

# Gerrards Cross

## *Local Area Forum*



## • Local Area Plan •



November 2010

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## The purpose of the Area Plan

The purpose of the Gerrards Cross Area Plan is to set out a clear list of local priorities that need to be addressed in order to improve the social, economic and environmental conditions within the Gerrards Cross local community area over the next three years.

In some instances, the Gerrards Cross Local Area Forum will be able to directly impact on actions to address one or more of the priority themes through allocation of its delegated budgets. For most of the priorities within the area plan, it is likely that the main role of the Local Area Forum (LAF) will be to act as a coordinating body and catalyst for action, with the LAF taking an investigative, supportive, developmental, championing and monitoring role.

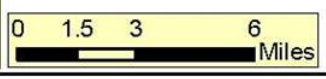
The area plan should be regarded as an initial set of commitments, which can be added to in the light of emerging opportunities, rather than a fixed agenda that must be adhered to rigidly over the next three years. The LAF will work closely with partner organisations to seek progress on the priority themes within the area plan.

# Local Community Areas April 2007

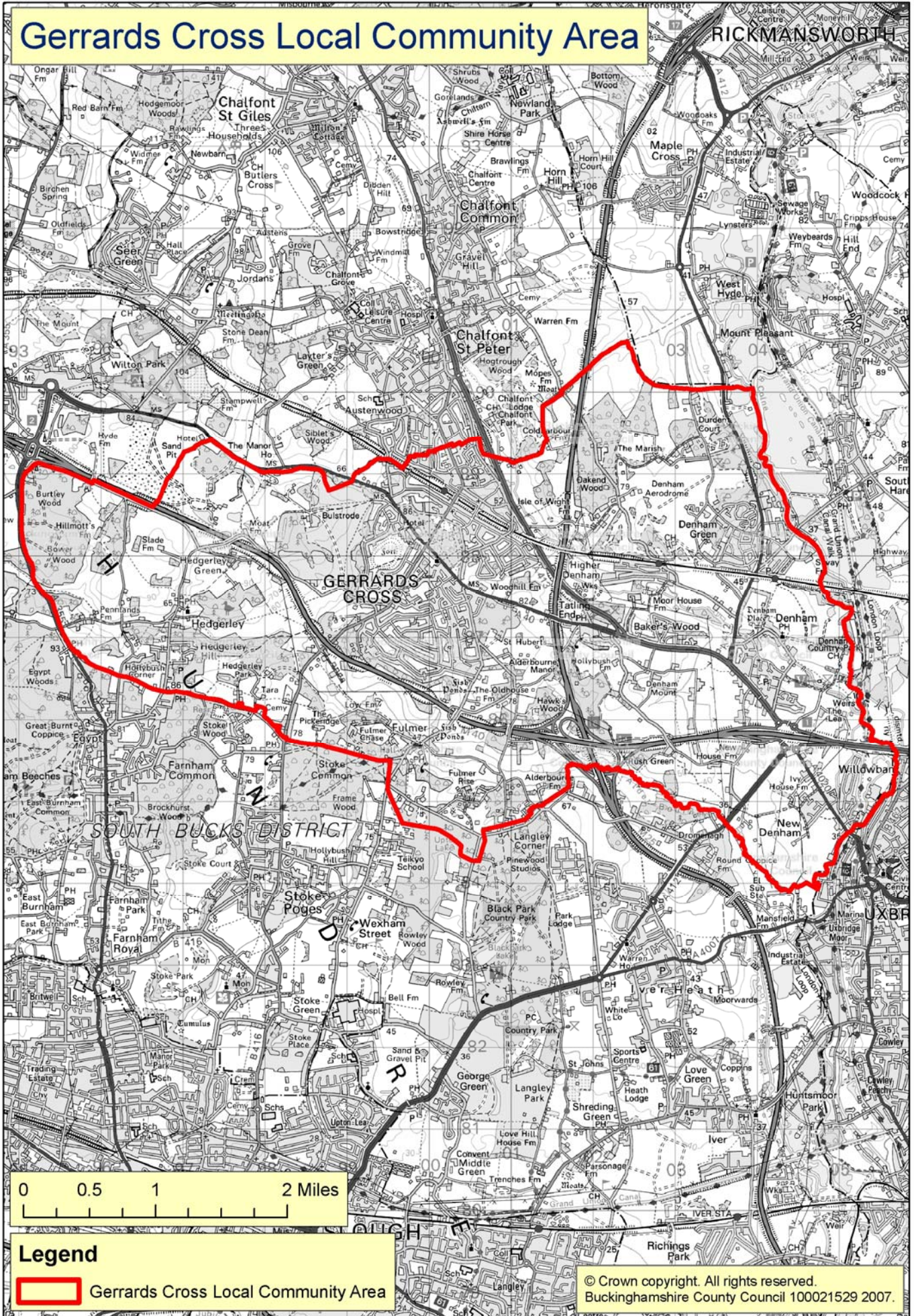


- Local Community Areas (19 off)
- Aylesbury Vale District
- Chiltern District
- South Bucks District
- Wycombe District

