

## **Danesborough Snippets for Little Brickhill in February 2023**

**Cllr David Hopkins / Cllr Victoria Hopkins / Cllr Alice Jenkins**

### **Special bulletin**



#### **What is MK City Council doing to reduce fly tipping?**

People who dump rubbish can be fined or jailed. Not only is unsightly, but it's a threat to our local wildlife too. In recent years, we've successfully prosecuted more than 30 people for fly tipping, resulting in fines of more than £25,000. Offenders can face prison sentences of up to 5 years or fines up to £50,000 for crimes like these.

Our Fly Tipping Action Plan <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-03/Fly-Tipping%20Action%20Plan%20PAA.pdf> clearly sets out what we will do in the months and years ahead to support and work with residents, businesses, partners, and communities to tackle fly-tipping. We know where the hot spots in MK are, and we use CCTV to tackle environmental crime. Council vehicles are fitted with dash cams which means we can catch people littering out of their cars and other anti-social behaviour.

We also issue fly tipping information leaflets to properties near to fly tipping hot spots. <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-10/M19226%20ECU%20-%20Flytipping%20leaflet%20Oct%202022.pdf>



**Waste collection company Suez awarded contract as Milton Keynes prepares to welcome wheelie bins**

Milton Keynes City Council has awarded a new contract to SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK Ltd to collect MK's waste, keep streets clean, and maintain council owned green spaces and



play areas.

<https://www.suez.co.uk/en-gb/news/press-releases/230119-suez-recycling-and-recovery-uk-named-new-contractor-for-milton-keynes-city-council-waste-and-environmental-services>

The contract starts in September 2023 alongside the vast majority of Milton Keynes 119,000 households moving to wheelie bins, following a public consultation where three quarters of those local people who responded chose wheelie bins over plastic sacks.

Introducing wheelie bins should lead to less street litter, a reduced food supply for rodents and, importantly, higher recycling rates, which will be better for the environment and saves on the production of millions of plastic sacks, the City Council says.

Milton Keynes produces around 121,000 tonnes of household waste and recycling each year, of which 52% is currently recycled.

More than 300,000 bins and accompanying waste vehicles will be manufactured and delivered to MK for summer 2023 in a massive logistical operation.

Many of the new waste and landscaping vehicles will be fully electric to reduce local carbon emissions, and the CCTV equipped fleet will include smaller and narrower vehicles, enabling SUEZ collection crews to 'pick up waste more effectively'.

Following an extensive formal tender process by the City Council, SUEZ has been appointed on a five-year contract, with the opportunity to extend the contract further.

The City Council is taking sample wheelie bins to a range of community spaces and libraries in the weeks ahead to meet residents who would like to learn more about the upcoming changes and examine the wheelie bins in person.

## DRAFT NEW CITY PLAN AMBITION & OBJECTIVES

The New City Plan needs to contain a positive ambition and set of objectives to provide a focus to the plan and shape the spatial strategy and policies that will guide growth of the city to 2050. The draft ambition and objectives reflect the ambitions and recommendations set out within the Strategy for 2050.

The consultation document and further information on this consultation can be accessed on our website at: <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/new-city-plan>

## SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL SCOPING REPORT

The New City Plan will be informed throughout its preparation by a Sustainability Appraisal. This will assess the relevant economic, social and environmental objectives. The Scoping Report identifies the scope and level of detail of information to be included in the Sustainability Appraisal.

The consultation document and further information on this consultation can be accessed on our website at: <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/new-city-plan>



## Proposals for a locally-led partnership for the Oxford to Cambridge region have been given the green light by the government.

The partnership's role will be to champion the region as a world leader of innovation and business, acting to achieve environmentally sustainable and inclusive growth. It will strengthen the cross-boundary collaboration among its partners to focus on tackling the issues that matter to the people who live and work in the region.

The partnership's initial programme is to:

develop a set of propositions to attract international investment and profile the region on a global stage continue the work underway to embed shared environment principles.

Following the official commitment from the government, the partnership will begin active recruitment of an independent Chair. In the interim, a Shadow Board has been set up to oversee the Partnership's programme and agree governance and funding.

The partnership will have a board which oversees its work and operations. This will include representation from:

- an independent Chair
- one Chair from each of the member Growth Boards or equivalent, plus one additional co-chair representing the Central Area Growth Board
- one Chair representing the partnership's programme sub-groups: currently environment and economy
- one Chair from each of the main constituent stakeholder groups, one representing local enterprise partnerships, one representing the Arc Universities Group and, one representing England's Economic Heartland
- two non-executive directors, following recruitment

#### **FINALLY .....**

**A brand new roundabout has opened in Milton Keynes following 8 months of work.**

Walton Drive Roundabout on the H9 Groveway, at the junction with Walton Drive, has officially opened (18 January).

The roundabout, which took 33 weeks to complete was set to open on December 23rd but was delayed due to a cabling fault. Milton Keynes City Council said 'a major cabling fault affecting the power supply has been discovered by National Grid' and the fault affected the streetlights around the new roundabout on the H9 Groveway.

The area remained closed while repair work took place.

The City Council has now announced that the roundabout officially opened on 18 January 2023

The brand new roundabout has been installed on the H9 Groveway, at the junction with Walton Drive to accommodate the new housing development site 'Walton Manor', with work starting back in May.



Milton Keynes Development Partnership (MKDP), who own the Walton Manor site, commissioned MK Council to design and implement the scheme to help traffic flow and reduce congestion from the housing development which will provide 174 new homes.

Works included the diversion of six major power supply cables by Western Power Distribution which is being coordinated into the scheme.

A main gas pipe was also located underground so for safety reasons, no mechanical diggers could be used, and the area around it has to be completely hand dug.

**The Rail Minister has said he will work with Milton Keynes MP to 'ensure' that residents have access to the Marston Vale service following its temporary suspension.**

On December 1st, it was announced that the Marston Vale line was being temporarily suspended until further notice.

The news followed confirmation that Vivarail had entered administration.

