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Our reference:
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Date: 25 April 2014

To all Members of the Community Development Group

Dear Councillor

A meeting of the COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP will be held on Tuesday 6 May 2014 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford to consider the following items of business.

Yours sincerely

Executive Manager Operations and Corporate Governance

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Notes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 18 March 2014 (pages 1 - 5)
4. Economic Development

The report of the Executive Manager - Transformation is attached (pages 6 - 13).

5. Request for Scrutiny of Public Conveniences

The report of the Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods is attached (pages 14 - 16).

6. Work Programme

The report of the Executive Manager - Operations and Corporate Governance is attached (pages 17 - 18).

Membership

Chairman: Councillor R L Butler
Vice-Chairman: Councillor T Combella
Councillors S J Boote, N K Boughton-Smith, L B Cooper, J E Greenwood,
Mrs M M Males, G R Mallender

Meeting Room Guidance

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NOTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP
TUESDAY 18 MARCH 2014

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

PRESENT:

Councillors R L Butler (Chairman), S J Boote, N K Boughton-Smith, L B Cooper, J E Greenwood, Mrs M M Males, G R Mallender, B Tansley (substitute for Councillor Combellack)

OFFICERS PRESENT:

D Banks	Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods
D Mitchell	Executive Manager - Communities
V Nightingale	Senior Member Support Officer
A Pegram	Service Manager - Communities

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor T Combellack

18. Declarations of Interest

There were none declared.

19. Notes of the Previous Meeting

The notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21 January 2014 were accepted as a true record subject to the word principals being amended to principles in paragraph 12 of Note 14 YouNG Network Group.

20. Relationship with Town and Parish Council

The Executive Manager - Communities gave a presentation outlining the work undertaken by the Borough Council to increase engagement with the parish/town councils. He stated that there were 58 parishes in Rushcliffe and if all the council positions were filled there would be 339 town/parish councillors.

He reminded Members that this issue had been scrutinised in April 2013 and six recommendations had been approved. As part of the process a questionnaire had been sent to the parishes and it had been identified that the top three subjects parishes contacted the Borough Council about were planning, finance and environmental matters. Planning had previously been a topic for the parish forums and was also programmed for the forum in April.

With regard to the six recommendations the Executive Manager - Communities informed the Group of their progress.

Recommendation 1 Produce a short summary document – a two page document had been distributed to all parish and town councils and uploaded on the Council's website.

Recommendation 2 Member Services to act as a key point of contact to Executive Managers – this had been implemented and was working well. Executive Managers were working closely with the larger parish/town councils, including attending meetings.

Recommendation 3 Where possible executive summaries of large council documents to be supplied – there had not been many large documents produced in the last twelve months. Parishes received a briefing note regarding flooding in 2013.

Recommendation 4 Engagement of Town and Parish Councils in forward planning the forums/conference and involvement of other parties in programme delivery – 98% satisfaction levels for the forums and conference in 2013/14. There was an average attendance of 49 for the forums and the 2013 conference had 96 delegates. At each event there was a consultation exercise undertaken to ascertain what topics could be included in a forward plan. Members were informed that this year's conference was on 25 June 2014 and the theme was "doing more for less". The Group were informed of the many organisations who attended as speakers, including Incredible Edibles, Cropwell Bishop Community Led Planning Group, Nottinghamshire County Council, National Association of Local Councils.

Members noted that a fair proportion of the attendees at the forums were Borough Councillors and queried if priority was given to parish councillors. Officers stated that many Councillors represented both tiers of government and that, so far, no one had not been able to attend. Members supported the fact that West Bridgford local associations should also be invited.

Following a question the Group was informed that some parishes did not attend the forums, however, they did receive a copy of any presentations.

In respect of non-attendance Councillors queried if working people were disadvantaged as the forums were held during working hours.

Recommendation 5 Include key County Link officers in communications and explore collaboration – Nottinghamshire County Council's Liaison Officer receive all agendas and programmes for the forums and attend whenever possible. They have attended the 2013 conference and will attend the 2014 conference.

Recommendation 6 Arrange meeting with interested parishes to review recommendations - the Executive Manager - Communities stated that there had not been a formal meeting but the parish forums and conference were used as a consultation tool. After reviewing the responses of the initial consultation it was noted that it was primarily Borough Councillors who had indicated that they would attend the meeting.

