

FAIR AND PROSPEROUS ECONOMIC RECOVERY	
OUR COMMITMENTS ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY – WE WILL:	
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Invest over £3M to provide support to Milton Keynes Businesses in their recovery from COVID-19</b></p> <p>Due diligence processes and inception meetings set up with partners throughout September to initiate new workstreams in line with July 21 decision. Monitoring and evaluation of ongoing schemes continues as business as usual.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Support Milton Keynes’ high streets, local centres and independent retailers by bringing forward a programme of improvements, investment and local initiatives.</b></p> <p>High Streets across Milton Keynes are being supported through two main work streams, £200k of Economic Recovery Funding (ERF) has been committed as well as £275k of Welcome Back Funding (WBF). Both work streams involve a great deal of partnership working with Town Council and Business Associations, as well as key Business stakeholders and the BID in CMK. Through the Economic Recovery Fund, the Council will be supporting shop local events programmes and promotional campaigns, and through Welcome Back Fund a programme of high street cleansing and beautification works. Environment/Highways colleagues are now programming in works to start delivery in the next two months. High Streets will also receive a one-off Christmas support payment from ARG (£120k between 6 High Streets).</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Work with businesses, skills providers and SEMLEP to establish a Milton Keynes Economic Recovery Business Steering Group.</b></p> <p>Monthly Keeping in Touch calls ran June to September 2021. From September the focus will be on working with the Milton Keynes Business Council and developing their role providing advice on economic recovery. Commit £45K over three years to sponsor the Milton Keynes Business Awards.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Working with partners to provide practical support to Milton Keynes residents seeking work, to reskill or upskill, especially those impacted hardest by the pandemic, including young people, women and those on low incomes.</b></p> <p>Deliver (and report on) the £2.25M COVID Economic Recovery Plan already underway - including work with MK College and Works for Us as well as schemes to support young people and to support women into work.</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Work with Centre:MK and other partners to agree a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to protect, renew and ensure the success of our city centre.</b></p> <p>Initial meeting with Centre:MK has taken place, with the intention to draft and sign a MOU.</p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Prepare a business case to ensure maximum economic, social and health benefits from the Women’s European Championships.</b></p> <p>Document setting out (a) what is happening then (b) practical steps that could help us maximise the potential benefits, but with a strong 'call to action' to other partners, like the NHS and business, to embrace these benefits. Five sides of A4 document, developed ready for a Thursday 6 January launch. (six months before the first game on 6 July).</p>

<b>7</b>	<p><b>Deliver Improvements to CMK Market, including improved stalls, facilities, and lighting, by Autumn 2021, and bring forward proposals for the wider regeneration of CMK Market for public consultation by March 2022.</b></p> <p>Undertake some revitalisation work at Milton Keynes Market – including painting, cleaning and perhaps improving the choice and mix of stalls ahead of fuller redevelopment. Precise timing will require cooperation of existing operator and favourable weather but aim to commence physical works in November 2021 and conclude by April 2022.</p>
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Work with partners and MHCLG to deliver a Growth Deal for Milton Keynes that seeks funding for our unique infrastructure, a Mass Rapid Transport system, more protection from developer-led growth, funding for MK:U and formal city status.</b></p> <p>MKC is the accountable body for the Central Area Growth Board which is underway. A draft Central Area Growth Board 'deal' has been drafted for government which features asks on MK:U and Bletchley station. Negotiations are ongoing through to Spending Review 2021. The city status work is separate. The closing date on that is December.</p>