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# Gerrards Cross Local Community Area



## The Gerrards Cross Local Area Forum membership

The Gerrards Cross local community area covers three divisions of the County Council. The County Councillors take the role of Chairman at the LAF meetings:

County Councillors in the Gerrards Cross local community area		
Cllr Bill Lidgate	Alderbourne	Phone: 01753 653128 Fax: 01753 653128 Email: <a href="mailto:blidgate@buckscc.gov.uk">blidgate@buckscc.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Roger Reed	Gerrards Cross and Denham North	Phone: Email: <a href="mailto:rreed@buckscc.gov.uk">rreed@buckscc.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Peter Hardy	Bulstrode	Phone: 01754 883057 Email: <a href="mailto:phardy@buckscc.gov.uk">phardy@buckscc.gov.uk</a>

The local community area falls within the South Bucks District.. The Vice-Chairman for each meeting is taken from one of the following district councillors:

District Councillors in the Gerrards Cross local community area		
Cllr Peter Chapman	Denham South	Phone: 01895 832384 Email: <a href="mailto:cllr.peter.chapman@southbucks.gov.uk">cllr.peter.chapman@southbucks.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Anita Cranmer	Hedgerley & Fulmer	Phone: 01753 648724 Email: <a href="mailto:cllr.anita.chapman@southbucks.gov.uk">cllr.anita.chapman@southbucks.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Barry Harding	Denham South	Phone: 01895 832780 Email: <a href="mailto:cllr.barry.harding@southbucks.gov.uk">cllr.barry.harding@southbucks.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Peter Hardy	Gerrards Cross South	Phone: 01754 883057 Email: <a href="mailto:cllr.peter.hardy@southbucks.gov.uk">cllr.peter.hardy@southbucks.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Guy Hollis	Gerrards Cross North	Phone: 07810 753808 Email: <a href="mailto:cllr.guy.hollis@southbucks.gov.uk">cllr.guy.hollis@southbucks.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Deirdre Holloway	Gerrards Cross North	Phone: 01753 883765 / 893536 Email: <a href="mailto:cllr.deirdre.holloway@southbucks.gov.uk">cllr.deirdre.holloway@southbucks.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Sabeeha Khan	Gerrards Cross North	Phone: 01753 884464 Email: <a href="mailto:cllr.sabeeha.khan@southbucks.gov.uk">cllr.sabeeha.khan@southbucks.gov.uk</a>

Representative	Ward	Contact
Cllr Bill Lidgate	Iver (Iver Heath)	Phone: 01753 653128 Fax: 01753 653128 Email: <a href="mailto:cldr.bill.lidgate@southbucks.gov.uk">cldr.bill.lidgate@southbucks.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Alan Oxley	Iver Village and Richings Park	Phone: 01753 651032 Email: <a href="mailto:cldr.alan.oxley@southbucks.gov.uk">cldr.alan.oxley@southbucks.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Roger Reed	Denham North	Phone: 01895 833989 Email: <a href="mailto:cldr.roger.reed@southbucks.gov.uk">cldr.roger.reed@southbucks.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Jennifer Woolveridge	Gerrards Cross South	Phone: 01753 885646 Email: <a href="mailto:cldr.jennifer.woolveridge@southbucks.gov.uk">cldr.jennifer.woolveridge@southbucks.gov.uk</a>

The Gerrards Cross LAF also comprises the following parishes which, in addition to the County and District Councillors, are also voting

members. The LAF currently uses a council based representational voting system (this may be reviewed periodically).