The Group felt that a lot of work had been undertaken and that there was a very good relationship between the Borough and the parishes. Following a

question regarding the engagement with the larger parishes the Executive Manager - Communities and Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods explained that they regularly contacted the clerks to see if there were any issues, attended different meetings of the Council and gave support when needed. He stated that this was not a regimented approach.

Councillor Boote stated that as a member of Keyworth Parish Council he knew that parishes valued their independence from the Borough and County Councils. He said that parishes often felt that they had to pick up tasks that should be actioned by other authorities.

Following a question the Service Manager Communities explained that the parishes were consulted on planning applications and, if possible, extra time was allowed. However, there were strict timescales for a decision to be made on an application.

The Group felt that recommendation 6 had been completed, but not using the originally envisaged method.

The Group AGREED the actions that had been undertaken in respect of work with Town and Parish Councils.

21. **Request for Scrutiny of New Energy Initiatives**

The Executive Manager - Communities reminded Members that the Group had requested to consider adding new energy initiatives to its work programme. In accordance with the scrutiny matrix the Group would not be discussing the actual topic of new energy initiatives but considering if it should become a substantive item for scrutiny. To assist Members the Executive Manager - Communities gave a presentation giving an overview of the alternative energy options.

In respect of wind turbines, the Group was informed that work was being undertaken with Melton Borough Council on a renewable wind turbine policy, as the Vale of Belvoir had been identified as a possible location. The Borough Council was considering five applications, four applications had been refused and the results of the appeals in relation to two of these refusals were awaited. Three applications for small wind turbines had been approved. It was recognised that other local authorities had received, and approved significantly more applications.

With regards to solar power the Executive Manager - Communities informed the Group that this was achieved either through domestic photovoltaic panels or commercial photovoltaics. The Borough had approved one commercial solar farm application at Orston. This type of application received fewer objections than one for a wind turbine.

Members were informed that an application for an anaerobic digester at Barnstone had been approved and that another one was being considered. It was considered that a digester looked like another farm building and therefore there was only limited impact on the aesthetics of the site. The Executive Manager - Communities explained that comments often were concerned about smells and there was also a perception, although small, that these could be

dangerous and could explode due to the gases. This was not considered to be a risk

In consideration of hydro-generation Members were informed that two applications had been approved and that there were a further five potential sites. The only potential issue that had emerged was the environmental impact on the river as a leisure facility.

Finally, the Executive Manager - Communities gave a brief outline of hydraulic fracturing, known as fracking. He explained that the County Council would be the planning authority and the Borough Council would be a consultee. There had not been any applications so far but the Council would need to consider what its response would be should one be received. It was acknowledged that not enough was known about this issue and it could be beneficial to invite representatives from the British Geological Survey to provide further information to Members and officers. Councillor Boote agreed to provide details of another speaker. Following a question Members were informed that 1% of revenue from fracking was allocated to the community, however it was not stated which authority would receive the money.

The Group discussed the Council's role and whether it should be reactive or proactive. The Executive Manager - Communities stated that planning was reactive in response to an application, however the Council could be proactive with its strategy and identify its approach to such applications. Members agreed that further information was necessary and raise the possibility of arranging a meeting at the British Geological Survey.

Members discussed the different levels of each type of alternative energy and agreed that the Council's approach to wind turbines was already being considered. Anaerobic digestion, solar and hydro power appeared to have a smaller number of objections when compared to a potential application for fracking, therefore, the understanding of the impact of fracking on a community and what the Council's response should be to any future applications should be a priority. Following a question regarding including this item on a future parish forum agenda officers stated that the parishes set the agendas and that this was probably not an appropriate time to send out any information yet.

The Group agreed that new energy initiatives should be included in their work programme with fracking as a priority.

22. Work Programme

The Group considered its work programme and agreed that the issue of new energy initiatives should be included in the programme for the meeting 15 July 2014.

Councillor Boote raised the issue of public conveniences for consideration as an item. He felt that this was an issue of public concern and that there needed to be a holistic approach to see if there was enough provision provided by the County, Borough or parish councils. He was informed that this could be considered against the scrutiny matrix to see if the Group wished to include it within its work programme.