"Without the guarantee of effective maintenance cover for the fleet London Northwestern Railway have been left with no option but to temporarily suspend the service whilst a solution is found.

"A full rail replacement bus service (all stations and limited stop) will be provided in the meantime. All vehicles are accessible," Marston Vale Community Partnership explained.

The line runs from Bletchley to Bedford.

Iain Stewart MP has met with the Marston Vale Community Rail Partnership (MVCRP), the Chair of Bedford – Bletchley Rail Users' Association (BBRUA) as well as Councillors from Woburn Sands Town Council regarding the current suspension of the Marston Vale Line between Bletchley and Bedford.



The MP for Milton Keynes South discussed issues regarding the suspension and has written to Huw Merriman MP, Minister of State (Rail and HS2), to raise a number of concerns and queries.

'As you know, the main cause of the suspension of the Marston Vale Line is not having the team to maintain and service the rolling stock due to the administration of Vivarail. However, as I understand it, some of the engineers that worked on the Marston Vale Line rolling stock were contractors through an agency and not directly employed by Vivarail,' the MP wrote.

'Whilst I am sure some of them will have sought alternative employment, I am certain there are some still job-searching. To that end, I wondered if there is a possibility for them to be re. hired directly by London Northwestern Railway (LNWR) or Network Rail? By having some of these engineers employed, the line should be able to function in some capacity because they would be on hand to ensure sufficient maintenance of the trains, satisfying the necessary safety regulations needed to operate.'

Yesterday (20 January) at Transport Questions, Iain Stewart MP asked the Rail Minister for 'his assurance' that he is doing everything he can to ensure the earliest possible reinstatement of the Marston Vale Line.

The Rail Minister responded: "It is an incredibly sad situation to see Vivarail who were pursuing good and innovative technology have to go into administration. I am really keen to work with him (Iain Stewart MP) to ensure that West Midlands Railway puts on a service as soon as possible. Together, we will look into whether contractors can contract into West Midlands Railway and whether those contractors have the skills are needed.

"I will work with him in partnership to ensure that his constituents have this service back up and running."



Ward councillor/Parish Council wheelie bin walkabouts – If you had not had one of these take place in your area, do please make contact to get one booked in. They have proved to be very useful.

Public facing Bins on Tour events – There have been a large number that have taken place already and we are quite booked up over the next couple of months. To avoid disappointment, book early for any forthcoming opportunities/events on the horizon.

Please find attached the presentation we used in the information sessions that took place last night and this morning. Also attached for your use and information is the latest version of the information leaflet that we are sharing at public events.

If you would like to receive hard copies of these leaflets, please email into [yourwaste@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:yourwaste@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

We will be making the leaflet available to you soon within a jpeg format for ease of use on social media channels and parish websites and we will provide some text for use in the latest round of parish newsletters.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend, ask questions and provide feedback and suggestions on what could be done better – This will be reviewed and taken onboard where

possible. Many of the answers to the questions can be found on the frequently asked questions section of the website here [Frequently asked questions](#)

If you were not able attend and do still have outstanding questions, you can make direct contact, or use the website – there is a lot of information on there.

Penny Fletcher - Community Engagement Manager

To speak with me: use Microsoft Teams or 07717 156040

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[www.milton-keynes.gov.uk](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk)



### **MKC 2023/24 - Budget Summary**

Milton Keynes City Council is there to serve and support our residents and businesses. The past couple of years have been very difficult, and now with rising prices, increasing energy bills and higher inflation, the next few years will be even harder for hardworking families, those on fixed incomes and for our economy.

We are therefore proposing a budget that ensures the council is on your side in these tough times, with three key themes:

1. Support for local people in tough times.
2. Investing in our local economy to ensure good jobs and secure employment.
3. Providing value for money, cutting waste not services.

#### **Our challenges**

Milton Keynes City Council has faced our own challenges for over a decade now, with reduced funding from central government and higher demand for services such as adult social care and child protection meaning we've had to make over £200m in cuts since 2010. We now also face the problems that you face – such as higher energy costs and inflation – meaning that over the next few years our budget will be squeezed even further. Next year Milton Keynes Council needs to make £11m in savings in order to balance our budget, with more to be found in 2024/25.

#### **Tough choices**

Unless we take action now, the level of savings required to pay to just maintain our statutory services such as social care will mean the council would have to make massive cuts to services such as charging for green waste, closing libraries and our children's centres and

reducing the standards of services we provide, such as highways repairs, to balance the books.  
Most other councils have already had to make these cuts, and it's getting harder and harder to avoid making them here unless we make some tough choices.

#### **Cutting waste not services**

We will always make sure that before we look at cutting frontline services, we get value for money from the council tax you pay us. That is why we are:

- Reducing the number of managers we employ to reduce costs;
- Making our services more efficient and reducing the number of staff we employ;
- Using our reserves to invest in new technologies to reduce our running costs.

We've made over half the savings we've needed by doing this.

#### **Our council tax**

Milton Keynes has the lowest council tax in the region, saving you on average over £200 compared to our neighbouring authorities, while still providing higher levels of services.

In order to meet the funding challenges facing local authorities, the government has allowed councils to increase council tax by up to 5% in each of the next two years.

We have taken the difficult decision that in order to ensure our financial stability we will increase council tax by the 5% the government allows, which includes a 3% rise in general council tax and a 2% precept for adult social care.

We will also be increasing some fees and charges we make for services the council provides in line with inflation to meet the rising costs of providing them.

#### **Supporting people in tough times**

Looking after our finances properly and taking difficult decisions means that while other councils are making cuts, we will be able to use some funding to ease the pressure on hardworking families and those hardest hit by the cost-of-living crisis. The budget therefore proposes:

- Support for those on the lowest incomes with an additional £500k.
- Help for working families introducing an Emergency Mortgage Interest Relief Scheme.
- Funding for local parishes, town councils and communities to support local residents.

