

£56 million savings so far with another £56 planned. No substantial effects on front line services. Part of the savings are accounted for by cutting senior management jobs, cutting out temporary and consultancy staff. Back office staff cut by 16.3% with more reductions proposed for the future. We have a very high satisfaction rate among residents.

Home to School Transport: BCC has a statutory duty to provide free transport for pupils who live more than 3 miles from their nearest **appropriate** school until they reach the age of 16. This resulted in the Aylesbury High and the Aylesbury Grammar schools being designated as the nearest appropriate school for those who pass the 11+. The result was that those attending the Floyd were going to be charged £600 per annum. However, after a torrent of complaints it has been agreed that the three grammar schools will be counted as one so all three become the nearest appropriate school.

Composting: Now that spring is here it is appropriate to remind residents of the importance of home composting. Householders can purchase a home compost bin from as little as £15.00 for a 220 litre model and £18.00 for the larger 330 litre version. For further information about these products, please call: - 0844 571 4444. Alternatively, you can also order your home composters and composting accessories online, just visit www.getcomposting.com

Council Magazine.

A revised Code has been passed by Parliament which comes into immediate effect.

The bottom line is that items in the magazine must be lawful, even handed and appropriate amongst other things. Under the new localism agenda many councils feel that it is up to individual councils to decide for themselves on the best way to keep residents informed. Using the local press costs quite a lot of money but under government dictat councils are obliged to use this way to keep residents informed. Councils are collectively lobbying the government to remove this requirement.

Adult Learning: There are all sorts of adult learning opportunities offered by BCC. Computing, patchwork, stained glass, languages, painting/drawing. You name it. For more information contact the Adult Learning Team on 0845 045 40 40 or go online to see the range of sessions at www.adultlearningbcc.ac.uk.

Transport for Bucks launches new mobile app

Access to the latest information on roadworks, gritters and pothole repairs are now just a tap away with the launch of Transport for Buckinghamshire's new free mobile app for iPad, iPhone and iPod Touch.

The app 'TfB Service Information Centre' is being piloted until the end of August 2011. It displays up-to-date information on the latest TfB twitter alerts, shows where the TfB community gangs are working, and tracks gritters, grass cutters and road workers in real time. In addition, users can report problems on the roads, by giving an exact location and uploading photos to show the fault or issue.

TfB wants to know what people think of the app, to help improve the service in the future. Send your comments to transportforbucks@gmail.com. The app is in addition to TfB's popular Service Information Centre website, which has increased its visitors by 88% in the last year.

The app can be downloaded free from Apple's iTunes store <http://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/tfb-service-information-centre/id418884771?mt=8>. Android phone users can look forward to a compatible release in the near future.

Hero's event