Parish council	Chairman/Clerk	Nominated representative(s)
Denham Parish Council	Cllr David Quinton, Chairman Paul Graham, Clerk	vacant
Fulmer Parish Council	Cllr Ronnie H Lamb, Chairman Paul Kelly, Clerk	vacant
Hedgerley Parish Council	Cllr Michael Rice, Chairman Penny Harris, Clerk	vacant
Gerrards Cross Parish Council	Cllr Maurice Blackham, Chairman Diana Hepburn-Park, Clerk	vacant

**The LAF welcomes memberships from other partners/local groups and resident attendance. The following organisations are members of the Local Area Forum:**

- Bucks Fire and Rescue
- Bucks PCT
- Thames Valley Police

# The Gerrards Cross Local Area Forum

In each of the Buckinghamshire 19 local community areas, a Local Area Forum (LAF) is being implemented. The Gerrards Cross local community area is covered by Denham, Fulmer, Hedgerley and Gerrards Cross parishes.

Local Area Forums are meetings where local county, district and parish councillors, along with representatives of the police, fire and rescue, other public and voluntary/community sector partners, meet to discuss local residents' needs and priorities.

The Gerrards Cross LAF has yet to be formally constituted.

One of the tasks for each Local Area Forum is to determine priorities for the local area plan.

To this end until the forum is constituted a draft area plan in line with those created in other LAF Areas has been prepared as a base for determining local priorities. Once the Forum has been set up a local area planning workshop will be held to fully determine and agree priorities for the local area

Following this, future Gerrards Cross meetings will look at ways of developing actions to meet the LAF's priorities. The draft priorities are shown on page 15 and the subsequent section describes the progress so far in addressing these.

Meetings will be held throughout the area and will be open to the public.

At each meeting there will be a 20 minute period for public questions. Members of the public are encouraged to submit their questions in advance of the meeting to facilitate a full answer on the day of the meeting. Questions sent in advance will be dealt with first and verbal questions after.

Transport for Buckinghamshire Local Area Technicians will also be in attendance half an hour before each meeting for any highway issues to be reported

As soon as the Forum is established meeting times and dates along with minutes and agendas can be located at;

[www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/our\\_communities/gerrardscross.page?](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/our_communities/gerrardscross.page?)

Click on 'Committees' and then 'Gerrards Cross Local Area Forum'.

## Local Area Forum representatives

There are a number of representatives from the County and District Council at the Gerrards Cross Local Area Forum. These are:

Representative	Name	Contact
<p><b>Chairman</b> The LAF operates an annual voting system for the Chairman who can be either a County, District or Parish Councillor</p>	Vacant	Phone: Email:
<p><b>Vice-Chairman</b> The LAF operates an annual voting system for the Vice-Chairman (who is a District Councillor) chosen by the LAF</p>	Vacant	Phone: Email:
<p><b>Lead Area Officer (County)</b> The Lead Area Officer is a County Council senior manager who provides senior management support to the LAF with the Localities and Communities Manager.</p>	Nigel Sims	Phone: 01296 387131 Email: <a href="mailto:nsims@buckscc.gov.uk">nsims@buckscc.gov.uk</a>
<p><b>Lead Area Officer (District)</b> The Lead Area Officer from South Bucks District Council (SBDC) is a manager who represents South Bucks District Council at LAF meetings</p>	Rachael Winfield	Phone: Email:
<p><b>Localities and Communities Manager</b> The Localities and Communities Manager works with a wide range of partners and services to progress issues raised by the LAF and assist in increasing the capacity of communities to provide services themselves.</p>	Stephen Young	Phone: 01296 387543 Email: <a href="mailto:spyoung@buckscc.gov.uk">spyoung@buckscc.gov.uk</a>
<p><b>Democratic Services Officer</b> The Democratic Services Officer is responsible for organising the LAF meetings/agendas, meeting administration and note taking.</p>	Helen Wailing	Phone: 01296 Email: <a href="mailto:hwailing@buckscc.gov.uk">hwailing@buckscc.gov.uk</a>

## Service area representatives

The following County Council service areas have local representatives working in your local community area, who will be in regular attendance at the LAF drop-in sessions:

Service	Contact	
<b>Adult Social Care</b>	Karen Adamson	Tel: 01296 383847 Email: kadamson@buckscc.gov.uk
<b>Transportation</b>	Transport for Buckinghamshire Main number for reporting highways issues, etc.:  Local area technician:  Transport localities team leader : Chris Schwier	Tel: Tel: 0845 230 2882  As above  Email: cschwier@buckscc.gov.uk
<b>Youth Service</b>	Senior practitioner: Sarah Wood	Email: sawood@buckscc.gov.uk

Representatives from the Police also regularly attend the LAF meetings and the local neighbourhood police team will be available at many drop-in sessions. The Neighbourhood Police team includes:

For more information telephone  
0845 8505 505.