Councillor Boughton-Smith reminded Members that he had asked a question about scrutinising homelessness. He was informed that this topic was considered annually by the Partnership Delivery Group and for 2013/14 had been considered at its meetings on 3 October 2013 and 7 January 2014.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Action Sheet COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP - TUESDAY 18 MARCH 2014

Minute Number	Actions	Officer Responsible
21. Request for Scrutiny of New Energy Initiatives	Officers to arrange a visit to the British Geological Survey for all Members to investigate further the impacts of fracking	Executive Manager - Communities
22. Work Programme	a) The work programme to include the topic of new energy initiatives on 15 July 2014.	Member Service
	b) The topic of public convenience provision to be considered against the scrutiny matrix	Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods

Responses

Minute Number	Action	Officer Responsible	Response
21. Request for Scrutiny of New Energy Initiatives	Officers to arrange a visit to the British Geological Survey for all Members to investigate further the impacts of fracking	Executive Manager - Communities	Officers are investigating opportunities with British Geological Survey
22. Work Programme	a) The work programme to include the topic of new energy initiatives on 15 July 2014.	Member Service	This item has been added to the work programme
	b) The topic of public convenience provision to be considered against the scrutiny matrix	Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods	A report is included on the agenda for 6 May 2014

Report of the Executive Manager - Transformation

Summary

1. At the Community Development Group meeting in April 2013 a presentation was given on the current picture of economic development in Rushcliffe as well as the wider context of economic development including the work being done by Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Council. The accompanying report detailed the proposed areas of work for 2013/14.
2. An Economic Development Team has since been established which is responsible for coordinating the delivery of the priority area of work and is made up of officers from around the Council.
3. This report is an update of the work done so far by the Economic Development Team and the identified priorities for 2014/15.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that

- a) Members endorse the actions and priorities proposed for the coming year.
- b) Members recognise the work officers are doing to progress this strategic priority within the resources available.

Update on work in 2013/14

4. The action plan presented at the Community Development Group in April 2013 identified some key areas of work. These were:
 - Local plan development in the Borough
 - Support for businesses
 - Our assets – property and estates
 - Rushcliffe offer: produce, tourism and infrastructure
 - Regeneration
 - Employment and skills
5. Projects have been completed, are being delivered and are planned for all these key areas of work. The action plan in **Appendix 1** gives a more detailed update of the work so far. Some of the work, e.g. the Local Plan is undertaken and overseen by Members through the Local Development Framework Group. It is a key piece of work and an integral part of the economic development plan therefore progress with it is included in this plan.

6. As well as this report and the appendix a presentation will provide further detail on the work completed to date. This will cover some of the key areas of work and achievements so far including:

- Cotgrave regeneration project
- Application for funding to the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
- Purchasing The Point and increasing the number of tenants
- Creating an enterprise centre in the Civic Centre providing units for start-up and small businesses
- Delivery of a successful developer forum event
- Rushcliffe Business Partnership events
- Producing and circulating a Rushcliffe business newsletter

Proposed work for 2014/15

7. The following priority areas of work have been identified for 2014/15:

- Links with the LEP to maximise our opportunity to access funding
- Bringing forward development on our key strategic sites
- Application to the Local Infrastructure Fund
- Approval of the Local Plan
- Bridgford Hall – securing a new tenant
- Delivery of 100 new apprenticeships in Rushcliffe this year
- Roll out of Broadband in the identified areas in Rushcliffe
- Increasing the offer for the visitor economy e.g. Rushcliffe Food Fair

Financial Comments

There are no financial comments

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act

There are no section 17 comments

Diversity

There are no diversity comments

Background Papers Available for Inspection: Nil

Details	Actions	Outcomes	Progress/comments
Local plan development in the Borough			
Adopt and implement the local plan	Review following inspection	Housing and development is planned over the next 15 years.	Proposed modifications to the local plan have been consulted on following advice from the Planning Inspector in March 2013. The consultation concluded on 07/04/14 ready for resubmission for examination.
Bring forward housing sites and employment land	Consider the use of Council Investment to bring forward sites. Promote sites.	Houses are built in the Borough – more housing, more trade to support local businesses, more employment opportunities in the borough from the employment sites	Developer forum event held on Monday 27 January. There were 12 attendees including the Chief Executive of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), colleagues from Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC), the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), Invest in Nottingham as well as developers, agents and landowners. Another event will be planned for September/October 2014. Application to the LEP for funding for stalled sites.
Work on viability of developments	Review S106 agreements as required	If S106 are affecting viability they may need renegotiating.	Funding provided to NCC towards feasibility study of all employment sites in the Borough – what should be built, where. Outcome of this to be shared November/December 2014
Consider the use of the New Homes Bonus	Need to estimate potential receipt levels, model against potential budget demands via the Medium Term Financial Forecast and establish what, if any, earmarking there will be for community led initiatives and the implementation of the Leisure Strategy.	New Homes Bonus money is carefully included in the Medium Term Financial Forecast	At this stage businesses requiring funding will be encouraged to explore options such as Funding Circle (crowd funding approach). However there will be the option to consider opportunities on a case by case basis.