#### **Keeping our local economy strong**

A strong, innovative and resilient economy that ensures well-paid jobs is vital to the future success of Milton Keynes. Milton Keynes City Council is therefore proposing to target support to our local businesses and entrepreneurs to make sure we retain jobs and help those who need support to find a new job by:

- Providing targeted support to keep our local high streets vibrant.
- Investing to attract new businesses to Milton Keynes and retain our major employers.
- Extending our support services that promote local start-ups and retrain those who need to find new employment.

#### **Investing in our communities**

We want to invest in services that reduce future costs and improves the lives of our residents at the same time. The budget therefore proposes:

- More funding for improving the maintenance of footpaths;
- Provide council funding for a new radiology unit at MK Hospital to reduce waiting



times and allow more cancer treatment to take place locally;

- Additional investment in improving access to children's mental health support.

#### **Protecting essential services**

We will continue to do the essentials well and therefore:

- We will maintain weekly bin collections, roll out wheelie bins and continue to not charge for garden waste.
- We will continue to tackle fly-tipping and litter by maintaining our litter warden service.
- We are not proposing any closures of libraries or children's centres

**23 January 2023**

**Plans for a locally-led economic partnership for the Oxford to Cambridge "corridor" have been approved by the government.**



A pan-regional partnership (PRP) aims to boost investment in the area.

The Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Michael Gove, said having a "strong regional brand" meant the area could compete for "investment on the global stage".

The PRP said it believed that by working together the area could be "greater than the sum of its parts".

Pan-regional partnerships, external are described as those which co-ordinate collaboration between local authorities and the government to develop economic and infrastructure strategy.

The Oxford to Cambridge PRP covers Bedfordshire, Milton Keynes, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire and parts of Oxfordshire - an area which has a population of about 3.5 million people.

In a joint statement, the member authorities said the partnership's role would be to "champion the region as a world leader of innovation and business" and "achieve environmentally sustainable and inclusive growth".

It said it would also "strengthen cross-boundary collaboration" to tackle issues that matter to residents.

In recent years, the government had proposed to develop an economic zone, recognised as one of national importance, known as the Oxford to Cambridge Arc, which it claimed would double the size of the local economy.

A consultation was launched but it was thought that it was too government-led and local collaboration would be more effective.

A spokeswoman for the new partnership said local organisations know what they need to deliver and that the government just needs to give them the tools to collaborate and provide them with funds to invest in projects.

'Strong regional brand'

Mr Gove's endorsement follows a proposal submitted by leaders from local councils, local enterprise partnerships, the Arc Universities Group and the area's transport body, England's Economic Heartland, external.

His backing unlocks access to up to £2.5m in government funding to support the PRP's priorities.

In a letter, Mr Gove said he recognised that "realising the region's economic potential will be supported by a strong regional brand that can compete for investment on the global stage".

"I believe the partnership will be well-placed to shape and deliver on the economic vision for the region," he said.

The new partnership will not affect projects such as the East West Rail Link, being developed by the East-West Rail Company, a PRP spokeswoman said.

"If anything, it will strengthen it," she said.

"From an economic perspective, leaders have been calling for greater connectivity across the whole area.

"It remains a piece of important strategic infrastructure and it is still backed by local leaders."

**'Globally recognised'**

The PRP's shadow board chairman, Conservative councillor Barry Wood, who is also leader of Cherwell District Council in Oxfordshire, said: "We believe that by working together the whole Oxford to Cambridge region can be greater than the sum of its parts."

"With official status as a pan-regional partnership backed by government, we can unlock potential and further strengthen our area's position as a hub of innovation... a globally recognised region of science and technology that delivers prosperity."

Councillor Richard Wenham, Conservative leader of Central Bedfordshire Council and a shadow board member, said it had "ambitious and bold plans" to deliver "jobs, growth and prosperity".

Leader of South Cambridgeshire District Council, Liberal Democrat councillor Bridget Smith, said: "Councils are always more effective when they work together and with government to solve the big and difficult problems."

**The Stop The Arc campaign group (STARC)**, which has been campaigning against the "scale of development" between Oxford and Cambridge, said the Arc was "not an economic reality" and the area being considered in the new partnership had "shrunk".

Nick Burton, STARC spokesman, said: "People are still trying to prop up the idea of this economic area and you have to ask yourself why."

"The only people who still support it are developers who want to build houses and universities because they own much of the land and want people to build on it."

"We would like to see the removal of the PRP because it has no value and we doubt it will achieve anything."

"We need a sensible way of developing Oxford and Cambridge but not the bit in between."

Increased government support for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc renews the threat to five counties, says Stop The Arc action group.

In spite of saying that ambitions for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc have been overstated, the government has increased its funding support for the Oxford-to-Cambridge Pan Regional Partnership (PRP), the new name for the Arc Leadership Group. Following confirmation of £250,000 funding last October, the PRP has now been awarded no less than £2.5m. It is seeking overseas investment to strengthen the area's position as a hub of innovation with, as a board member claims, 'ambitious and bold plans' to 'deliver growth and prosperity'. To many, this means a return to the 1 million new houses ambition previously promoted by the original Arc Leadership Group.

Last year, Secretary of State for the DLUHC withdrew support for the Arc plans, in particular the ribbon development between Oxford and Cambridge. The Arc Leadership Group lost a number of councils, reducing the five counties to two and two halves, followed by the departure of its Chief Executive. The Group admitted its messages on housing numbers and the environment had not been accepted by the public, and it withheld the findings of a major public consultation that it admitted showed significant opposition.

The ten-fold increase in funding for the Pan-Regional Partnership marks a significant threat, says Stop The Arc Group. 'It's a wake-up call to the five counties,' says Nick Burton of STARC. 'The Pan -Regional Partnership only represents disconnected parts of the region. One third of its members have walked away from the grandiose scheme. The Partnership has no terms of reference. It meets in secret. It has no actual proposals for economic development. It has declared some 'environmental principles' which have amounted to nothing more than greenwashing, and to which not a single council in the region has ever required a planning application to comply.'