*The drop-in sessions involve representatives from Adult Social Care, Transportation and the Police*

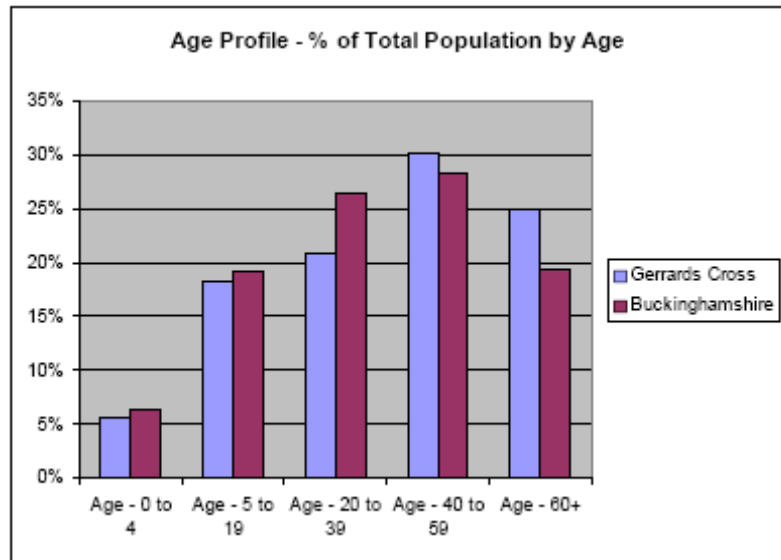
# About the Gerrards Cross local community area

The information set out below is taken from the Gerrards Cross local community area profile (2008).

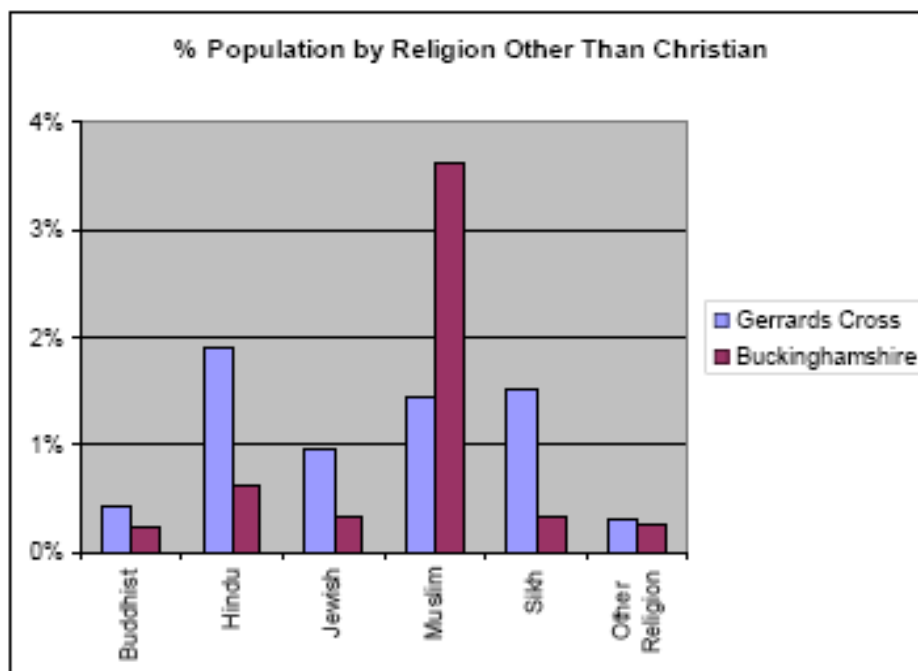
## Population and household characteristics

15,300 people live in this Local Community Area in 6,000 households. The size of Gerrards Cross is smaller than the average Local Community Area which is 25,200. The population in each Local Community Area varies from 7,900 to 69,300.

The age profile of Gerrards Cross is older than average. The population is slightly less urban than average as 61% of its population lives in urban areas, compared with the average of 65% and 40% of its land area is classified as urban.

