



Unitary Councillors Report – July 2026 Little Brickhill

Levante Gate Planning Application Application Ref: PLN/2026/1114

Proposal: Outline application (matters of access to be considered, with matters of layout, scale, appearance and landscaping reserved) for a phased residential-led mixed-use development comprising up to 1,250 new dwellings, including a 3FE primary school (up to 2.3ha) (Use Class F1), local centre (up to 0.8ha) (Use Class E and F2), mobility hub, communal heat hub, pumping station, formal and informal public open spaces, related landscaping, earthworks, drainage infrastructure and creation of new vehicular accesses off A4146 with associated infrastructure.

EIA application at Levante Gate, Watling Street, Little Brickhill, Milton Keynes

Make any comments by: 03/08/2026



Water Outages – Response from Anglian water to MKCC

Environmental Health

With respect to the recent water outages (25 – 28/05/2026) in parts of MK (Notably Bow Brickhill & Little Brickhill) we have received the following information from Anglian Water . They have admitted communications failures and issues with the supply of bottled water! I did not receive any complaints/feedback from residents nor did the Council helpline. People were no doubt contacting AW directly. I contacted them too and at the time was assured that water was being delivered. In future we will see if we can attend the area to seek out what is actually happening on the ground.

“In light of the recent Amber Heat Health Alert issued by the UK Health Security Agency, and to outline the steps we have in place to manage the additional pressure this can place on water supplies across our region.

Periods of prolonged high temperatures significantly increase demand for water, while also placing additional strain on the network. We recognise the heightened public health risks at these times, particularly for customers in vulnerable situations, and keeping supplies reliable is our highest priority.

We are operating in a challenging environment, with sustained high demand and localised pressures emerging across parts of our network. In particular, we are seeing increased strain in areas including Milton Keynes, Northamptonshire and Peterborough, alongside higher demand for water across the Anglian Water region. While supplies are being maintained in most locations, these conditions increase the risk of disruption. We are managing those pressures closely and remain ready to respond as demand continues at elevated levels.

This situation has also been affected by recent electrical storms, which present an additional operational risk to our infrastructure, including treatment works and pumping assets. Our teams are managing these risks as part of our wider response.

Our operational response

We have activated enhanced operational arrangements across our network to maintain supplies and respond rapidly to any issues. This includes:

- increasing real-time monitoring of flows, pressures and demand across the system*
- deploying additional operational teams to respond quickly to emerging issues*
- adjusting network operations where needed to balance demand and protect supplies to critical areas*
- prioritising repairs to restore supplies as quickly as possible where interruptions occur*

Our teams are working around the clock, with senior operational oversight in place to help ensure we respond quickly and effectively as issues arise.

Supporting customers and communities

Alongside our operational response, these are the established steps we take to support customers during periods of sustained high demand, including:

- providing clear public guidance on using water wisely during periods of high demand*
- offering targeted support for customers in vulnerable situations or with additional needs, including those with medical dependencies, through our Priority Services Register*
- maintaining readiness to deploy bottled water and alternative supplies where interruptions occur*

We are also maintaining regular contact with local resilience partners to support a coordinated response where required.

Bottled water provision

I'm sorry to hear about the delays some residents experienced. Bottled water distribution does take time to mobilise, as supplies need to be transported from storage locations and delivered safely. We prioritise deliveries to customers on our Priority Services Register, with a target of within 12 hours (and a regulatory requirement of 24 hours).

For customers not currently registered but who are in vulnerable circumstances or unable to access water (for example due to lack of transport), we can add them to delivery lists during incidents via our contact centre (03457 145 145).

