

Borough Councillor's Report for Harrold Ward June 2022

**Contact Borough Councillor Alison Foster by telephone on 07773371190
or email at ajfieldfoster@outlook.com**

Rural Bulky waste

Due to the disruption caused by COVID-19, shortage of HGV drivers, and the need to prioritise the collection of household bins, the rural bulky waste collections did not take place in 2020 and 2021. This free service is now returning for 2022, starting on Saturday 18 June and going around the rural areas of Bedford Borough throughout the summer with the last collection on Saturday 24 September.

These collections are for household waste, to enable residents in the rural areas to safely and responsibly dispose of items.

I have been asked by a number of residents when these collections would start again and have asked Borough officers on a number of occasions when these would recommence.

Domestic bulky waste in the Ward will be collected as follows:

Carlton and Chellington - 10th September 2022 – Entrance to Village Hall from 08.00am-10.00am

Harrold - 3rd September 2022 – Village Green from 8.00am – 10.00am and Peaches Close from 10.30am – 12.00pm

Odell - 3rd September 2022 - Village Green near The Bell from 1.00pm – 3.30pm

Podington - 20th August - Hornbeam Close from 08.30am to 12.00pm

Wymington - 20th August 2022 - Memorial Hall Car Park from 1.00pm-3.00pm

For the details of what will be accepted please see the council's website www.Bedford.gov.uk/bulky

Local Plan 2040

The draft Local Plan 2040 consultation ends on 29th July. I have been approached by residents who feel that 2040 is far off but it is a common misconception that that is when development starts- in fact once the plan is adopted development can happen from then (so that these developments will have been completed by 2040) so what is proposed is relevant to the near future. Under the current timetable, the plan will be adopted at the end of 2023.

The proposed development strategy is for the majority of housing to be in the south of Bedford Borough, with a large employment site proposed in Little Barford and another in Kempston Hardwick . I would encourage residents to have their say on the plans by visiting <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy-its-purpose/local-plan-review/>

Movement to Change Consultation

The Council is developing a new vision for physical activity for 2022-2030 called "Movement to Change". The vision will tackle inactivity and inequality and outlines a number of key priorities and themes which will provide a framework for tackling inactivity, as well as linking into wider developments such as future facility provision within the borough.

To comment on the consultation please visit:

<https://www.bedford.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/have-your-say/consultations/leisure-vision-consultation/>

The consultation closes on 12th July 2022 and is currently only available online or by email.

Contacting the Council

While many services have moved online - which I am aware can cause serious problems in accessing services, the Council does still provide a telephone service for those who have complex enquiries or who need help to carry out a task online. The Council's phone number is 01234 267422. If you have issues accessing services then please do let me know by email and I will try to help. My Conservative Councillor group has recently contacted the new Chief Executive about the high number of calls to the council and the delays in answering. My contact email address is ajfieldfoster@outlook.com