Charles Pither, Chair of STARC said, 'The Pan-Regional Partnership doesn't represent the views of the five counties it proposes to build over. It speaks for the developers, the landowners - in particular the universities - and potential foreign investors. By pursuing government support for their self-interested proposals, they see a route to big profits - in unneeded bricks and concrete.'

Pither says residents of the five counties should be seriously concerned, because the Partnership has no real interest or ability in terms of planning. 'Intentions for a spatial framework to underpin Arc plans were abandoned by the government in 2022. Yet the shrinking Arc supporters plough on, on a seemingly ad hoc basis. The Bedford-Cambridge extension of East-West is the Pan-Regional Partnership's poster child, and they've persuaded government to support it. But after years of discussion, the rail link still has no business case, no agreed route, and no plans for electrification. All that's known is that it won't serve any of the areas around Cambridge earmarked for new development. If this is the payback for the millions poured into the Arc Leadership Group to date, the £2.5 million promised to the Pan-Regional Partnership looks very much like good money after bad.'

STARC notes that, despite claims of inclusivity and the pursuit of environmental enhancements, the Partnership's list of stakeholders excludes wildlife trusts, environmental organisations and planning alliances.



**Community Fund in 2023.**

Matthew Barber, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), has today (16/1) opened the first of two application rounds to his Community Fund in 2023.

The Community Fund, jointly managed by the PCC and the Chief Constable, helps to prevent crime and keep communities safe. Money for the scheme is created from the proceeds from the sale of items seized from criminals that cannot be returned to their rightful owners.

Matthew said: "I'm pleased to announce the first round of this year's Community Fund is now open for applications. This is a great opportunity to support community and voluntary groups in reducing crime.

"We're fortunate to have such an active community across the Thames Valley, playing a significant role in helping to tackle local issues around crime prevention and supporting vulnerable groups.

"I have been fortunate to visit some of the groups we've supported in the past, who have benefited from the funding provided to support their communities and help prevent crime across the Thames Valley.

"I look forward to receiving applications which focus on a range of areas within my Police and Criminal Justice Plan including crime prevention, modern crimes such as cybercrime and fraud, and reducing re-offending."

Organisations from across the Thames Valley can apply for grants for projects that support one or more of the PCC's 'Police and Criminal Justice Plan' priorities:

- Strong Local Policing (preventing crime & protecting communities)
- Fighting Serious Organised Crime (protecting vulnerable people)
- Fighting Fraud & Cybercrime (fighting modern crimes)
- Improving the Criminal Justice System (reducing re-offending)
- Tackling illegal encampments (reducing the impact of encampments)

Chief Constable John Campbell, said: "Using money generated from the sale of items seized from criminals that cannot be returned to their rightful owners is a great way of funding worthy projects and other work across the Thames Valley.

"This funding will play a big part in helping voluntary and community groups across the Thames Valley. It will allow them to continue to run projects that play such a big role in preventing crime and protecting our communities.

"As ever, we are particularly keen to receive bids for this money from organisations that support our priority areas."

The closing date for this round of applications is 4pm on Monday 6th February and applications will be considered jointly by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and the Chief Constable. Successful applicants will be invited to attend a presentation event, hosted by the Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable, on Thursday 30 March in Reading.

Further information, including a link to the application form, can be found at: [www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/community-fund](http://www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/community-fund) .



### Stopping financial scammers

MKCC is partnering with Thames Valley Police on a new initiative called Operation Intercept to tackle offenders who exploit vulnerable people for their money.

Sadly, organised networks prey on vulnerable people, befriending their victims and gaining trust before taking their money. Things to look out for include: drug activity, persistent visitors to an address, unexplained injuries and money going missing, among others.

We've already had some good success rooting out repeat offenders, convicting two people just last month who were targeting elderly victims and took £1,800 a month from one person's bank account – they would have lost their home if we hadn't stepped in. Well done to our Anti-Social Behaviour team for their work on this.

Anyone can report suspicions of abuse to us at [ASB@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:ASB@milton-keynes.gov.uk) or 01908 691691, quoting Operation Intercept.

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**The stock of dwellings in Milton Keynes stands at 122,227: 104,378 in the city and 17,849 in the rural area.**

At the 1st January 2023 MK has:

- 16,832 permitted planning permissions (7,408 full permissions and 9,424 outline)
- 7,394 potential units on existing Local Plan sites
- 1977 windfall sites waiting for permission
- 26,203 dwellings in all.

**Milton Keynes City Council will be installing double yellow lines at some Redway crossing points. This intervention will improve visibility and safety at Redway crossing points by preventing cars from parking too close to the junctions and blocking sightlines (see document attached)**



**Upcoming strike action in schools** - One of the trade unions representing teachers has announced strike action in our region on 1 February and on 1, 15 and 16 March. Some schools will close in part or in full.



**In relation to the cause of the fire at Walnut Tree**, whilst there was lots of speculation and comments on social media, the Fire Investigator was unable to determine the exact cause. They have identified it could have been one of a number of things, however due to the extent of the damage and evidence/information available, this has been recorded as an “unconfirmed cause”. That said, based on what we do know, we are certain it didn’t start in the Nursery and there is no information or evidence to indicate that there is anything else the staff could have done differently both in terms of prevention activities prior to, and evacuation of the site once the fire had been discovered.

**YiS Young People's Mental Health Charity** is seeking vital funds to support the mental health and wellbeing of young people and those who care for them in Milton Keynes.  
Evidence of need:

YiS provides critical mental health support services to over 1500 young people and those who support them yearly. Since the pandemic, YiS have seen a 42% rise in referrals to counselling and increased demand for coaching and workshops for individuals and other agencies. YiS are seeking support to help continue providing core services such as counselling, coaching and education.

Follow YiS on our social media pages. [@yismentalhealth](#)



**Contact Points**

Kingston Roundabout Traffic Lights

Contact point at MK Council when lights go out of sequence.

Jonjo McBride [jonjo.mcbride@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:jonjo.mcbride@milton-keynes.gov.uk)



...and for landscape issues ...