<b>DOING THE ESSENTIALS WELL</b>	
<b>OUR COMMITMENTS ON DOING THE ESSENTIALS WELL – WE WILL:</b>	
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Install 75 dual bins across our estates and high streets, and 20 smart bins around Central Milton Keynes.</b></p> <p>Delivery on site has commenced and is due to complete by end of December 2021.</p>
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Fix 7,500 additional potholes, improve repair quality and maintain our focus on having high standard roads.</b></p> <p>These potholes will be additional from those funded from the base budget. Patching and grip sealing commenced in late September based on the prioritised lists of sites. Mid-October we have fixed c2,500 potholes with this funding. Some funds will be held back to March for a final push pre-purdah and we plan to complete at the end of March.</p>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Produce a fly-tipping action plan by September 2021 to tackle national rising levels of fly-tipping, including funding for an additional Environmental Crime Officer to tackle abandoned vehicles and fly-tipping.</b></p> <p>Agreed at September Cabinet and the actions are now being delivered. Reductions in fly tipping identified for Q1 and Q2 for 2021/22.</p>
<b>12</b>	<p><b>We will introduce litter wardens to find and fine those who drop litter.</b></p> <p>We will promote and support community litter picking, working closely with parish partners and create a fixed resource for Community Litter Picks. A fixed budget for Community Litter picks and distribution to Parishes and community groups (now listed on the website).</p> <p>The tender for Fixed Penalty Notices (Litter Wardens) has been completed and it is being evaluated now. Following contract award, we will be looking to commence from mid-November onwards.</p>
<b>13</b>	<p><b>Establish a programme of improvement to local areas that includes signage replacement and cleaning, weed removal, improved seating and cleaning of local centres and graffiti removal, including new technology to reduce reoccurrence of graffiti.</b></p>

	<p>Following on from successful anti-graffiti deployment in CMK this has been expanded and is underway. The graffiti prevention programme and estates clean-up will focus on estates and areas of highest footfall. This will include painting and cleaning local assets such as seating, signage – general neighbourhood revitalisation.</p> <p>The placemaking team are working up 5 local centre schemes (c£30k each), which will be prioritised. These works combine Environment and Placemaking to enhance estates both in terms of revitalisation and urban renewal. We will look to deliver at least 2 schemes by the end of March 2022, with the remaining schemes delivered through to June 2022.</p>
14	<p><b>Review our out of hours and weekend bereavement services, working to make them as accessible as possible.</b></p> <p>Review has been completed with and recommendations will be shared in November with a view to implementing in 2021.</p>
15	<p><b>Bring forward the future operational models for waste and landscaping services beyond the end of the current contracts in 2023.</b></p> <p>Complete, delegated decisions have been taken</p>
16	<p><b>Review the operation of the recycling centre booking system when social distancing restrictions are no longer in place.</b></p> <p>The review comparing us with our neighbours and similar authorities is underway and will be completed by the end of October. Enhancements to the online booking system in October includes ability to cancel appointments, make amendments, same day bookings, using hire vans can book in advance.</p> <p>The second service upgrade will be the introduction of ANPR, automated gates. We are working with the contractor on site to introduce this is in February 2022.</p>
17	<p><b>Oppose continued operation of the Bletchley landfill site.</b></p> <p>Put effort into attending the public inquiry which commenced on 5 July and is planned to reconvene on 19 October 2021.</p>
18	<p><b>Ensure a high quality and trusted Planning Service by conducting an LGA Planning Peer Review.</b></p> <p>The review is being scheduled for early February.</p>

<b>REGENERATION AND RENEWAL</b>	
<b>OUR COMMITMENTS ON REGENERATION AND RENEWAL – WE WILL:</b>	
19	<p><b>Support the regeneration of Bletchley and Fenny by advancing a planning framework (SPD) and working with the Town Deal Board on the delivery of the £22.7m Town Investment Plan.</b></p> <p>Complete by March 2022 the detailed business cases for the nine projects funded through our £22.7M successful Towns Deal funding, including £2.1 M of public realm improvements to the Queensway area and Fenny Stratford's high street. Cabinet report on Town Deal delivery scheduled for November '21. Delegated Decisions in March 2022 to adopt the</p>

