



**NOTES  
OF THE MEETING OF THE  
PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY  
THURSDAY 10 JUNE 2010**

Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford

**PRESENT:**

Councillors B G Dale (Vice Chairman in the Chair), R L Butler, L B Cooper, Mrs C E M Jeffreys, R M Jones, B A Nicholls, P Smith (substitute for Councillor N C Lawrence) and Mrs M Stockwood

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Inspector P Hallam Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspector, Nottinghamshire Police

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

|               |                                           |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------|
| C Bullett     | Deputy Chief Executive (CB)               |
| W Green       | Domestic Violence Co-ordinator            |
| D Hayden      | Community Safety Manager/LSP Co-ordinator |
| K Marriott    | Acting Head of Community Shaping          |
| D Mitchell    | Head of Partnerships and Performance      |
| V Nightingale | Senior Member Support Officer             |

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillors N C Lawrence and T Vennett-Smith

**1. Declarations of Interest**

There were none declared.

**2. Notes of the Previous Meeting**

The notes of the meeting held on Wednesday 31 March 2010 were accepted as a true record.

**3. Designated Public Places Orders in Rushcliffe**

Following a request from the Group the Acting Head of Community Shaping presented a report informing Members of the use and implementation of the designated public places orders in Rushcliffe. She stated that these orders, which had been employed in Cotgrave, West Bridgford and Radcliffe on Trent, were a tool that could be used to deal with problems relating to anti-social behaviour. Members were reminded that this did not affect the police's powers to deal with underage drinking but it could assist especially where there were groups of mixed ages.

Commenting further she said that it was too early to comment on the order implemented in Radcliffe on Trent, however after the introduction of the orders in West Bridgford and Cotgrave there had been a general decrease in incidents of crime due to a number of initiatives. Comments from the residents

of Cotgrave were that the area had improved although, following implementation, there had been a number of initiatives introduced by the Police and other partners. This included schemes such as area based initiatives and opportunities to engage with young people, for example Positive Futures organised by Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club. Members felt that the Borough needed more youth activities, although it was recognised that this was the remit of the County Council.

Inspector Hallam informed the Group that the Police were also concentrating resources on these areas, including more proactive work with key offenders. He stated that the success in Cotgrave needed to be replicated in other areas, especially Radcliffe on Trent. Members were informed that Cotgrave was the first area in the country to trial an anti-social behaviour risk assessment and that the results of this would be considered by senior Police officers to identify examples that could be used in other areas of the country. He supported the Acting Head of Community Shaping's comments that public perception had changed.

Following a question regarding underage drinking Inspector Hallam assured Members that anyone under 18 caught drinking was taken home and that this had been successful as the zero tolerance approach was both firm and robust. Also if the parent was in rented accommodation the Police were working closely with landlords and the parents were warned that this could affect their tenancy. He stated that this was an area where partnership co-operation was important.

Members asked for further information on the level of drug use amongst young people stopped as this was one type of crime that had increased in the Borough. Inspector Hallam stated that there was no major drug use in Rushcliffe, however he felt that the increase was positive as it meant that there was more reporting of the crime. He informed Members that following the arrest of 2 offenders there had been no crime for approximately seven weeks. Officers stated that at the Group's meeting in November 2010 there would be a more comprehensive report on the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and that officers would provide further information then.

In response to a question Inspector Hallam acknowledged that West Bridgford's issues were different to Cotgrave's. West Bridgford had close proximity to the City of Nottingham, there was a thriving night time economy, major sporting venues and 89% of crime was committed by non-residents. Officers stated that they were developing links with partners from the City and that area based initiatives in the Trent Bridge Ward were succeeding with partners working together to make the area more attractive. One of the successes of the designated public places order in West Bridgford was the removal of street drinkers from the war memorial. Inspector Hallam informed Members that, due to increased awareness and data analysis, the Police could concentrate their efforts in the known hot spots. He also stated that the Police worked closely with the City Police on cross border crime and that they looked at how crime was displaced.

Members were concerned that people could perceive Cotgrave to be a terrible area, whereas in reality the crime figures were relatively small. Inspector

Hallam informed the Group that Rushcliffe was the safest place to live in the country.

In summary the Scrutiny Group agreed that the 2 DPPO's that had been in operation in Rushcliffe for a significant time period were having an impact on tackling problems through a multi agency approach.

The Group thanked Inspector Hallam for attending the meeting to answer Members' questions.

#### **4. Update on Domestic Violence Support Work**

The Acting Head of Community Shaping presented a report outlining the work undertaken by Rushcliffe Borough Council in partnership with other agencies to support victims, raise awareness and reduce the prevalence of domestic violence. She explained that although this issue could affect anyone, government statistics stated that this was commonly an offence carried out by men towards women. It affected many children because of the violence they witnessed in their home. Another government statistic stated that in 2008 domestic violence cost the British economy £5.8 billion.

Members were informed that to tackle domestic violence the Borough Council had employed a Domestic Violence Co-ordinator. The service had an overall aim to increase the initial reporting and to reduce the number of victims experiencing repeat incidents. Other support including helping people to access counselling, give support through court cases, debt advice, housing advice and giving support gaining injunctions. She stated that in 2008/09 Rushcliffe recorded an overall reduction year on year in repeat incidents of 10%, which was the highest reduction in Nottinghamshire.