More broadly, we are also encouraging customers to take simple resilience steps, such as keeping a small supply of bottled water at home, particularly during periods of extreme weather. There is some useful government advice on this actually: <https://prepare.campaign.gov.uk/be-informed-about-hazards/water-supply-interruptions-or-outages/>

Chris Lundy - Team Leader Emergency Planning (01908 254056)

Milton Keynes City Council | Civic, 1 Saxon Gate East | Milton Keynes | MK9 3EJ

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk



Raising the flag for Armed Forces Week

On Monday, the Mayor and Leader were joined in the Civic garden by the Lord Lieutenant, members of the Armed Forces community including the Marine and Sea Cadets, The Rifles Army Cadet Force, and Royal Logistic Corps to raise the official flag and mark the beginning of Armed Forces Week.

Children from St Mary Magdelene School, Abbeys Primary School and Caroline Hasslett Primary School, were also in attendance to mark the occasion.



Councillor Champions 2026

Councillor Champions play a vital role in raising awareness of the communities and issues they represent, ensuring their voices are heard within the Council and across the city.

At the Council meeting earlier in June, Members agreed to introduce a new Active Travel Champion role, strengthening the Council's commitment to increase opportunities for active travel, improve the redway network and encourage more residents to choose sustainable forms of transport for everyday journeys. This new position will sit alongside the existing Champion roles.

We are pleased to confirm the Councillor Champion appointments for 2026:

- Active Travel Champion: Councillor Marie Bradburn
- Armed Forces Champion: Councillor Paul Trendall
- Ethnic Minority Champion: Nana Ama Ofori-Atta
- LGBTQI+ Champion: Councillor Jordan Coventry

- Mental Health Champion: Councillor Wing Tsang
- Older Persons' Champion: Councillor David Hopkins
- Youth Democracy Champion: Macsene Isles-Ahite



Grass Cutting Around the City

The Council manages over 10 million square metres of grassland across the city. Grass cutting is carried out on a cyclical programme from Spring through to late October.

We cut grass where it is required for highway safety, while also prioritising biodiversity. In some areas, grass is intentionally left uncut to encourage wildflowers and support local wildlife. Before mowing begins, litter is collected wherever it is safe to do so, with a safety buffer maintained from highways. On high-speed roads, central reservations and roadside verges cannot be cleared in advance due to narrow working spaces and fast-moving traffic. In these locations, mechanical sweepers are used after mowing to remove any remaining grass cuttings, dirt, and litter from the road.

Here's more detailed information on where we've completed grass cutting. Contact Euan Darling (Landscaping Client Manger) for more information. Euan Darling Euan.Darling@Milton-keynes.gov.uk

Rural
Haversham
Little Linford
Gayhurst
Stoke Goldington
Cold Brayfield
Newton Blossomville
Clifton Reynes
Emberton
Filgrave
Lathbury
Sherington
Chichley
Hardmead
Astwood
Little Crawley
North Crawley
Moulsoe
Calverton & Wealds
Wavendon
Woburn sands
Bow Brickhill
Little Brickhill
Cut 4

Mowing update 2026 Week ending 28.6.26

The Estates below the green shows where the teams will go next. The spreadsheet shows how many cuts (cycles) they have completed this season (March – October). The length of each cycle can be varied due to the growth of the grass, weather (prolonged dry weather or persistent rain) and public holidays.



I attended the Parishes Forum on Thursday 18th June.

Agenda Items were....

Parish Successes - Cllr Richard Pryor (Haversham-cum-Little Linford PC)

Richard presented on a large play park project they had run in their patch.

They sourced funding from

- Community Foundation
- National Lottery Community Fund
- FCC Communities Foundation

Richard would be pleased to talk to parish colleagues to advise on completing funding application forms etc.