	Central Bletchley Urban Design Framework SPD. Submit in January 2022 an additional £3-£5M EOI to the national Cultural Development Fund (Capital) to try to build on the Towns Deal (Former Fire Station site).
20	<b>Support the £35m regeneration of Wolverton town centre and agree funding by July 2021.</b> Complete. Formal decision to invest approved at Cabinet on 13 July and Council on 14 July. We are looking to begin to demolish the Agora in February/March 2022.
21	<b>Complete the redesign of the Neighbourhood Employment Programme (NEP) to help people on regeneration estates into employment or provide opportunities to upskill by September 2021.</b> The NEP has been integrated into Community Learning MK in September 2021 (as per review recommendations) and will operate as part of a wider service with stronger links to basic skills and adult learning.
22	<b>Work with the community to agree detailed plans for Fullers Slade Estate Renewal and submit a planning application by Q4 2021/2022.</b> Revised proposals and costed business case to be developed based on the option balloted. Planning application will not be submitted by Q4 2021/22 (i.e. by 31 March 2022) - however we will have developed plans / business plan, aiming for February Cabinet.
23	<b>Start site works on the Lakes Estate regeneration by Q4 2021/22.</b> Approval to proceed with amended Phase A at Cabinet on 13 July and Council on 14 July. Looking to accelerate the programme using a construction framework. Currently works planned on site Autumn 2022/23. We are looking to bring some early works forward into early 2022, such as play areas/public realm.

BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES	
OUR COMMITMENTS TO HEALTH – WE WILL:	
24	<b>Work with partners to develop a multi-agency Health Inequalities Improvement Plan for Renewal Estates by the end of 2021, including a pilot scheme for the Lakes Estate.</b> Four target areas and priority actions provisionally agreed with primary care – task and finish group with CCG, lead GP practice and Deputy Director of Public Health established to oversee implementation. Links to broader suite of work on the Lakes estate to engage communities and support behaviour change.
25	<b>Play a key role working to support the integration of health and social care services through the BLMK ICS.</b> Underway - Leader to continue on the ICS Partnership Board, Chief Executive on the CEO Group with active involvement by DPH and DASS. Milton Keynes Health and Social Care Alliance attended by Chief Executive and DASS focusing on development of placed based priorities.
26	<b>Support becoming a Dementia Friendly city, to improve the lives of those most in need of help and achieve Milton Keynes-wide ‘Dementia Friendly Communities’ recognition from the Alzheimer’s Society by the end of March 2022.</b>

	<p>The Council has signed a partnership agreement with the Alzheimer's Society to work together to deliver a Dementia Friendly city. A new Dementia Friendly co-ordinator has been appointed who will work with communities and organisations throughout Milton Keynes. Two workshops are being planned for November and December to encourage and develop support from Parish Councils and local business and organisations.</p>
27	<p><b>Develop a potential business case for a multi-use health and wellbeing facility in the planned MK East development as part of the £95M HIF funding.</b></p> <p>A working group has been set up to discuss and produce a short report outlining proposals to ensure the facility is optimised with a range of services delivered for local people.</p>
28	<p><b>Work with health partners to ensure proper access for all to GP, dental and mental health services, and support the expansion of MK University Hospital.</b></p> <p>Leader confirmed with Chief Executive, no CLT action.</p>
29	<p><b>Work with Public Health and partners to ensure a long-term plan for the impact of an ongoing vaccination programme and invest in local communications to ensure high levels of public awareness, vaccine uptake and workplace safety through support for employers.</b></p> <p>Continue to support NHS through Saxon Court Mass Vaccination until October 2021, convene regular multi-agency meetings, deploy the COVID-19 'Specials' team, public engagement events and communications and additional Public Health work on the issue.</p>
30	<p><b>Improve access for young people to mental health services by supporting local initiatives.</b></p> <p>We will link to the work that CNWL are leading as part of the ICP/Alliance which has improving children's mental health as one of its three priorities. We aim to reach agreement to continue to expand the joint funded posts between children's social care and CAMHS to young people on the edge of care which began last year.</p>
<b>HOUSING</b>	
31	<p><b>Ban poor quality office conversions in CMK.</b></p> <p>The CMK Article Four Direction expires on the 31 July 2022, so work is being progressed on a new Article 4 Direction to come into effect post-July 2022. The new Article 4 Direction removing permitted development rights to convert office floorspace to residential use in part of CMK has been approved at Delegated Decision and is out for public consultation until 29 October.</p>
32	<p><b>Progress Plan:MK2 as a new Local Plan that focusses on affordable homes for local families, sustainable growth, proper infrastructure and tackling climate change.</b></p> <p>To engage with Councillors and stakeholders through the Cabinet Advisory Group in order to agree the areas of focus for the new local plan, including how we engage a wide range of informed contributors.</p>
33	<p><b>Oppose the government Planning White Paper which removes a proper say for local communities in final planning decisions.</b></p> <p>Response submitted to White Paper in June 2020. Councillor Crook's full council motion has taken place. Awaiting publication of responses to the White Paper and clarification of how government intends to take forward reforms to the planning system.</p>