Phillip Snell [Phillip.Snell@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:Phillip.Snell@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

Strategic Landscape and Countryside Manager  
To speak with me: use Microsoft Teams or 01908 253606

Milton Keynes Council | Milton Keynes Waste Recovery Park, 9 Dickens Road | Milton Keynes | MK12 5QF

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and for waste collection and upcoming changes to bin collections ...

Penny Fletcher [Penny.Fletcher@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:Penny.Fletcher@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

Community Engagement Manager  
To speak with me: use Microsoft Teams or 07717 156040  
Milton Keynes Council | Milton Keynes Waste Recovery Park, 9 Dickens Road | Milton Keynes | MK12 5QF

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If you are aware of someone who would like to apply to join the MKC Housing Register please use the following link to access the on-line application form:

<https://myhousing.milton-keynes.gov.uk>

Housing Allocations Team - T: 01908 252937 Option 4  
E: [housing.allocations@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:housing.allocations@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

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**FixMy**

Report, view, or discuss local problems - (like graffiti, fly tipping, broken paving slabs, or street lighting)

Enter a nearby UK postcode, or street name and area:  
<https://www.fixmystreet.com/>





The chief executive of East West Rail Co (EWR) has said that she will be in a position to update local communities on the chosen route in the “early part of 2023”.

In the latest EWR newsletter, CEO Beth West said that they were finalising recommendations for consideration by Government which would then allow them to formally respond to the route consultation.

Bedford residents have been critical of the length of time they’ve had to wait for confirmation of the route. Some of those living in the Poets area have had the prospect of their homes being demolished hanging over their heads since Route E – through Bedford mainline station – was selected.



Ms West wrote in the EWR newsletter: “I do recognise that people have been waiting a long time, and when I joined EWR Co in April I expected to publish an update on the project quickly.

“However, given the changes in Government over the past six months, I hope you will appreciate that progress hasn’t been entirely within my control.

“But for those people I’ve spoken to whose homes could be impacted by the railway, I know that certainty about the route choice is also critical, and the whole team here is focused on bringing that certainty as quickly as possible.

“My personal pledge as we close out the year is to work with Government and the team to publish an update as soon as possible.”

She said that “71% of local people between Oxford and Cambridge who think a new east-west public transport link is a good idea”.

#### **Business case**

One criticism of the project is that a business case has yet to be put forward by EWR.

“At this point in the process, EWR is not expected to have a full business case,” said the newsletter.

“A full business case will be submitted to Government for approval before building can start.

“We expect an early version of our business case to be shared with government around the same time as we submit the Development Consent Order (DCO) for approval, but this will not be the final version. The full business case will then be prepared post DCO, but this will not be complete for several years.”

East West Rail said they were committed to publishing information on proposals and public consultation as they collate it.

### **STOP THE ARC .....**

**The Oxford-Cambridge Arc consists of the five rural counties of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire.**

**The Stop the Arc’s campaign aims are:**

- To challenge the concept of the Arc as an economic entity or as a basis for planning
- To scrap the target of up to one million new houses by 2050
- To promote a fully electrified East West Rail for both passengers and freight, with routes decided by the affected communities
- To preserve and enhance the natural environment, and
- To involve local people in deciding their future through genuine consultation



**The current waste collection contract ends in September 2023.** This provides MK Council an opportunity to do things differently and to support the new roll out of wheeled bins for residents.

The new waste collection service goes live in Autumn 2023. Production of the new bins starts in summer 2022, with over 300,000 bins being delivered to households across the city during summer 2023.

We are tackling the climate change emergency. Currently Milton Keynes Council collects 8.5 million recycling sacks and 21 million black sacks of rubbish each year. This is not good for the environment. Wheeled bins will make a positive difference;

Cleaner – less spillage from sacks on streets  
Greener – more recycling and better quality with the separation of waste  
Safer – less injuries for residents and staff

Each property that is suitable to have wheeled bins will receive:

Dark grey bin – weekly collection for rubbish that cannot be recycled.  
Green bin – weekly collection for food and garden waste.  
Red lidded bin – for paper and card collected fortnightly.  
Blue lidded bin – for glass, plastic, aerosols and cans collected fortnightly.

MKC have been running a pilot on the use of wheeled bins across almost 3,000 properties since 2020. Evidence from these areas shows us that streets do remain cleaner. This is because rubbish is contained within bins. A multi-national public services provider reported that 45% of on-street litter was found to be caused by recycling boxes and sacks.

There is a positive impact on areas that may have a pest problem. Food sources are removed because it is contained within the wheeled bin.

We know that having wheeled bins has led to higher rates of recycling for residents.

There have been no reported injuries to the waste collection crew in the pilot area since moving to bins.

MK has committed to being cleaner, greener and safer. Moving to wheeled bins, helps to fulfil these aims.

#### **How to find out more**

We will soon be publicising details of local events where we will be taking 'Bins on Tour'. You will have the opportunity to see the bins and talk to waste experts to answer any questions you may have. Details of these sessions will be shared on the MKC Council website and publicised locally.

The Council website is being regularly updated and includes a helpful FAQ section - [CLICK HERE](#)

Some information displays will be set up in libraries for you to find more information.

Email – [customerservices@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

Customer Services – Telephone:01908 252592



# ROAD CLOSURES



All planned roadworks for MK are listed on one.network <https://one.network/>

In advance of works taking place, there should be notices to advise local residents and other road users or any closures and the dates and times. For some types of work, like resurfacing, lining or gully cleaning please do not park your vehicle in the work area.