Highways Update, Information and Who's Who - Graham Cox (Head of Highways)

Graham talked about

- MKCC taking up the governments offer of bus franchising (replacing private operators)
- Next meeting for Parish representatives with the highways team is on 9th July (once again at Springfield)
- Government has changed Pavement parking regulations - The UK government passed landmark legislation granting councils across England new powers to prohibit and penalise pavement parking. Instead of relying on a slow, street-by-street process, local authorities can now designate wide areas where pavement parking is banned, with fines as standard of up to £130.
- The council operates a risk-based approach to filling potholes and pavement repairs based on emergency, 28 days or 84 days basis

<https://www.ukroadsliaisongroup.org/en/codes.html>

Graham Cox made much at the Parishes Forum of the MKCC Highways adherence to the national code of practise in terms of road safety managed and repairs

The Code of Practice takes an integrated, risk-based approach to managing highway infrastructure assets.

The Code 'Well-managed Highway Infrastructure' was published on 28 October 2016.

Canals and Water in MK

John Best (Trustee of MK Canals and B&MK Waterway Trust) presented. The waterway route (should it ever happen) passes through Wavendon at Eagle Farm North.

Kings Honours

Sharon Bridglalsingh (Director of Law and Governance) and Francesca Skelton (Deputy Lieutenant) called for more nominations and offered to assist parishes and parish councillors in filling in nomination forms.

Good News and Hot Issues

Presentation regarding MKCC City of Culture bid.

Date of Future Meetings

17 September 2026

10 December 2026

11 March 2027



Anglian Water Contacts

- Grant Tuffs - Senior Policy and Public Affairs Lead

Corporate Affairs - Mobile: 07841 958580

gTuffs@anglianwater.co.uk

Anglian Water Services Limited

Lancaster House, Lancaster Way, Ermine Business Park, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, PE29 6XU

- Karen Staples - Snr Stakeholder Engagement Mgr Cap Del
- Alexandra Colam - Relationship Lead
- Phil Jones - Growth Strategy Manager

Anglian Water undertook an online briefing session on 29th June, where they shared updates on Anglian Water's long-term planning and investment across Buckinghamshire.

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/3520f84d-056a-4847-96cc-f637deb151ec@e7ba1d02-2aa2-48d5-8185-e3dc6bf7b86d>

Emily Eddings

Relationship Lead (West)

Corporate Affairs

Mobile: 07484457335

Anglian Water Services Limited

Lancaster House, Huntingdon, PE29 6XU

Many thanks to those who kindly joined our Sustainable Growth, Capacity and AMP8 programme of works webinar yesterday, we hope you found the presentation informative and useful. Thank you also to those who asked questions, we very much welcomed the opportunity to clarify any points or concerns.

As promised, please find the slide deck attached which covers our Sustainable Growth Strategy, Water Resources Modelling and a Capital Works Overview for Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes which will see us invest over £122 million over the next five years to upgrade critical infrastructure.

As you heard, our current business plan (AMP8 2025-2030) marks the largest investment programme in our history, with £11 billion being invested over the next five years to upgrade infrastructure, enhance resilience, and meet the region's long-term needs.

We began AMP8 facing several significant challenges, including accelerating regional growth, shifts in housing demand, and increasing environmental expectations. This is why it is so important to strengthen collaboration with Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to ensure our evidence, forecasts, and spatial planning data remain accurate and robust and aligns with your plans.

Against a backdrop of imminent Local Government Reform and a generational change of regulatory reform in the water industry with the Clean Water Bill due to proceed through parliament this / next year, it is vital that we maintain focus on this important challenge – supporting sustainable growth whilst protecting the environment by working closely with yourselves and other key regional stakeholders.

Although in the slide deck, here is a reminder of a few key Anglian Water teams who you can contact:

For site-specific planning applications: planningliaison@anglianwater.co.uk

For Local Plans: strategicgrowth@anglianwater.co.uk

For general member feedback: public.affairs@anglianwater.co.uk



Road Works MK City Council will be carrying out some vegetation clearance on Great Brickhill Lane on 9 July so we can assess the damage in this location and determine what repairs may be needed. Any repairs will be carried out at a later date.