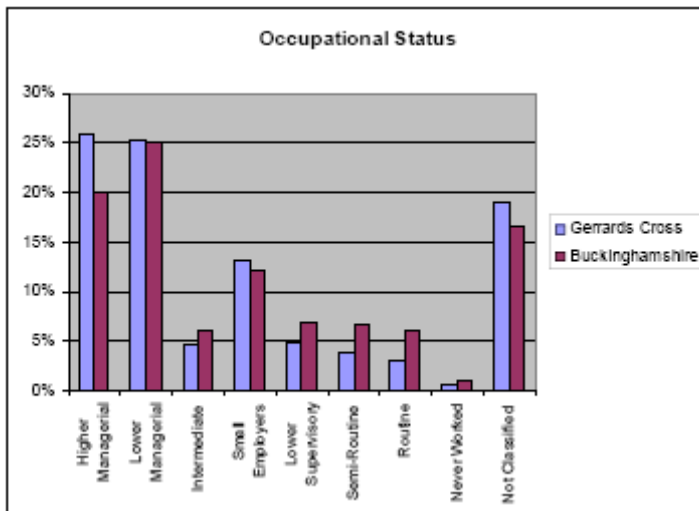
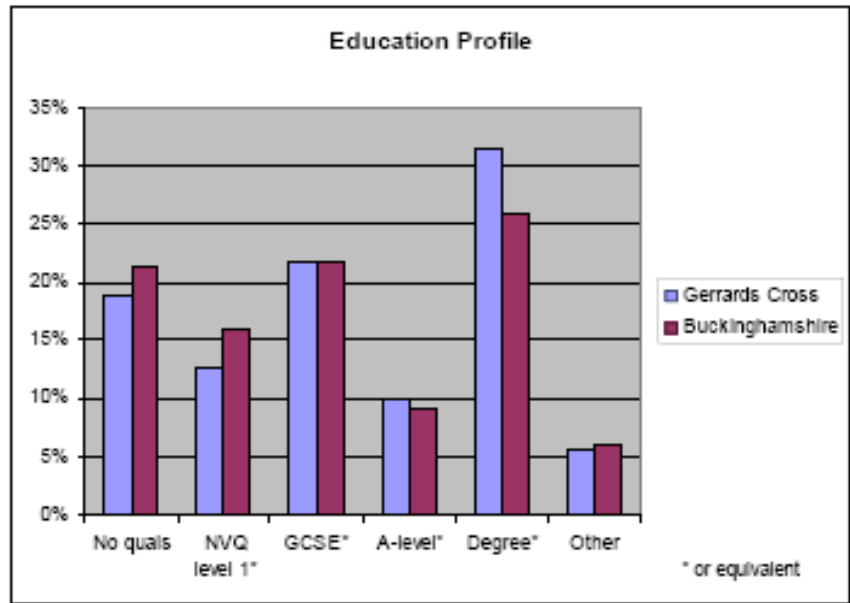


Gerrards Cross's population has an average proportion of people from the white ethnic group (92%) and slightly greater proportions of people from Mixed, Asian and Chinese ethnic groups. In terms of religious faith, 75% of the population hold Christian religious faiths, a slightly higher proportion than the average for Buckinghamshire, 73%. Gerrards Cross has a higher than average proportion of people of Hindu religious faith. At 2% Gerrards Cross has the greatest proportion of Hindus of all the Local Community Areas. Gerrards Cross also has greater than average proportions of Jewish and Sikh religious faiths.



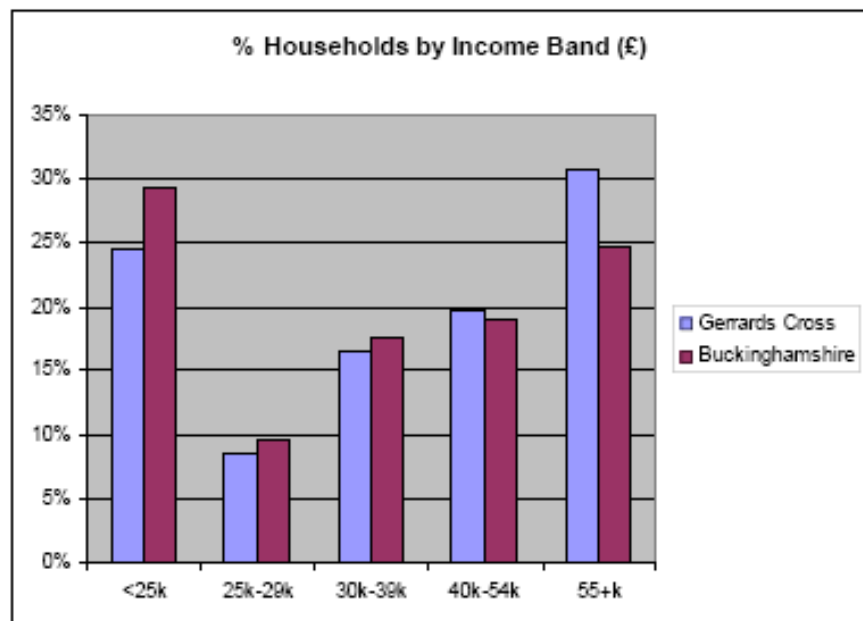
The health of Gerrards Cross's population reflects the average with 87% of people reporting no long-term limiting illness and 2% being permanently sick or disabled.