More information for residents can be found on our Important Information for Residents Factsheet <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-09/Important%20information%20for%20residents.pdf>

For all routine repairs and maintenance requests

Includes: street light faults, potholes, damaged signs

Email the details to [customerservices@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@milton-keynes.gov.uk) or use the Report It tab on the website [www.milton-keynes.gov.uk](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk)

For safety issues e.g., traffic lights out or flooding, call 01908 252353 Mon-Fri between 9-5:15 and out of hours call 01908 226699

#### DELEGATED DECISIONS: 2023 – Decisions coming up by the Cabinet at MK Council ...

Subject of Decision & Date of Meeting	Decision Detail	Attendees
<b>Road Closure</b>		
High Street - Woburn Sands	6th February 2023 9:30am 12:30pm	<a href="https://one.network/?tm=GB132579283">https://one.network/?tm=GB132579283</a>

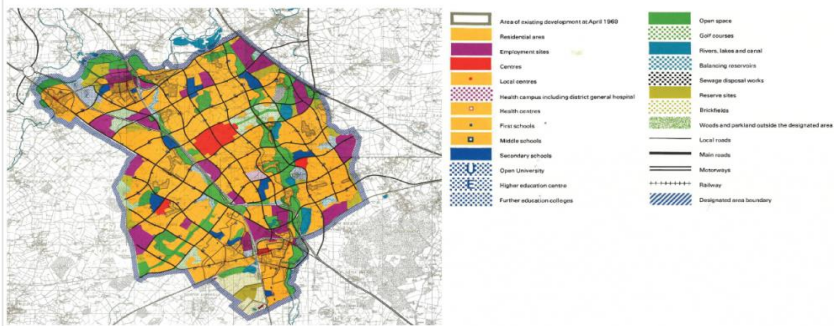
#### DELEGATED DECISIONS

Subject of Decision	31 January 2023	Sponsoring Officer and Report Author
Delegated Decision Councillor	Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan To consider adopting the Local Cycling	Paul Thomas Director - Planning and Placemaking

Wilson-Marklew (Cabinet member for Climate and Sustainability)	and Walking Infrastructure Plan	James Povey Strategic Lead - Transport Policy and Planning Tel: 07385 469725
Name of Cabinet Member Councillor Pete Marland (Leader of the Council)	ADOPTION OF PARKING STANDARDS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT	Report sponsor Paul Thomas Director - Planning and Placemaking Report author Luke Gledhill Principal Waste and Minerals Planning Officer, Development Plans <a href="mailto:Luke.Gledhill@milton-keynes.gov.uk">Luke.Gledhill@milton-keynes.gov.uk</a> 07795 475591
Name of Cabinet Member Councillor Paul Trendall (Cabinet member for Customer Services)	STREET LIGHTING LED UPGRADE PROGRAMME	Report sponsor Stuart Proffitt Director - Environment and Property Report author Graham Cox Head of Highways and Transportation <a href="mailto:Graham.cox@milton-keynes.gov.uk">Graham.cox@milton-keynes.gov.uk</a>
Name of Cabinet Member Councillor Rob Middleton Cabinet Member – Resources and Innovation Councillor Paul Trendall Cabinet Member for Customer Services	MILTON KEYNES WASTE RECOVERY PARK (MKWRP) – CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME  This Delegated Decision outlines an investment programme and an enhanced security package for Milton Keynes Waste Recovery Park (MKWRP). The Authority will continue to yield the financial benefit of the asset over the contracted term. The Delegated Decision will provide greater security of sustained service provision, contractual retention and an improved financial position for the Authority	Report sponsor Stuart Proffitt Director Environment and Property Report author Nicholas Hannon Head of Environment and Waste <a href="mailto:Nicholas.Hannon@milton-keynes.gov.uk">Nicholas.Hannon@milton-keynes.gov.uk</a> David Proctor Waste Services Client Manager <a href="mailto:David.Proctor@milton-keynes.gov.uk">David.Proctor@milton-keynes.gov.uk</a>
Name of Cabinet Member Councillor Paul Trendall (Interim Cabinet Member for Public Realm)	EXTENSION OF CLEAR CHANNEL CONTRACT  Executive summary  Following a formal tendering process in 2016, MKCC awarded a concessionary contract to Clear Channel Ltd on 8 February 2016 for	Report sponsor Stuart Proffitt Director of Public Realm Report author Graham Cox Head of Highways and Transportation <a href="mailto:Graham.Cox@milton-keynes.gov.uk">Graham.Cox@milton-keynes.gov.uk</a>

	<p>advertising on the bus shelters and freestanding digital screen units across Milton Keynes in a number of key locations.</p> <p>The initial contract was for a seven-year period with the option to extend for a further 3 years, up to a ten years (maximum) duration.</p> <p>The contract was structured in such a way as to ensure that each quarter MKCC receives a fixed amount in rental income from the agreed units and receives a further percentage of the overall revenue generated from the advertising space sold (an openbook revenue share).</p> <p>This has proved successful to date, giving a guaranteed base income (fixed rental charges) and a good, strong additional income from the revenue share.</p> <p>The initial 7-year contract period is set to end on 7 February 2023. This report seeks to recommend the activation of the permitted 3-year extension, maintaining the current model and also develop potential new locations, giving financial stability to the budgetary position of this sponsorship income.</p> <p><b>Forward Plan Cabinet – 7 February</b></p>	
<b>Council Budget 2023/24</b>	<p>To consider the Council Budget 2023/24 and the four-year Medium Term Financial Plan. Cabinet Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources)</p>	<p><b>Officer Report and Annexes</b> None Steve Richardson Director - Finance and Resources Vicki Errington Senior Finance Manager (Corporate Accounting) Tel: 01908 252698</p>
	<b>Delegated Decisions – 21 February</b>	
<b>School Admission</b>	<p>To consider the arrangements for admissions to all Community and</p>	<p>Delegated Decision Councillor Z Nolan</p>