34	<p><b>Continue to deliver 500 new council homes and publish a pipeline and timetable for doing so by February 2021.</b></p> <p>By the end of the 22/23 financial year we plan to be on site on over 200 new homes, including 66 on the former Cripps Lodge site. We have planning permission granted on three of the pipeline schemes with several also still progressing. These will follow our updated due diligence processes and value for money checks. In addition, we have a wider pipeline of opportunities of over 300 new homes, which will be balanced against our HRA account headroom/priorities and opportunities for external funding. Phase A of The Lakes will deliver 202 new homes and Fullers Slade will likely deliver between 50 and 150 new homes on infill sites, subject to the approved business case and feasibility studies. The 2022/23 delivery programme will be confirmed by the end of October 2021. The overall pipeline will be part of the refreshed business plan process, and in turn will be annexed to the Budget Report in February 2022. Plans are also being developed on what can be brought forward in place of Mellish Court and The Gables.</p>
35	<p><b>Use our new council owned development company to help develop a carbon neutral new community on land at Tickford Farm that contains at least 275 genuinely affordable homes for local families, with a development partner confirmed by Q1 2022.</b></p> <p>Procuring a development partner to deliver 928 homes at Tickford. Due to finalise this in February 2022. The developer will bring carbon neutral homes proposals, in particular for the 31% affordable to be retained by the LHC. These plans will then be developed for planning and then mobilisation, targeting start on site for September 2022.</p>
36	<p><b>Introduce a private landlord scheme by December 2021 to promote and reward best practice in the private sector and get tough with the worst.</b></p> <p>Proposal developed with National Residential Landlords Association (NRLA). Accreditation Scheme to launch in December 2021 to promote and reward best practice. Enforcement action undertaken by Private Sector Team and Supply and Acquisitions Team.</p>
37	<p><b>Continue to improve support to homeless people, those in danger of homelessness and improve follow-on support and accommodation by December 2021.</b></p> <p>Crisis accommodation for 19 rough sleepers and people presenting as homeless planned to be provided from November 2021. Operational procedures being developed with Winter Night Shelter and MK Homelessness Partnership. Plan to open late November 2021.</p>
38	<p><b>Improve the council homes repairs and maintenance service by working with our contractor to agree a set of clear and meaningful KPIs on performance and delivery by September and communicate them to tenants.</b></p> <p>Bring together a report for Cabinet approval in September. KPI work will be communicated through the new housing newsletter. Revised KPI's agreed, including reduced works times and backlog monitoring, as well as service enhancements agreed. Communication plan to be developed, perhaps linking to the new Local Offer document and/or updated and broader resident engagement forums.</p>
<b>LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>	
39	<p><b>Demolish Mellish Court and the Gables by the end of 2021 and develop options for future of the site that includes replacement council homes.</b></p>