The educational ability of Gerrards Cross is high with 31% of its population qualified to degree level, compared to the Buckinghamshire average of 26%. The proportion of pupils achieving 5 or more A\*-C grade GCSEs is also high, 76% compared to the average of 68%.

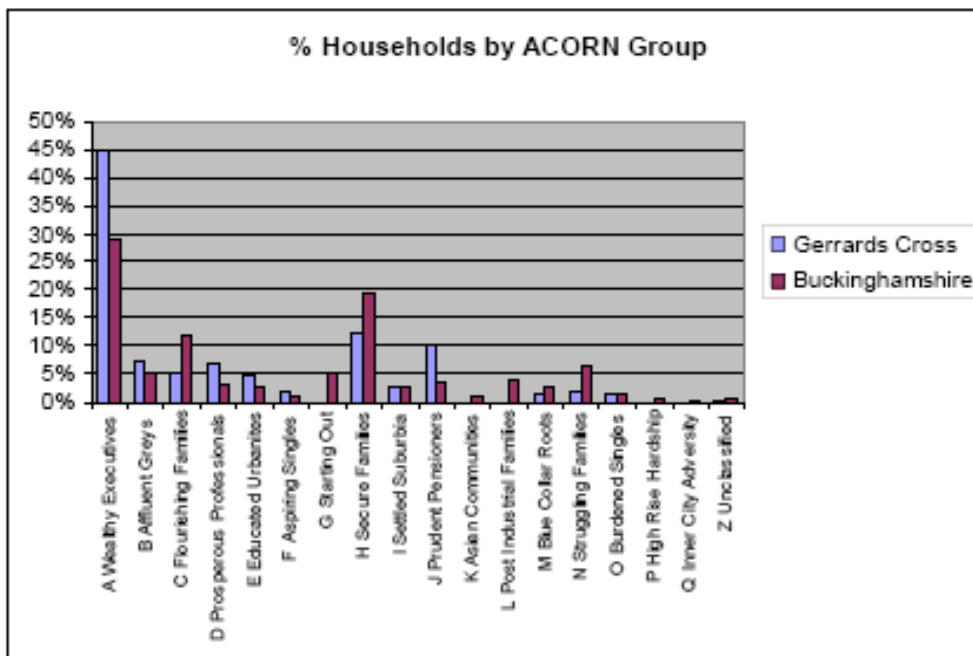


The unemployment rate reflects the average at 2.7% and over half its population is employed in the Higher and Lower Managerial & Professional Occupations.

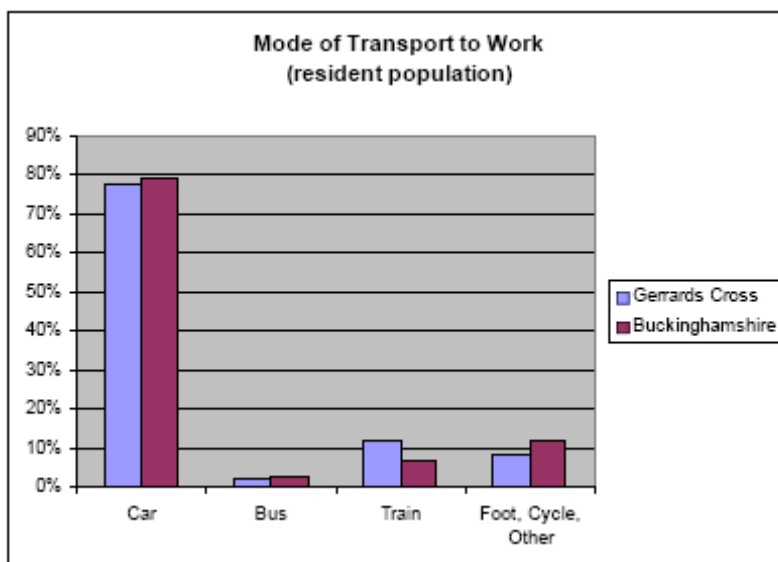
The occupational status of Gerrards Cross is also reflected in the income and acorn profiles. Gerrards Cross' average household income is £47k which is above the Buckinghamshire average of £42k and the highest all Local Community areas (ranging from £38k to £47k). The graph below shows the proportion of households in each income band and compares these to the county average.



