

Continued investment

in major infrastructure projects including A5-M1, A421, East West Rail.

Good rail links

to London, Midlands, and the North, and future 2019/20 East/West rail route connecting Oxford and Cambridge.

London-Luton airport

connects to over 100 destinations, Stansted and Heathrow are within 1 hour drive.

Excellent transport links

to London and surrounding areas.

Jobs increasing

- 2,180 average annual growth 2010 - 2015, but only 500 new jobs in 2015.

Central Bedfordshire



Gain in commercial space

71,000sqm of new development equivalent to 7 football pitches.

Live



Population

of 274,000 increasing at a faster rate (7.7%) than national rate (3.3%).

3rd

out of 138 authorities in the uSwitch better Family Life Index.

Central Bedfordshire a great PLACE to live and work



Superfast broadband

coverage of 90% of premises, 97% target for 2018/19.



Employment rate

78.6%, higher than national rate of 73.9%.

Work

Businesses value Central Bedfordshire as a business location having...



Attractive surroundings.



Good schools/colleges.



Good transport connectivity.

At the heart of the Oxford, Milton Keynes, Cambridge Growth Corridor.



Strategic location

in greater South-East.



House prices

average £51,000 higher than national prices, and at almost 18% growth, is double the national growth.



Income

the average, weekly income for residents is £574.80, higher than the national rate of £533.

BUT...

Retail leakage of £423 million

7 times as much money leaves Central Bedfordshire than comes into the area.

Areas of deprivation

5 areas in the top 10-20% most deprived in the UK (an increase from the 3 in 2010).

Higher paid jobs outside Central Bedfordshire

residents earn an average £574.80 a week, whereas those who work in Central Bedfordshire earn £478.50.

Job density

is 0.66, highest since 2004 but still lower than comparator areas (surrounding area is 0.83).