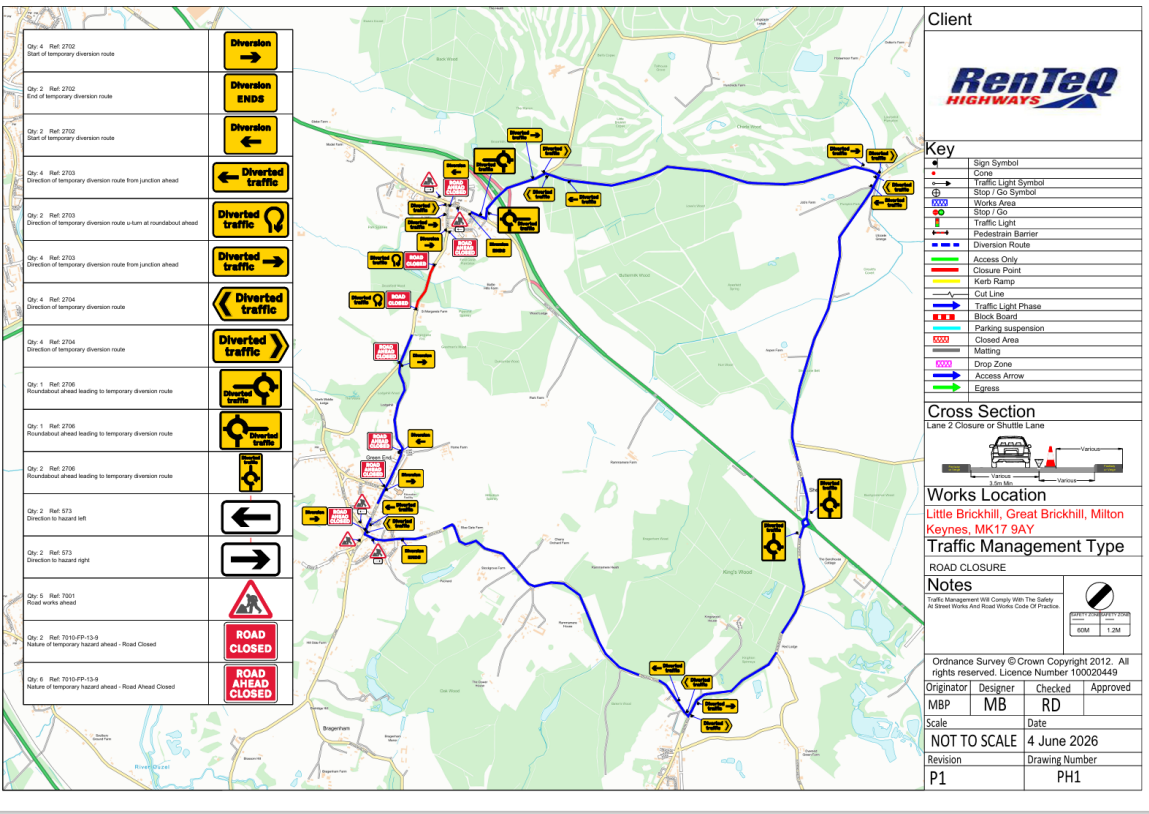
To do the vegetation clearance, the road will need to be closed for one day to allow for the plant equipment and to create a safe working space for the crew.

The diversion plan is printed below, and this will also be on One.Network.

Rachel Munday - Community and Engagement Manager (Highways and Transportation)

Milton Keynes City Council - www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/highways

The Civic, Milton Keynes City Council, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes, MK9 3EJ



East West Rail



EWK have contacted Danesborough parishes to thank those who took part in the recent consultation which ran between 14 April and 9 June 2026. EWK report that they are hugely grateful to everyone who took the time to get involved.