A large proportion, 45%, of its households are classified by ACORN as 'wealthy executives', well above the Buckinghamshire average of 29%. The next largest proportions of households are from 'secure families' and 'prudent pensioners' with this latter group having over double the average proportion. Although representing a small proportion of total households, Gerrards Cross has above average proportions of 'affluent greys', 'prosperous professionals' 'educated urbanites' and 'aspiring singles'.



The car ownership levels in Gerrards Cross are slightly above average with 89% of households owning 1 or more cars, compared to the average of 87%. Although travelling to work by car is clearly the most dominant form of transport in Gerrards Cross, a higher than average proportion of commuters travel by train due to the mainline station located in this Local Community Area.

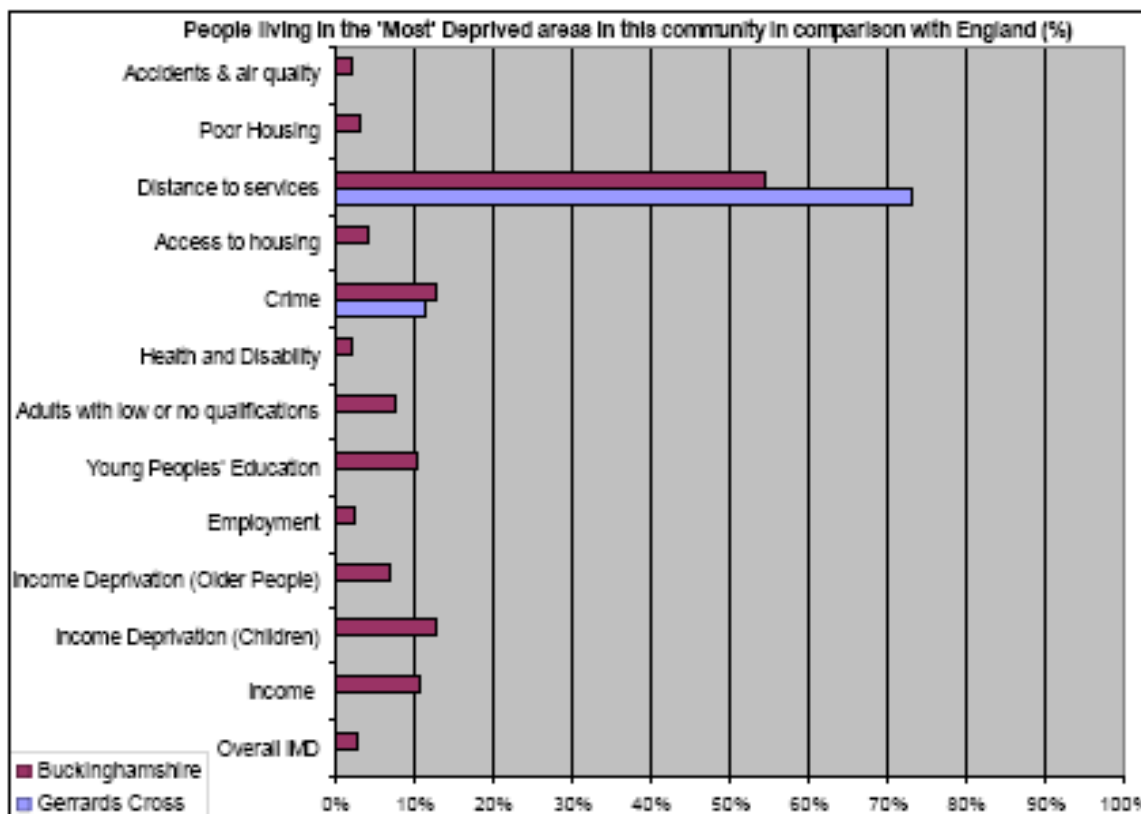


Gerrards Cross household composition is similar to the Buckinghamshire average with almost 60% of all households occupied by couples, split in half by those with and those without dependent children. Gerrards Cross has a greater proportion of pension households than average, 27% compared to 22%.

Gerrards Cross has slightly above average home ownership levels, 79% compared with the average of 77%.