	Both the Gables and Mellish Court will have no residents in them from 4 November 2021. We are also working to bring this forward if we can. This is a significant achievement. Bucks Fire plan to conduct fire drill exercises in the empty blocks. Phone masts may delay the demolition to March/April 2022; the conversations are positive, but the legal process takes time. Architects underway in considering potential options, which will then need to be modelled and assessed.
40	<b>Work with the Woughton Parish Council to open a library facility in the Woughton ward by March 2022.</b> Options paper including the identification of a potential new site and costings for works and running costs is being finalised. If agreed with stakeholders, works can progress towards March 2022 opening.
41	<b>Complete work to improve Galley Hill Community Centre.</b> Procurement exercise underway alongside extensive engagement with the Town Council. The Town Council wish to alter the space but that is not currently within the budget. We plan to start works in March 2022.
42	<b>Bring forward a report to the July 2021 Cabinet to introduce a new "MK Way," that uses council procurement and works with partners to deliver and capture local community improvements and social value. NB: MK Way is now called More for MK.</b> Report was brought to Cabinet in July 2021. Procurement team will be taking the actions forward. Annual report to be included in the budget.
43	<b>Work with partners to develop a business case for a new Milton Keynes Justice Centre that can house a Crown Court.</b> Stakeholder group chaired meeting regularly. Includes judiciary, HMCTS, police and MKDP. Project manager in place. Aim is an outline business case in November 2021 to feed into Council budget process.
44	<b>Review our Domestic Abuse services with our partners, including TVP, to ensure they are effective, and victims can remain safely in their own homes.</b> Cabinet received a report in September detailing how we are tackling domestic abuse in MK. The Partnership is monitoring the delivery of the domestic abuse strategy. A wide-ranging media campaign is continuing to raise awareness and the support available through our partners.

<b>TACKLING CHILD POVERTY AND SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE</b>	
<b>OUR COMMITMENTS ON TACKLING CHILD POVERTY – WE WILL:</b>	
45	<b>Continue our goal of reducing child poverty by 20% by 2025, turning the report of the Child Poverty Commission into positive action.</b> We will be running a £1M government funded Holiday Activities and Food programme in 2021 (there are c8,600 children on FSM) which we can report on, as well as actions 46 and 47.

46	<p><b>Provide real practical support to tackle inequality and poverty directly and through our relationships with community groups, for example through the development of five new community larders.</b></p> <p>Develop our partnership with Milton Keynes Foodbank, looking to build a new 'charity hub' facility in Milton Keynes.</p>
47	<p><b>Introduce a pilot deposit scheme for childcare for people on low incomes.</b></p> <p>Childcare support scheme will be launched in October 2021 to support eligible families to access childcare provision. A fact sheet and eligibility form has been developed in partnership with Children's Centres where the scheme will be launched and administered.</p>
48	<p><b>Introduce a modern youth service focussed on prevention by working with partners across the city.</b></p> <p>Pilot a prevention-focused universal youth service offer between September/October 2021 and July 2022 on one estate in Milton Keynes (Probably Fullers Slade) bringing together a small youth work and advice team to deliver detached youth work and some centre based and school-based services.</p>
<b>OUR COMMITMENTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE – WE WILL:</b>	
49	<p><b>Ensure a good local school place for every child, ensuring adequate provision as the city grows with appropriate levels of Special Educational Needs provision.</b></p> <p>We will have some of the regular events/achievements to report on - offer day data and new school/expansions to report on throughout the year. SEND provision is expanding as a result of a Manor Road/Walnuts 'capital swap' scheme.</p>
50	<p><b>Deliver a Summer of Play with a programme of fun activities for children and young people in MK and support catch-up clubs, to help children and young people catch up with learning and social skills.</b></p> <p>Summer of Play delivered - 20,000 sessions over August, including over 12,000 sessions for children and young people eligible for free school meals, and very positive feedback from both children and parents.</p>
51	<p><b>Set a goal for every school in MK to be rated 'good' or 'outstanding' by 2024, oppose selective education and continue fighting for a good comprehensive education for all children.</b></p> <p>Full graded inspections will return from September 2021 which we can report on. Revised School Improvement Framework will be published in September 2021. Considering a school standards event in early 2022.</p>
52	<p><b>Prioritise support for looked after children and care leavers and continue our work to increase the number of MK foster carers and adoptive parents.</b></p> <p>We continue to support our Children in Care and Care Leavers by maintaining regular contact and visits. Annual assessments are undertaken to determine changing needs of our Corporate Children and Care Plans are reviewed by our IRO service every 6 months. We continue to work with our Fostering Service to improve recruitment of carers but are very aware that this will take time as assessment carers from first to final stage to approval can take 6 months. We continue to recruit adopters and 18 Children have been adopted to date.</p>

