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**Our reference:**  
**Your reference:**  
**Date:** 12 December 2012

To all Members of the Partnership Delivery Group

Dear Councillor

A meeting of the PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY GROUP will be held on Thursday 20 December 2012 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford to consider the following items of business.

Yours sincerely

Head of Corporate Services

### **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Declarations of Interest.
3. Cabinet Call In - Support for Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club

The Partnership Delivery Group are requested to consider a call-in request relating to a decision made by Cabinet at its meeting held on 4 December 2012.

Members are asked to consider the following attachments:

- a) A note setting out the order of the meeting is attached (pages 1 - 2).
- b) Copy of the report considered by Cabinet on 4 December 2012 is attached (pages 3 - 8)
- c) Copy of an extract of the Minute relating to this item is attached (pages 9 - 10)
- d) Copy of the Call in request form and additional information is attached (pages 11 - 13)

### Membership

Chairman: Councillor R Hetherington  
Vice-Chairman: Councillor F A Purdue-Horan  
Councillors Mrs D M Boote, R L Butler, H A Chewings, A M Dickinson,  
E J Lungley, Mrs M Stockwood, T Vennett-Smith

## Meeting Room Guidance

**Fire Alarm Evacuation:** in the event of an alarm sounding please evacuate the building using the nearest fire exit, normally through the Council Chamber. You should assemble in the Nottingham Forest car park adjacent to the main gates.

**Toilets** are located opposite Committee Room 2.

**Mobile Phones:** For the benefit of others please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off whilst you are in the meeting.

**Microphones:** When you are invited to speak please press the button on your microphone, a red light will appear on the stem. Please ensure that you switch this off after you have spoken.

## **CALL - IN PROCESS – EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This note provides a simple explanation of the format for the ‘call-in’ at the meeting of a Scrutiny Group. It sets out each stage to follow to ensure the meeting is effective and is not adversarial. The key stages are set out as follows:

### **Stage 1 – Lead Signatory submission**

As Lead signatory the first signatory to the ‘call in’ will be invited to address the Scrutiny Group and to make a statement of explanation in respect of the decision called in. They should outline the reasons why the signatories have called the decision in. They should also aim to explain how the decision is in breach of the principles of decision making (as set out in Article 13 of the Council’s Constitution).

The address should be limited to a maximum of 20 minutes and the lead signatory should stick to the reasons why the decision has been called in and why they believe it is in breach of the decision making principles.

### **Stage 2 – Cabinet Member submission**

Following the lead signatory’s address to the Scrutiny Group the relevant Cabinet Member(s) will be invited to address the Group. Relevant officers can be called upon to support this submission.

The address should be limited to a maximum of 20 minutes and it should aim to address the reasons given by the lead signatory for the call-in. They should also aim to explain why the decision has not breached the principles of decision making. Any officer evidence will not form part of this timed address.

### **Stage 3 – Scrutiny Group questions**

Scrutiny Group Members can then ask questions of the lead signatory, the Cabinet Member and officers directly relating to the decision and the reasons for the call-in (this should be questions about the decision and the call-in and not a debate on the issue as a whole).

### **Stage 4 – Lead Signatory closing statement**

The Lead signatory makes a closing statement (this should last a maximum of 5 minutes) responding to the submissions and questions previously heard. They are not allowed to question anyone.

### **Stage 5 – Cabinet Member closing statement**

The Cabinet Member(s) then make a closing statement (this should last a maximum of 5 minutes) responding to the submissions and questions previously heard. They are not allowed to question anyone.

### **Stage 6 – Scrutiny Group decision**


At this stage the Scrutiny Group needs to make a decision based on the discussion

that has taken place. The Chairman should make it clear that no further submissions will be heard from the Lead signatory or the Cabinet Member(s) whilst the Scrutiny Group deliberates and makes a decision.

The Scrutiny Group has a number of options available for its decision which are:

- They uphold Cabinet's decision (the Cabinet decision can now be actioned)
- They believe that the decision breached the decision making principles but not sufficiently to warrant referral back to Cabinet (the Cabinet decision can now be actioned)
- They believe that the decision breached the decision making principles and recommend that the decision be referred back to the next Cabinet meeting. The Scrutiny Group should expressly outline the reasons why it believes the decision making principles have been breached. (Note Cabinet's decision cannot be actioned until Cabinet has reconsidered the decision.)

Minutes of the meeting containing the decision will be circulated to all Members in due course.