<p>Arrangements for September 2024</p>	<p>Voluntary Controlled Schools following consultation.</p>	<p>(Cabinet member for Children and Families)  <b>Officer Report Admission arrangements 2024 proposal PANs and catchment areas 2024 proposal. Summary of responses to the consultation</b>  <b>Simon Sims Head of Delivery - Setting and School Sufficiency and Access</b>  <b>Dominic Williams Strategic Lead - Education Sufficiency and Access</b>  <b>Tel: 01908 253385</b></p>
<p>Extension of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) - Dog Fouling</p>	<p>To consider extending the existing Dog Fouling PSPO for an additional three years.</p>	<p>Delegated Decision  <b>Councillor Trendall (Cabinet member for Customer Services)</b>  <b>Officer Report None Nick Hannon Head of Environment and Waste</b>  <b>Shaun Greig Senior Practitioner</b>  <b>Tel: 01908 254566</b></p>
<p><b>21 March - Delegated Decisions</b></p>		
<p>School Term Dates 2024/25 for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools in Milton Keynes</p>	<p>To consider the school term dates 2024/25 for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools following consultation.   <b>Calendar of Proposed Term Dates 2024/25 - Summary of Responses to Consultation</b></p>	<p><b>Councillor Z Nolan (Cabinet member for Children and Families) Officer Report Term Dates 2024/25</b>   <b>Simon Sims Head of Delivery - Setting and School Access</b>   <b>Sufficiency and Yewande Shotade Strategic Lead - Education Sufficiency and Access Tel: 01908 253451</b></p>



**Planning - Team Manager**

**Team Manager (07775 110809)**

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Angela May Development Services Officer [angela.may@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:angela.may@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

**General Planning Enquiries**

Planning Enquiries [planning.enquiries@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:planning.enquiries@milton-keynes.gov.uk)  
Planning Enforcement [planning.enforcement@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:planning.enforcement@milton-keynes.gov.uk)  
Public Access queries [planning.services@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:planning.services@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

Did you know that you can now search for planning applications specifically in your parish or ward on the weekly list?

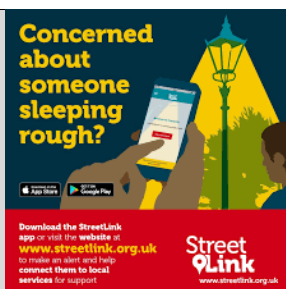


The Public Access for Planning website allows you to filter your search by a parish or ward. The list is interactive allowing you to access the details and documents relating to applications on the list by clicking on them.

Planning applications	Weekly list February 2023
<b>Planning Buddy!</b> <b>Rachel Larner</b> <b>Planning Officer</b> <a href="mailto:rachel.larner@milton-keynes.gov.uk">rachel.larner@milton-keynes.gov.uk</a> <b>07554 338790</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bow Brickhill Parish Council</b></li> <li>• <b>Little Brickhill Parish Council</b></li> </ul>
<b>Planning Buddy!</b> <b>Sonia James</b> <b>Planning Officer</b> <a href="mailto:sonia.james@milton-keynes.gov.uk">sonia.james@milton-keynes.gov.uk</a> <b>07775 111178</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Walton Community Council</b></li> </ul>
<b>Planning Buddy!</b> <b>Senior Planning Officer</b> <a href="mailto:charlotte.ashby@milton-keynes.gov.uk">charlotte.ashby@milton-keynes.gov.uk</a> <b>07795 475595</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wavendon Parish Council</b></li> </ul>
<b>Planning Buddy</b> <b>Katy Lycett</b> <b>Principal Planning Officer</b> <a href="mailto:katy.lycett@milton-keynes.gov.uk">katy.lycett@milton-keynes.gov.uk</a> <b>07795 475584</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Woburn Sands Town Council</b></li> </ul>
<b>Planning Applications</b>	
<b>Application No:23/00065/TPO Type: Works to tree(s) under a TPO</b> Location: Poplar Farmhouse, 35 Station Road, Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes, MK17 9JU Proposal: The reduction by 2 metres by crown lifting and reshaping to previous points of Willow tree (T1) which is currently approximately 14m tall to maintain the health of the tree, remove potentially dangerous dead or broken branches, reduce the overhang of the tree on the highway, prevent damage to the BT pole and its wires and prevent any damage from the tree roots protected by Milton Keynes Council Tree Preservation Order no. PS/540/15/301 Case Officer: Suleman Uddin - Consultation Expiry: 17.02.2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bow Brickhill</b></li> </ul>
<b>Application No:23/00095/CLUPTYPE: Certificate of Lawful Use (Proposed)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bow Brickhill</b></li> </ul>

<p><b>Location:</b> 17 Church Road, Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes, MK17 9LH</p> <p>Proposal: Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed single storey rear extension, a roof dormer to rear, the addition of a window to first floor rear elevation, and two roof lights to the front elevation.</p> <p>Case Officer: Helen Pinder</p>	
<p><b>Application No:</b> 23/00098/DISCON <b>Type:</b> Discharge of Conditions</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Westfields, 5A Station Road, Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes, MK17 9JU</p> <p>Proposal: Approval of details required by condition 13 (Drainage) of permission ref. 21/03834/FUL</p> <p>Case Officer: Rachel Lerner Consultation Expiry:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bow Brickhill</li> </ul>
<p>Application No: 23/00030/TCA <b>Type:</b> Works to tree(s) in Conservation Area</p> <p>Location: 9 Brickhill Manor Court, Little Brickhill, Milton Keynes, MK17 9LN</p> <p>Proposal: The removal to ground level and stump treatment of the Horse Chestnut (T1),</p> <p>Case Officer: Suleman Uddin Consultation Expiry: 17.02.2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Little Brickhill</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application No:</b> 23/00029/NMA <b>Type:</b> Non-Material Amendments</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Site H Former Sansetsu Building, Bradbourne Drive, Milton Keynes, MK7 8AT</p> <p>Proposal: Non-material amendment to permission ref. 21/01680/FUL seeking to add green walls and the re-positioning of the rainwater garden relating to the erection of an extension to the north of existing warehouse building (Use Class B8 storage or distribution), along with the creation of a new service yard with gated entrance, perimeter boundary fencing, and associated drainage infrastructure.</p> <p>Case Officer: Tamlin Barton Consultation Expiry:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walton</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application No:</b> 23/00084/HOU <b>Type:</b> Householder Application</p> <p><b>Location:</b> 10A Cross End, Wavendon, Milton Keynes, MK17 8AQ</p> <p>Proposal: Proposed single storey rear extension, part garage conversion, new windows and internal alterations (re-submission of 22/00052/FUL)</p> <p>Case Officer: Suleman Uddin Consultation Expiry: 14.02.2023</p> <p>Ward: Danesborough And Walton Parish/Town Council: Wavendon Parish Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wavendon</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application no:</b> 23/00163/DISCON</p> <p><b>Proposal:</b> Approval of details required by condition 3 (LMP) of permission ref. 22/00504/REM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wavendon</li> </ul>