The consultation included 15 events, both in-person and online, where people could explore our updated plans for the railway connecting communities between Oxford, Milton Keynes, Bedford and Cambridge. It was a valuable opportunity for local residents to speak directly with our team, view the latest designs and route animations, ask questions and share thoughts.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OrtXWdP_yYI

EWK received over 5,000 responses to the consultation, and they are now carefully reviewing all of the feedback they have received. EWK report that your comments, questions and suggestions will play a vital role in helping them refine the design before they submit a Development Consent Order application in 2027. They will publish a summary of what they heard in the autumn, so residents can see the key themes raised during the consultation.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZMFdrw_oJy4

Letters issued by Carter Jonas to residents

Further to my email last week regarding the letters issued by Carter Jonas to residents in relation to East West Rail, I wanted to provide an update.

Following further discussion with Carter Jonas, we now understand that of the 2,744 letters sent by the firm, 65% related to properties that are not within the East West Rail safeguarding area or Development Consent Order Limits, meaning they were contacted in error.

We are extremely disappointed that correspondence of this nature was issued at such a scale, resulting in residents being incorrectly contacted and, in many cases, causing unnecessary concern about the potential impact of the scheme on their homes and communities.

As set out in local media coverage last week, Carter Jonas has acknowledged that residents were contacted in error and has said it is now writing directly to those wrongly identified.

East West Railway Company Chief Executive, David Hughes, said:

"Carter Jonas has acted on its own to use information on our website about the area impacted by our scheme and incorrectly created their own mailing list with the aim to solicit business.

"We are really disappointed by this behaviour and have asked them to make amends for the distress caused. We have also been speaking to those concerned by these letters to offer reassurance that unless people have been contacted by us directly, they are not within our project boundary."

A spokesperson for Carter Jonas said:

"Carter Jonas sent a letter to residents along the East West Rail route, but due to the scope being too broad, some property owners were sent the letter in error.

"Our aim was to make residents aware that professional advice is available where property is affected by major infrastructure schemes. We would like to apologise to those residents who were contacted unnecessarily.

"We are working with East West Rail to address this."

David Hughes has also written directly to the Chief Executive of Carter Jonas to express East West Rail's disappointment at the firm's actions and the distress caused to residents.

If you receive any further queries from residents, please do encourage them to contact us directly.