The Domestic Violence Co-ordinator gave a presentation explaining the impact domestic violence had on Council services and on residents. She referred to the South Notts Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership that was formed in 2004 to formulate a multi-agency action plan. She expanded on the work undertaken, highlighting many of the initiatives and campaigns. For example the Freedom Programme, community theatre, consultation with young people and time specific campaigns i.e. Christmas, the World Cup, etc. There were also multi-agency risk assessment conferences to identify and protect high risk survivors and their children. Another partnership initiative was the Sanctuary scheme which was open to all residents and helped improve security in victims homes. The scheme had been launched in March 2008 and the partnership was holding an event in September 2010 to identify any improvements required and to celebrate its successes.

One of the major initiatives was to work with children and young people on a range of 'respect' issues, this included anti bullying workshops and working with libraries. Members felt that working with children on issues such as bullying and sexual abuse was vital as it raised awareness as early as possible. Members were concerned about incidents of child abuse and officers agreed to provide information through a briefing note or Members' Matters.

The Group were informed of the rural drop in centres which were located to serve areas of need. There were 2 centres at present and it was hoped to increase these. The Domestic Violence Co-ordinator explained that the most dangerous time for a victim was when they were thinking of leaving the relationship. Officers stated that although there was no refuge in the Borough there were seven in the County.

The Domestic Violence Co-ordinator outlined the future plans for the service; to expand the rural access points, hold another community theatre event, to have thought provoking street theatre at the youth event Bridgifest and to link with a local charity to publish a guide regarding internet stalking and social networking dangers.

Following a question regarding the impact of the recession Members were informed that although there was no correlation between a recession and an increase in domestic violence it could exacerbate the situation. It was explained that victims would find it more difficult to leave a relationship as the household's economy would be affected and in more serious cases people would need to be able to change their employment and this could be difficult in a recession.

Regarding the number of incidents recorded the Group were informed that Cotgrave had a high reporting level and this was accredited to the number of services that were concentrated in the area, especially Spirita and Surestart. The Group were informed that the Trent Bridge Ward had a high level of repeat incidents which was mainly due to the method of recording incidents by address and not by individuals, therefore the high concentration of bars adversely affected the area.

In summary the Scrutiny Group concluded that there had been some excellent work by the Council's Domestic Violence Co-ordinator and partners ensuring a wide range of support mechanisms were now in place and that these were being well received.

The Group thanked officers for a very informative presentation and for the admirable work that was carried out on behalf of residents.

## **5. Partnerships**

Following a request at the Group's last meeting the Deputy Chief Executive (CB) presented an updated list of the Council's partnerships. It was acknowledged that the list had not been reviewed for 2 years. The list explained who was involved, how it was financed and what involvement the Borough Council had.

Councillor Jones asked for further clarification on the Strategic Planning of Children and Young People's Services partnership. Officers stated that this was one of the partnerships that would be included in the Group's programmed review of partnerships regarding children and young people scheduled for September 2010.

Following a question regarding the East Leake Leisure Centre partnership officers updated Members on the work being undertaken with Carillion. This

included the energy efficiency measures being put in place and how officers were working with Carillion to maintain and increase usage. Officers also outlined the new governance arrangements that had been introduced which were being overseen by the Cabinet portfolio holder for Community.

The Group discussed the provision in the Child Poverty Act for local authorities to produce a strategy by 2011. It was not clear whether this was the remit of the Borough or the County Council and officers agreed to investigate and report back.

Councillor Mrs Stockwood queried why the parishes were not included, officers agreed to add this partnership to the list.

In summary the Scrutiny Group concluded that there were a wide range of partnerships in operation which would need close scrutiny with the current uncertain economical position

## 6. **Work Programme**

The Group considered their work programme and felt that it was very comprehensive. It was stated that Councillor Lawrence had felt that the Group should scrutinise the rural exception site partnership, which provided housing in small villages for people with a local connection. The Group felt that further clarification was required on the extent of such a review and the concern to which it was to be targeted.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

**Action Sheet**  
**PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY - THURSDAY 10 JUNE 2010**

| Minute Number                                    | Actions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Officer Responsible                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3. Designated Public Places Orders in Rushcliffe | <p>Officers to provide further information on drug usage, if available, at the Group's meeting in November 2010 as part of a comprehensive report on the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership</p> <p>The group requested feedback on whether residents perceptions of the fear of crime were improving when, and if, the National Place survey was repeated in late 2010</p> | <p>Acting Head of Community Shaping</p> <p>Head of Partnerships and Performance</p> |
| 4. Update on Domestic Violence Support Work      | <p>Members were concerned about incidents of child abuse and officers agreed to provide information through a briefing note or Members' Matters.</p> <p>Officers investigate the possibility of providing geographic information and improvements to the logging system for incidents and provide feedback through Members Matters or a Members' briefing note</p>               | <p>Acting Head of Community Shaping</p> <p>Acting Head of Community Shaping</p>     |
| 5. Partnerships                                  | <p>a) Further clarification on the responsible local authority for the production of a strategy by 2011 as part of the Child Poverty Act</p> <p>b) The partnership with the parishes to be included on the schedule of partnerships .</p>                                                                                                                                        | <p>Deputy Chief Executive (CB)</p> <p>Head of Partnerships and Performance</p>      |