Details	Actions	Outcomes	Progress/comments
Application to local infrastructure fund	Work with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) to make an application to the infrastructure fund. Link up key sites e.g. Clifton and Gamston	Accelerated development on stalled sites as infrastructure funding provided.	<p>Agreement from the HCA that they will support RBC with an application to the Local infrastructure fund.</p> <p>Funding available for sites of 250 – 1,500 homes and then for sites of 1,500+</p> <p>The fund is a loan only therefore the site needs to be shown to be viable in the long term but initial capital infrastructure/cash flow has stalled development. NB developer applies – not RBC.</p>
Support for businesses			
Rushcliffe Business Partnership	Continue to support partnership and events.	Businesses are engaged and are proactive in advising the Council of areas it can support the local economy	<p>Small and medium enterprise (SME) business event on 08/10/13 at Nottingham Forest Football Club had over 150 attendees.</p> <p>Attendance at Nottinghamshire County Show – 11 local businesses exhibited in the Rushcliffe Business Partnership tent.</p> <p>Regular attendance by RBC officers at local business networking events – Ruddington, East Leake etc.</p> <p>Working has begun on the establishment of a business networking group in Cotgrave.</p> <p>Annual business event proposed for October at British Geological Survey - exact date and theme to be confirmed.</p>
Big business events/ network	Community Engagement manager to put together an outline of current activity		<p>Big business events held on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20/09/13 at Nottingham Forest Football Club – inward investment theme – 25 businesses attended • 18/10/13 at British Geological Survey – 12 businesses attended

Details	Actions	Outcomes	Progress/comments
Business rate support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of support available for businesses – RBC website, business newsletter etc. • Develop relationships and provide a point of contact for businesses that have highest rateable values in the Borough. 		<p>Briefing paper for Members on new business rate reliefs and rural rate relief following Autumn Statement.</p> <p>Information about new business rate relief included in March 2014 edition of the business newsletter.</p> <p>Discretionary rate relief advertised on website including non-standard relief, hardship relief and local discounts.</p> <p>Building relationships with top 10 rateable value businesses in the Borough. They are contacted on a quarterly basis if we have not had contact from them.</p>
Produce business newsletter	Produce quarterly business newsletter to be e mailed out. Increase number of businesses that we have e mail contact details for to increase readership.	More awareness about what support is available for businesses. Raising the profile of RBC and what we are doing to support business in the Borough.	<p>3 newsletters sent out – May 2013, October 2013 and March 2014.</p> <p>Increase in businesses receiving the newsletter from approximately 200 (first edition) to over 500 (third edition)</p>
Environmental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of businesses that we have a primary authority role with. • Provide food hygiene training • Support food businesses with food hygiene ratings of 2 or below to increase their score. 		<p>Secured primary authority role with Boots. Taking the total up to 5.</p> <p>Worked with the D2N2 (the Local Enterprise Partnership) to develop the new business advice website which provides businesses with information and guidance from regulatory bodies. Also looking at ways that new businesses can be supported – perhaps through a new business training package.</p> <p>Funding secured from the Food Standards Agency to support food businesses with food hygiene ratings of 2 or below to increase their score.</p> <p>Health and safety advice training and advice being provided free of</p>

Details	Actions	Outcomes	Progress/comments
			charge by Derbys and Notts Chamber of Commerce in a 6 month pilot.
Property and estates			
Acquisitions and disposals	When considering acquisitions and disposals to have regard for best benefit to local economy and employment implications	Maximise local benefits from the Council's acquisitions and disposals	Three disposals to be considered at Cabinet on 12 May 2014. Future use of the Civic Centre being considered as part of the Arena site work.
Management of assets	Relevant sites include The Point, Gresham, the Depot Consider the business case for the Council providing small business accommodation from the Civic Centre New builds – depot, civic, leisure	Small flexible spaces could be available for hire if viable. Further support for local businesses. The Council's capital programme should benefit the local economy to maximum effect.	Only 1 suite left now in The Point – 3,000 sq. ft. Expressions of interest received for Bridgford Hall Local company appointed to manage the space at the Civic as a Business Enterprise Centre. The units range from shared workspace areas and small 1 person starter offices through to larger units for companies of up to 40 employees. Various packages are available for start-up and early stage business.
Rushcliffe offer: produce, tourism and infrastructure			
Experience Nottingham business fair	Start promoting Rushcliffe more as a home of business, connectivity and cheese/pies/wine. Food fair.	Local business prospers, Rushcliffe capitalises on its food links (ref Melton)	We have looked into the installation of 'Welcome to Rushcliffe' signs Unfortunately due to priorities to spend NCC Capital Programme the County Wide Audit of signage has been put on hold. It is hoped that their Traffic Management Design Team will be given the go ahead to resume the Audit in the next financial year.
Food/Country fair	Look to organise an event this year.	Celebrate Rushcliffe produce and increase the spend in Rushcliffe	Food Festival planned for Saturday 5 July on Central Avenue, West Bridgford. Hoping to have 50 – 60 market stalls and will be working with local businesses to encourage them to get involved.