Rachael Pengelly

Local Government Relations Manager

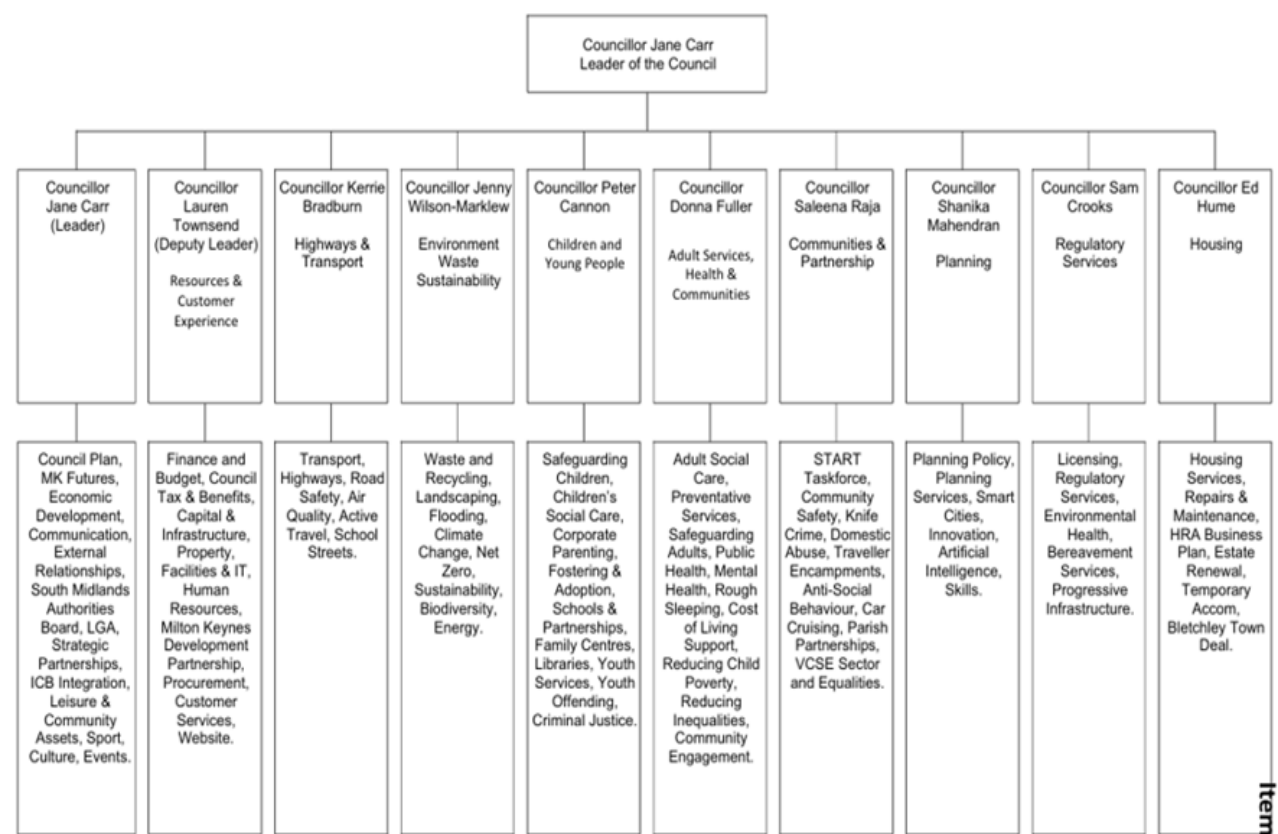
M: 07971 224921

<https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/26174351.date-set-1-