The graph below shows the proportion of people living in the 'most' deprived areas of this community<sup>2</sup>. A number of types of deprivation are shown along with an overall measure of deprivation.

As this is a fairly rural area, people have to travel further to reach primary services like schools and GP practices - this is reflected in the distance to services measure of deprivation. The proportion of people living in the 'most' comparatively deprived areas for all other types of deprivation is below the Buckinghamshire average.



<sup>2</sup> Indices of Multiple Deprivation (2007). All lower level super output areas (LLSOAs) in England are ranked on a scale of 1-10 (1 = most deprived). The Buckinghamshire LLSOA's have then been extracted for this analysis. The proportion of people living in the 'Most' deprived areas (ranked 1-3) within this community area shown above. Please note that relevant age groups may be used for specific indicators. Please see the accompanying excel documents for more details.

# The Gerrards Cross area priorities

The draft priorities for the area were taken from parish plans, Service Excellence events, LTP2 and other relevant information, additional priorities were added by the parishes.

These priorities will be assessed during a workshop once the Gerrards Cross LAF is formed. The following pages describe progress so far in addressing the priorities. This will be updated on a regular basis as the priorities are taken forward.

## Sustainable Community Strategy

The priorities are linked to the five broad themes of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). The links to each theme are shown by the following colour coding:

- Sustainable environment
- Health and wellbeing
- Cohesive communities
- Thriving economies
- Safe communities

Area priorities identified	Additional information
<b>Maintain and Improve Activities and Facilities for Young People</b> <span style="color: orange;">■</span>	These Area Priorities are draft priorities taken from Parish Plans, Service Excellence Events and Parish Summaries
<b>Roads and Pavements are Properly Maintained</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span>	Once a local area forum has been established these will be reviewed and updated to reflect the forums priorities for the local area
<b>Improve level of Traffic Calming Measures</b> <span style="color: pink;">■</span>	These priorities will be used as a basis to determine expenditure of local priority funding available
<b>Improve Local Public Transport Services</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span>	
<b>Maintain and improve access to activities and facilities for older people and the disabled</b> <span style="color: orange;">■</span>	
<b>Rights of Way and Green Spaces are protected and maintained</b> <span style="color: green;">■</span>	
<b>Develop ways for the community to be better informed, involved and represented</b> <span style="color: pink;">■</span>	

Issue	Initial service/partner response		Work taken forward	Actions completed/achievements

## **Additional information relating to the local area priorities**

## Potential schemes to take forward

## Original responses prior to prioritisation workshop

Prior to the local area planning workshop in , all the parishes in the Gerrards Cross local community area were invited to submit individual responses to local issues and concerns. Not all the parish councils provided individual responses.

These received responses were listed according to the five broad themes of the Sustainable Communities Strategy:

- Thriving economy
- Sustainable environment
- Safe communities
- Health and wellbeing
- Cohesive and strong communities.

At the workshop, the individual issues were combined to form generic issues to enable the top priorities for the Local Area Forum to be identified. These are shown on pages 14-33.

**The original responses—alongside update information from some parishes—are provided on the following pages.**

Sustainable Environment											
	Public transport	Roads and pavement maintenance	Traffic management	Tips and household waste	Parks and open spaces		Access to nature	Country footpaths & rights of way	Town planning	Levels of pollution	Access to services and facilities by public transport
	Encourage schools and employers to promote alternative means of transport other than cars i.e. safer routes	Improve maintenance of roads and pavements	Reduce on street commuter parking		Restore Wapseys Wood to agricultural and woodland from 2012			Keep rights of way open across Bulstrode Park	Preserve the character of the village		Improve public transport provision to village centres including evenings and weekend
			Introduce civil parking enforcement		Maintain the running route around the commons			Ensure footpath accessibility is maintained	Increase conservation areas		
			Improve traffic calming, measures including speed limits and warnings						Ensure 106 agreements provide improvements to village infrastructure, particularly youth facilities and road safety		



Cohesive Communities									
	Sports and Leisure activities	Cultural facilities	Shopping facilities	Community facilities		Volunteering opportunities/support for voluntary & community	Activities for young people	Community cohesion	Libraries
				Seek opportunities for community service providers to be more locally based		Encourage involvement in residents associations and neighbourhood watch	Provide more and positive activities for young people	Encourage multicultural events	Increase the availability of Library services to older people including appropriate opening hours
						Improve community representation on local bodies	Improve publicity of youth amenities and facilities		
							Establish joint working between youth service providers including, youth centres, faith centres and scouts to increase in opportunities for young people		