Details	Actions	Outcomes	Progress/comments
Markets and town centre/night time economy	Review Bingham/farmers market for competition issues. Highlight the value of night time economy	Markets start to thrive and encourage rather than stifle competition.	Support provided to Bingham Market to develop plans for their 700 year celebrations. Saturday 14 (Bingham Town Fair), to Saturday 21 June, (Bingham Farmers' Market), with a special evening event to be held on the true anniversary. £1,000 grant given by RBC to support the event.
A453, A46, Broadband	Promote Rushcliffe as accessible for business	Employment land is developed	Broadband being rolled out soon – BT is the contractor and the completion date is 2015. Looking to organise a follow up event with the parishes to inform them about the plans for rural broadband.
Regeneration			
Cotgrave	Work on viability of town centre regeneration	Cotgrave becomes village of choice and aspiration	Working with developer and partners to develop an outline plan for the town centre. To improve viability of the development a phased programme is being considered. With phase one being the public sector partners/health building.
	Promotion and targeting of the employment opportunities from the redevelopment and coordination of the Cotgrave employment partnership	Local residents benefit from the redevelopment through training, apprenticeships and jobs.	The Cotgrave Employment partnership established Developer to provide guaranteed interviews to identified NEET (not in education, employment or training) young people from Cotgrave on completion of a 6 week pre apprenticeship training course delivered by Central or New College Nottingham. 20 NEET young people from Cotgrave to take part in a course in April/May 2014. Wider outputs identified for the employment partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotgrave business networking group • Support for new businesses operating out of Cotgrave in terms of employment and training • Increased engagement with community activities around learning and education

Details	Actions	Outcomes	Progress/comments
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A programme of delivery for the Ready4Work Club • Cotgrave jobs/apprenticeship fair • Delivery of training courses in Cotgrave • Apprenticeship taster sessions
Employment and skills			
	Development of R4W (ready for work) apprenticeship scheme with local businesses		<p>Links to aspiration for 100 apprenticeships created in Rushcliffe</p> <p>Meeting arranged to develop plan for the delivery of the project.</p>
	Support for work clubs – Cotgrave and West Bridgford		YMCA appointed by Metropolitan on 6 month contract to support work club in Cotgrave 2 days per week.
	Organise Rushcliffe's third jobs fair with Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and Nottingham Post.	Local residents given the opportunity to speak to and apply for jobs/training/ apprenticeships with local employers and colleges.	<p>Date has been set for 27 May 2014 at Lutterall Hall.</p> <p>Working with Nottingham Post, Department of Work and Pensions and Nottinghamshire County Council to support delivery of the event</p>
	Maximisation of the use of the Rushcliffe Community Contact Centre by support agencies e.g. Job Centre Plus.		

Report of the Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods

Introduction

1. At the Community Development Group Meeting on 18 March 2014, Councillor S J Boote requested that the provision of public toilets in Rushcliffe be included as a topic for scrutiny on the Group's work programme.
2. Councillor Butler as Chairman of the Community Development Group decided that the request should be considered in accordance with the agreed process for selection of new topics for scrutiny.
3. Councillor Boote raised this same issue at the Community Development Group in November 2011. The Group considered the request and decided not to include it on the work programme as it was decided that this was not a statutory duty, nor was it a corporate priority. It was also felt that with the current economic climate the Council did not have the resources to implement a scheme. However a letter was sent to the parishes informing them of the research undertaken by Councillor Boote in order that they could ascertain if they wished to implement a scheme.