3bn-east-west-rail-line-oxford/>

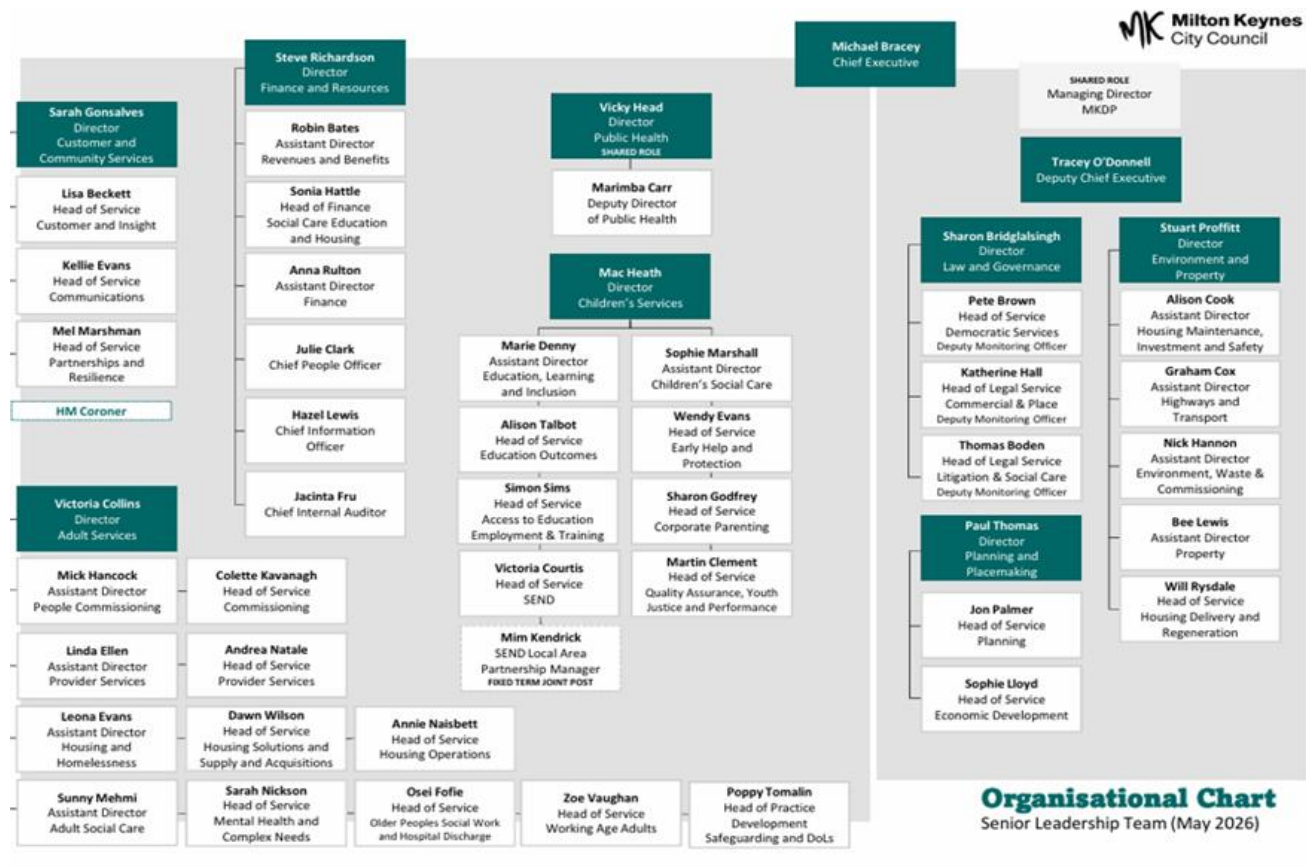
The Government says trains from Oxford to Milton Keynes are being lined up to appear in the December rail timetable.