At: Parcels B1 & D2 Land At Eagle Farm Cranfield Road Wavendon	
<b>Application no: 23/00164/DISCON</b> <b>Proposal: Approval of details required by condition 3 (LMP) of permission ref. 22/00505/REM</b> At: Parcels B2 & D1 Land West of Eagle Farm South, South of A421 North of Lower End Road Wavendon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wavendon</li> </ul>
<b>Application no: 23/00100/FUL</b> <b>Proposal: Refurbishment, extension, and change of use to Manufacturing Facility (Use Class Sui Generis)</b> At: Omega House 8 Bradbourne Drive Tilbrook Milton Keynes MK7 8AT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walton</li> </ul>
<b>Application no: 23/00029/NMA</b> <b>Proposal: Non-material amendment to permission ref. 21/01680/FUL seeking to add green walls and the re-positioning of the rainwater garden relating to the erection of an extension to the north of existing warehouse building</b> (Use Class B8 storage or distribution), along with the creation of a new service yard with gated entrance, perimeter boundary fencing, and associated drainage infrastructure. At: Site H Former Sansetsu Building Bradbourne Drive Milton Keynes MK7 8AT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walton</li> </ul>
<b>Application no: 23/00022/HOU</b> Proposal: The erection of a first floor side extension, the erection of single storey front lobby, and the enlargement of the bay window to ground floor front elevation, and associated internal alterations At: 13 Heybridge Crescent Caldecotte Milton Keynes MK7 8HL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walton</li> </ul>
<b>Planning Enforcement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>



**MK City Council is extending a contract to continue supporting former rough sleepers and ensure they don't end up back on the streets.**

Its 'Housing First' programme aims to get rough sleepers into accommodation and provide support to help them work through the often complex reasons they became homeless in the first place, sometimes related to relationship breakdowns, family eviction or loss of private rented accommodation. The programme has helped more than 150 people in the last three years.

MK City Council is now making a decision to approve a six month extension of the contract on 14 November. During that time, further long-term initiatives for rough sleepers will be considered.

The City Council's provides vital services for people sleeping rough or those at risk of homelessness. Earlier this year, it opened a new shelter in Central Milton Keynes which has led to secure homes for 30 rough sleepers, with nearly 90 people using the shelter. Former rough sleepers stay for a short period before accessing further assistance.

This is the latest of multiple initiatives in recent years to support rough sleepers and help them secure a life off the streets for good. As a result, the number of people sleeping rough in the city has dropped significantly. A recent review by the team showed that 24 people were sleeping rough in Milton Keynes, which is fewer than the number of beds available through the City Council's provision, meaning everyone needing a bed could be found one. Everyone found sleeping rough is offered accommodation and support. On this occasion only one person took up the offer but the dedicated outreach team continue to make daily rounds to offer support.



Locally - PC Rob Childs – 07974 970568 or [robin.childs@thamesvalley.pnn.polic.uk](mailto:robin.childs@thamesvalley.pnn.polic.uk)

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/police-forces/thames-valley-police/areas/c/2018/thames-valley-alert/>

You can sign up to **Thames Valley Alert** via email, text, or even receive voice messages about what's happening in your local area.

The service is completely tailored to you, so you can choose what sort of alerts to receive – whether you'd like:

news on local incidents, community news, to be alerted to significant or high priority messages.

When you sign up to Thames Valley Alert (a free service) you'll be given login details that allow you to change your settings at any time. There's also a business watch service and a country watch service.

If you'd like to sign up to Thames Valley Alert, you can:

join via the Thames Valley Alert website, or,

download the free Thames Valley Alert app by visiting the Apple store or Google Play store.

If you already have an Alerts account, you can sign into the app with the same login details.

## Anglian Water – Drainage & Water Management Plan



### **Amphill pipeline**

We're building a new 2km water pipeline, and a new pumping station, in the Amphill and Woburn area. You can see our proposed pipeline route here.

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/siteassets/hidden/iva/becky/amphill/amphill-pipeline.png>

We're committed to providing reliable and resilient sewerage and water services to you and four million other residents in our region. That's why we're planning a project to install 2km of new pipes and a new pumping station between Brickhill Copse pumping station and Bow Brickhill reservoir.

The pipeline is just one part of an interconnected network of pipes we are constructing across the region, as set out in our Water Resources Management Plan so everyone has access to safe, clean, and plentiful water for years to come.

If you would like to know more about our Strategic Pipeline programme you can see our plans on our website here. <https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/about-us/our-strategies-and-plans/new-water-pipelines/>



### **LGA - Social Media Guidance**

Have you ever wondered if you're getting the best from social media, or how you can make sure you stay safe and don't breach your Code of Conduct? This excellent online document, created by the LGA, provides guidance and informative examples of how to use social media platforms to their many advantages whilst also navigating them safely, and handling negativity.

<https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/leadership-workforce-and-communications/comms-hub-communications-support/social-media-0>

Don't forget that MKCC also has its social media guidance for Councillors which sits alongside our Code of Conduct.



**MK Sex Establishment Policy Consultation** - Milton Keynes City Council is updating the Sex Establishment Policy 2023 to 2028 which governs the Licensing of Sex Shops, Sex Cinemas and Sexual Entertainment Venues. Members are reminded that the consultation is open for comment and will close on the 20 February.

You can find out more details about the policy and how to comment on the consultation here or contact James Sloan. [licensing@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/consultations/sex-establishment-policy-2023-2028>

*Cllr David Hopkins – February 2023*