Detail

4. This time, Councillor Boote states that the provision of public toilets is an issue of public concern and that there needs to be a holistic approach to see if there is enough provision provided by the County, Borough or Parish Councils.
5. The process for determining whether a suggested topic should be included on the work programme of a scrutiny group involves answering some initial questions and then, if appropriate, completing a prioritising matrix.

Initial questions to ask

A. Why would we do this?

There is no known local driver for this issue other than Councillor Boote's request.

B. How does it link to the Council's Corporate Strategy?

This is not a strategic task in the Corporate Strategy however it could be seen that the adequate provision of public facilities may contribute to the wider corporate theme of 'Maintaining and enhancing our residents' quality of life'

C. What tangible benefits could result for the community or our customers?

Improved access to public conveniences.

D. What evidence is there to support the need for a review?

The only known evidence is the survey that Councillor Boote carried out in 2011.

E. What would we wish to achieve and why?

Not known at this time

F. Are resources available to undertake a scrutiny exercise and will the work programme accommodate it?

Despite the relative success of the Council's Four Year Plan which delivered over £3 million in efficiencies the continued austerity measures require the Council to continue to identify further savings and efficiencies. The recently published Medium Term Financial Strategy and Transformation Strategy identified that the latter will need to deliver an additional £1.66 million saving by 2018/19. In order to meet these stretching financial targets whilst continuing to fulfil our corporate priorities a range of different work streams will need to be delivered over the next five years eg Transformation Projects, further big service reviews, service efficiencies etc. Consequently, it is not considered that there are currently any staff resources available to undertake this work without a reprioritisation of workloads. In addition the Group's current work programme is strongly focussed on the Council's existing corporate strategy with a particular focus on economic growth.

Are there reasons to reject the topic?

G. Is it in the scrutiny group's terms of reference?

Yes, this topic falls within the scope of the terms of reference of the Community Development Group.

H. Is it already being addressed?

The Council agreed an overall policy for public conveniences in 2003. At that time a number of public conveniences were sold, some were transferred to parish councils, some alternative provision was secured in public buildings and the Council retained one facility in West Bridgford and one in Bingham. In 2011 the toilets in Bridgford Park were completely replaced at a cost of almost £100,000.

I. Is it part of a legal process / complaint / grievance procedure?

No, and it is not a statutory duty, it is a discretionary service.

J. Is it unlikely to result in real or tangible benefits?

This depends on the perception of the current service and the likelihood of additional resources being directed to public conveniences when additional savings of £1.66m are being sought from the Council's budget.

K. If a detailed scrutiny exercise was needed is there sufficient capacity to support such a review?

No, see answer to question F above.

Summary

6. The Council has an established policy in respect of public conveniences. The topic does not feature in the Corporate Strategy and there is no known evidence that indicates that it has been identified as a priority other than via Councillor Boote.
7. A re-prioritisation exercise has recently taken place to ensure that there are sufficient staffing resources to implement the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and Transformational Strategy. To undertake a review of public conveniences with the potential additional cost of a community toilet scheme would require a further resource prioritisation exercise.

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Members consider whether the provision of public conveniences should be a substantive scrutiny item for inclusion on the work programme.



Community Development Group

6 May 2014

Work Programme

6

Report of the Executive Manager - Operations and Corporate Governance

The work programme for the Community Development Group is developed around the corporate priorities that fall within its remit and takes into account the timing of the Group's business in the previous municipal year and any emerging issues and key policy developments that may arise throughout the year. It is anticipated that the work programme for the year will be developed in line with the priorities identified in the 4 year plan for budget savings.

Members are asked to propose future topics to be considered by the Group, in line with the Council's priorities which are:

- *Supporting economic growth to ensure a prosperous and thriving local economy - Our economy;*
- *Maintaining and enhancing our residents' quality of life -Our residents*
- *Transforming the Council to enable the delivery of efficient high quality services - Our Council*

Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Group notes the report and considers any future topics.

Date of Meeting	Item
6 May 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on Economic Development• Work Programme
15 July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual Report• Role of Rushcliffe Borough Council's regulatory services in encouraging economic prosperity• New Energy Initiatives• Work Programme
21 October 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on Delivery of Rural Broadband in Rushcliffe• Work Programme
20 January 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work Programme

Financial Comments

No direct financial implications arise from the proposed work programme

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act

In the delivery of its work programme the Group supports delivery of the Council's Section 17 responsibilities.

Diversity

The policy development role of the Group ensures that its proposed work programme supports delivery of Council's Corporate Priority 6 'Meeting the Diverse needs of the Community'.

Background Papers Available for Inspection: Nil