In a written statement, rail minister Lord Peter Hendy said: "Chiltern worked with Network Rail, the Department for Transport and other operators on the December 2026 timetable and services have been timetabled between Oxford, Winslow, Bletchley and Milton Keynes.

MK City Council Structure (Members)



Officer Structure



Milton Keynes foundation launches £40k fund for community projects bringing people together



<https://www.miltonkeynes.co.uk/news/people/milton-keynes-foundation-launches-ps40k-fund-for-community-projects-bringing-people-together-8776234>

Highways

Highways and Transport Schemes for 26/27

Each year from April we publish our list of highways and transport planned works on <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/highways/our-policies-and-processes/highways-schemes-2026-2027>

Highways Schemes for 2026-2027 | Milton Keynes City Council.

These schemes are in addition to the routine and reactive maintenance works that take place throughout the year.

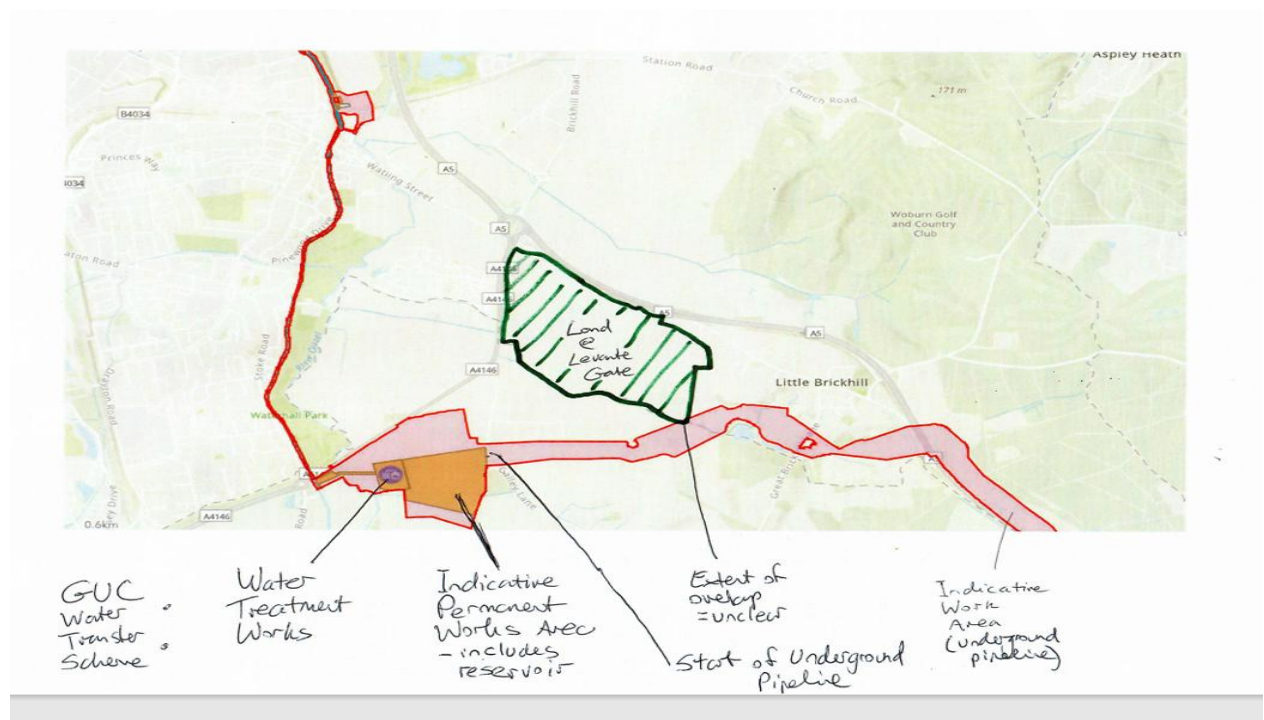
The Highways Team assemble the prioritised schemes in advance using information from AI software Vaisala, residents reports and site visits to determine what needs to be done and when.

Works are delivered throughout the year by our service provider, Ringway. Due to the nature of work, the programme can be dependent on weather conditions and the availability of specialist equipment or materials. By sharing this information, residents, businesses, and commuters can see how the council is investing in key infrastructure.

All works on the highway require a permit to be approved before they begin. These approved permits are uploaded to Causeway one.network in real time. <https://one.network/accounts#sign-in>

This national site also offers the option to create a free account so you can search further ahead or set up an alert if you want to be told only about a specific area.

Levante Gate



Paul Van Geete at MKCC has looked at the GUC Water Transfer Scheme materials again in the context of Levante Gate – the drawing above shows the proposed development footprints for each. He has sketched Levante Gate onto the GUC scheme map, so the area of direct overlap isn't necessarily 100% accurate, more indicative. The underground pipeline works are further south and east than he thought.

For more info on the GUC scheme, see:

<https://guctransfer.co.uk/consultation-materials/>

Although the consultation has closed, the materials are still available – the Consultation Brochure and Interactive Map are particularly useful.

Water Management – Who Does What

Surface Run-off  Lead Local Flood Authorities ("LLFAs")	Groundwater  LLFAs, Districts, IDBs	Watercourses  LLFAs, Districts, IDBs	Highway  Highway Authorities
Main River  Environment Agency	Reservoir Failure  Environment Agency	Tidal  Environment Agency	Sewers  Water Companies

Chief Inspector's Neighbourhood Policing Update

Message from Chief Inspector Lucy Bottomley, Thames Valley Police:

You may notice some changes to team structures and contacts in Neighbourhood Policing Teams as part of a renewed focus on visible policing and stronger local engagement. Details of your dedicated Neighbourhood Policing Team, including named officers and how to contact them, are available on the Thames Valley Police website Milton Keynes | Thames Valley Police.

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/area/your-area/tvp/milton-keynes/>

Our Neighbourhood Policing supervisors have worked closely with many of you in recent years, and we are keen to continue building on those relationships. For those newly elected, we will be in touch over the coming weeks and months to introduce ourselves and begin working together.

Cllr David Hopkins - Danesborough ward (July 2026)