53	<p><b>Introduce a rent deposit scheme for young adults leaving care and supply a bond to enable some care leavers to attempt a move into the property market.</b></p> <p>The Deposit and Mortgage Scheme will be launched during Care Leavers week on 25 October 2021. Personal Advisors and Comms will be promoting the scheme and applications will be consider until January 2022.</p>
54	<p><b>Reduce knife crime with an early year's prevention scheme.</b></p> <p>Tasking Board will review via MK Together the additional 250k invested in knife crime prevention. Senior YOT Officer overseeing volunteer mentoring scheme for young people at risk of knife crime. An additional Speech and Language therapist's time (2 days per week) is being recruited to supplement work in partnership with Primary and Secondary Schools. Outreach Youth Work provision being delivered by Redeeming Our Communities (ROC). Early Intervention Music Groups delivered by MK Council Participation and Engagement Team on Fuller Slade and Beanhill. Restorative Justice Responders in Schools operating in all Secondary and Primary Schools. Primary Mental Health Worker being recruited to support the Missing and Exploitation Hub. This is in addition to the previous additional 100k invested which has funded schemes including Hazard Alley, Beacon Angling Lake, MK Gallery parkour scheme and SOFEA.</p>

ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE	
OUR COMMITMENTS TO REDUCE CARBON - WE WILL:	
55	<p><b>Produce a Heating Decarbonisation Strategy for Milton Keynes, reflecting the likely phasing out of gas boilers, to support potential funding bids to government and support our 2030 carbon zero target.</b></p> <p>In progress with Local Partnerships. To be reported to Cabinet in January 2022 as part of the Sustainability Strategy Action Plan.</p>
56	<p><b>Bring forward a Green Homes Investment Plan to improve the energy efficiency of council homes by February 2022 and investigate ways to assist private homeowners to install energy efficiency measures.</b></p> <p>Plan is being pulled together in partnership with Local Partnerships, Engie and Mears. This will form part of the Sustainability Strategy Action Plan going to Cabinet in January 2022. Plan in progress and potential solution to help private homeowners is in development as part of a Local Authority consortium offer being delivered through E.On.</p>
57	<p><b>Open our first all-through, zero carbon school 'Glebe Farm' in Autumn 2022 and look for other opportunities for all-through schools' investment.</b></p> <p>Construction work at the site remains on programme, completion planned June 2022, this is progressing well.</p>
58	<p><b>Review our response to the Christmas 2020 flooding and work to reduce flooding and improve water management.</b></p> <p>A number of investments have been made - £50K for Flood Officer (already recruited). £25K for community led flood plans and comms. £100K for 'quick win' local scheme programme - a dedicated landscaping ditch and maintenance programme to be delivered. £100K for feasibility work to unlock EA funding. £100K for gulley cleaning (hire of a gulley cleaning</p>

