or even kitchen roll. However, if you don't want to use liners you can put your food in the caddy loose, it will just need a clean more often.



Find out more about food recycling and get a year's supply of liners for just £4 at: Recycleforbuckinghamshire.co.uk/food

High Wycombe's New Neighbourhood Workspace

PATCH

High quality workspaces





Choose from private offices, fixed desks, coworking studios and meeting rooms, all with beautifully-designed environments and best-in-class facilities.

Flexible memberships

Our memberships are designed to suit all types of worker. They range from 1-day-a-month to full-time access, and include member benefits like meeting room credits, free printing and unlimited tea & coffee. From £24 a month.

Less commuting, more community

Connect with a friendly and professional community here in High Wycombe, and reclaim the time spent commuting to enjoy with friends and family.

-  patch.work/highwycombe
-  highwycombe@patch.work
-  [@patchplaces](https://www.instagram.com/patchplaces)
-  Old Library Building, Queen Victoria Road, HP11 1BG

Book a tour