	<p>machine and crew for a year). Section 21 reports have been concluded; five core recommendations made for delivery. Reports scrutinized to Strategic Placemaking. Further minor works and project development activities to be undertaken arising from recommendations, including setting up Flood Mitigation Capital Programme.</p>
<p><b>INCREASE BIODIVERSITY</b></p>	
<p><b>59</b></p>	<p><b>Create five new local wildlife havens by identifying possible areas that would encourage biodiversity and wildlife to thrive through creating optimal conditions.</b></p> <p>We have identified five distinct small areas in urban settings that are currently undesignated. New Bradwell Sept 2021 - complete, Grafton Park Nov 2021, Railway Walk - Jan 22 - two remaining sites currently being identified.</p>
<p><b>60</b></p>	<p><b>Celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 by joining the Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) tree planting and replacement initiative.</b></p> <p>£25K of funding has been allocated to plant around 50 trees. Tree planting season is September to March. Dedicated Tree Action Plan developed for 21/22. This includes a) Forest Commission Grant project with Parishes. b) Station Square trees. c) Secklow Mound Circle of Fruit Trees. Delivery dates to be confirmed.</p>
<p><b>61</b></p>	<p><b>Create new wildflower reserves and promote greener land management by developing a policy document for complete environmental management across the grid roads.</b></p> <p>We are producing 'policy' document in partnership with Parks Trust by December 2021. Meanwhile we're planting up grid road corridors with flowering wildflowers. Maps and signage have been composed - currently being signed off by a Cabinet Member. Areas have been identified for wildflower seeding during 2021 to start flowering spring/summer 2022. Different seed packs will be used for different areas (flowers) and an accompanying map will reflect this.</p>
<p><b>62</b></p>	<p><b>Ensure the provision of a new country park in the MK East planning application.</b></p> <p>The major planning application for the MK East site contains proposals for 'a new linear park along the River Ouzel corridor'. Discussions over the details of the 'country park' are ongoing and including The Parks Trust who it is hoped will adopt and manage the completed park area.</p>
<p><b>SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT</b></p>	
<p><b>63</b></p>	<p><b>Support the delivery of a fully electrified East-West Rail and continue to promote better connectivity and infrastructure across the Oxford-Milton Keynes-Cambridge Arc.</b></p> <p>Council response to recent non statutory public consultation on East West Rail submitted 9 June 2021; pushes for electrification of the line. Ongoing: Oxford to M1 connectivity study commissioned by England's Economic Heartland.</p>
<p><b>64</b></p>	<p><b>Continue to improve the innovative MK Connect, our demand responsive transport service.</b></p> <p>Weekly operational and monthly contract meetings are held with the supplier (Via) to review performance and address performance issues. Via are expanding the team within Milton Keynes, bringing in additional support and experience and recruiting a dedicated on-site field manager based in Milton Keynes to manage localised issues at their cost. We publish</p>

	performance data monthly on our website and our KPI's are being added to the quarterly scrutiny meetings.
65	<p><b>Provide additional safe bike storage spaces across the city.</b></p> <p>Expect to deliver around 40 new/improved cycle parking spaces. Expect to have identified locations and cycle storage product by November, but Central Milton Keynes will be the focus following stakeholder feedback on need. Implementation complete by March.</p>
66	<p><b>Continue to support the development of a Mass Rapid Transport system in Milton Keynes.</b></p> <p>Technical Advisor to the MRT Project Board has been appointed, and we are about to tender for work on an MRT Strategic Outline Business Case for production by August 2022. Meanwhile, submit an outline bid to government to fund up to 75% of a move to a fully zero emission bus fleet ZEBRA (zero emission bus regional areas) and submission of the bid in August 2021. If our bid is successful (decision expected mid-October) a decision to proceed with the all-electric bus initiative will be needed no later than December 2021.</p>
67	<p><b>Increase the number of electric car charging points across Milton Keynes and submit funding bids to government.</b></p> <p>Government have supported a bid to fund a £1.1M programme (75% funded by Govt and 25% by delivery partner Connected Kerb) to deploy at-scale on street charging infrastructure for areas where homes do not have access to a driveway. This will deliver 250 charging installations in 30 areas across Milton Keynes (mainly older towns). The project is in start-up phase with emphasis on developing communications plan and delivery programme following acceptance into MKC capital programme.</p>
68	<p><b>Introduce five new Low Traffic School Safety Zones, by working with local communities to improve road safety and air quality around schools.</b></p> <p>Five temporary Low Traffic School Safety Zone pilots will be delivered outside different schools in the borough. Ward member school suggestions received. Expect to have selected schools and confirmed delivery method by late October. School and local community engagement to follow, alongside the necessary Traffic Regulation Order applications. Pilots expected to commence by February 2022. Monitoring data will be collected and a final report will be produced on the project outlining the work undertaken, impact, lessons learnt and outlook for extending initiative to other schools and more permanent implementation.</p>