 <p>Rushcliffe Borough Council</p>	<p><b>CABINET</b></p> <p><b>4 DECEMBER 2012</b></p> <p><b>SUPPORT TO NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB</b></p>	<b>4</b>
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## **REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE (CB)**

### **CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER – COUNCILLOR J A CRANSWICK**

#### **Summary**

When the partnership loan of £1.23m to the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club was approved in 2007, provision for a 5 year review of the terms of the loan was made. Following the significant successes of the partnership and the Positive Futures project in particular, the Club has requested that as part of the review, consideration be given to conversion of all or part of the loan to grant. In addition the Club has requested further support to ensure that a new stand is built in time to satisfy the conditions of their successful bid to host an Ashes test in 2015.

This report considers these requests and explores how they might be addressed.

#### **Recommendation**

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a. Determine whether the sum of £450,000 of the existing partnership loan to the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club should be converted to grant in accordance with the possible resolution presented in this report, or some other amount;
- b. Determine whether further amounts of £90,000 per annum for a maximum of 4 years should be converted to grant in accordance with the possible response presented in this report, or some other amount;
- c. Determine that any such amounts approved under recommendations a) and b) should be conditional upon the Positive Futures project continuing at its current standard, but consideration should be given to expanding the geographical scope and nature of the project;
- d. Determine whether in principle further funding should be made available under a separate agreement to support the provision of a new stand at the ground; and
- e. The Section 151 Officer be given delegated authority to negotiate the interest rates payable and capital repayment terms in respect of these loans, in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Portfolio Holder for Finance.

## Details

### Background

1. This report covers two financial aspects of the partnership with the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club (NCCC): a review of the existing partnership loan and a request from the Club for further financial assistance towards the building of the new stand that is required so that the Club can retain the Ashes test in 2015. It should be noted that there is also a much earlier loan to the Club that currently stands at £214,500 and which will be repaid by 2019.
2. When the original partnership loan was approved by Cabinet in July 2007 the following package was supported:
  - A loan of £1.23m;
  - Interest to be repaid annually at 5.5% (or reduced rate subject to negotiation – subsequently settled at 4%);
  - The Borough to receive community benefits (to be negotiated);
  - No principal to be repaid for a period of 5 years;
  - A review after 5 years, to ascertain the success of the community benefits and take a further decision in respect of the community benefits. A decision to convert all or part to a grant or amend repayment terms could also be taken at this review; and
  - Loan to be secured by a charge on the property (to safeguard the Council's investment)
3. At the end of December 2012 after the 5 year period, this loan reverts to the normal principal repayments and interest would be charged at the six month PWLB<sup>1</sup> rate (currently 1.435%) plus 0.25%. The loan would continue until 2027. The annual value of community benefits in the loan agreement is £116,500, although the Club has spent more on these than contractually required. The community benefits were designed to engage young people in a social awareness project (Positive Futures), provide support to clubs and encourage participation in sporting activities.
4. It should be noted that unlike income from the Council's other investments payments from NCCC are liable to tax which currently stands at 20%. As a result the net yield for the Council from the current arrangements is the equivalent to an interest rate of 3.2%.

### Request from NCCC

5. In relation to the review of the existing partnership loan, NCCC have requested that:
  - £750,000 should be converted from loan to grant to reflect the significant outputs (community benefits) already delivered;
  - the remaining £480,000 continues to be serviced by the Club on an interest only basis until December 2016
  - In consideration for the Club continuing the Positive Futures programme, the remaining £480,000 be converted to grant in 2016

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<sup>1</sup> PWLB = Public Works Loan Board

- In the interim, there be no principal repayments and interest be fixed at 3% per annum.
6. In relation to the request for assistance towards building the new stand, NCCC have requested funding from Rushcliffe, the County and the City Councils:
- Just over £2m each (although the cost of the new stand is currently an estimate and therefore the cost is uncertain and could increase or decrease depending upon the specification adopted);
  - A 5 year capital repayment holiday; and
  - Interest to be charged at 3%.
7. The new stand is required to bring the ground up to the capacity promised in the Club's successful bid for the Ashes test in 2015. The Club has approached the Councils in response to the existing successful partnership, as potential lenders of last resort and because of their interest in promoting the local economy: if the Club is unable to obtain finance it is possible that without the stand, the Ashes fixture in 2015 could possibly be lost at the cost of a significant impact on the local economy.

### **Benefits received / future benefits**

8. The success of the Positive Futures programme has without doubt been the "jewel in the crown" of the partnership. Not only has this succeeded in turning round the lives of many young people in Cotgrave, the impact on levels of crime and quality of life in the Town has been very significant: the programme has won awards and is a national exemplar for how to address the issue of disaffection. Since the Positive Futures project began in Cotgrave there has been a 64% reduction in offences committed by young people. This is more than double the reduction that has been seen across Rushcliffe as a whole (-29%). There has also been a 40% reduction in reported anti-social behaviour in Cotgrave over the same period, which compares to 32% across Rushcliffe. (Source Nottinghamshire Police).
9. In addition to Positive Futures, the Club has had major success with clubs and encouraging cricket and healthy lifestyles throughout the Borough. The Partnership Delivery Group has received annual presentations on the achievements from the Club and has been impressed with its success. At its meeting in July, "it was agreed that the Group would encourage Cabinet to look positively at the significant social and community benefits arising from the partnership and would encourage them to do all possible to facilitate the long term continuation of the partnership benefits when reviewing the loan arrangement." (Minute 3 of the Partnership Delivery Group 3 July 2012).
10. NCCC have provided their estimate of the cost value of community benefits provided to Rushcliffe during the period 2008 - 2011 (as opposed to either of the other two councils). This amounts to the £750,000 requested and is analysed in the table below and compared with the community benefit inputs required by the agreement over the same period:

	NCCC claim £'000	Agreement £'000
Social Awareness project (Positive Futures)	236	132
Coaching and development staff (schools and clubs)	214	220
Additional cricket development (e.g. grants to clubs, leveraging in funds)	166	Nil
Matchday opportunities (e.g. tickets)	63	50
Supporting local participation (e.g. roadshows, supporting schools and clubs with fundraising)	48	54
Use of Trent Bridge facilities	24	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>466</b>

11. It is clear that the cost of inputs to community benefits has exceeded by a significant margin the amount that the Club was under obligation to provide. However, some of this was secured by leveraging further funding from external bodies. In particular grant funding of £175,000 (to November 2012) was received from the football foundation towards Positive Futures and a £50,000 WREN grant to Ellerslie cricket club is included. The football foundation funding has now ended, and while the Club is continuing to fund the scheme from their own resources, the Club's Chief Executive has recently written to the Council to confirm that efforts to obtain replacement funding from other sources to allow the scheme to continue have been unsuccessful, putting the continued existence of Positive Futures in its current, successful form at high risk.
12. More positively, NCCC obtained a research report by the University of Central Lancashire entitled "An evaluation of Cotgrave Positive Futures July 2009 – December 2010" that concluded that the overall savings achieved by the reduction in all crime over 12 months was between £310,220 and £573,845. Whilst such a saving does not accrue directly to the Borough, it demonstrates the overall value to the public purse and therefore taxpayers of Rushcliffe.
13. The Club suggest that, based on a study commissioned by EMDA<sup>2</sup>, the local economy benefited by £6.2m from the world Twenty20 in 2009 and an Ashes test would provide greater benefits than this. The Club believes that the economic benefits 2012 – 2016 arising from the matches it has secured would be in the region of £30m. The direct impact within Rushcliffe is not known. Such benefits would not be achieved in future if the Ashes test and other future significant matches are not secured due to lack of capacity at the ground.

### **A Possible Response to the Cricket Club's request**

14. It is clear that all parties have enjoyed the recognition and success of the Positive Futures project, the new stand and international tournaments. Therefore if Members believe it is desirable to maintain positive partnership relationships, continuing community benefits and further economic stimulus from international matches then it may be acceptable to accede to the Club's request to convert to grant elements of the existing partnership loan. However, it is necessary to assess how much might be reasonable. This should be

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<sup>2</sup> EMDA = East Midlands Development Agency



related to the benefits received that would otherwise have been unavailable to the Council and not be excessive. The above paragraphs indicate that the commitment in the loan agreement for the period to 2011 amounts to circa £450,000. This sum is considered to be justifiable on the grounds that to achieve the same benefits the Council would have had to incur at least the same level of cost. Indeed, it is arguable that the Council could not have been so successful as the club and that the overall benefits to both the club and Council far exceed this sum.

15. To secure the continued success of the Positive Futures project, the conversion of £450,000 to grant should be made conditional upon its continuation at the current standard and to assist with the funding of the project, further conversion of £90,000 per annum (the average annual cost of the scheme) would be reasonable. However, it is suggested that this should not continue indefinitely and a limit of a further 4 years imposed at which point the loan would revert to normal repayment terms unless Cabinet reconsiders the agreement again. Members may consider that different figures are more appropriate. Consideration should also be given to expanding the geographical scope and nature of the project.
16. The interest rate and principal repayment on the existing loan also needs to be determined. The Club is anticipating a rate of 3% and it is proposed that this could continue until any further review takes place or until interest rates rise to exceed this figure. In this way the Council would obtain a higher rate than currently available in the market in the short term.
17. Members are invited to determine whether in principle they support the provision of further loan support to NCCC and the outline conditions that might attach to such support. If Cabinet is supportive, the loan might be granted to help secure the economic benefits, but not further community benefits. It is proposed that any such loan should be on a more "commercial basis": there would be no principal repayment holiday, no review as with the current loan and interest would be on the basis of PWLB rate plus, possibly with a minimum rate of 3% that would serve to provide a better return to the Council in the short term.
18. As negotiations on detail would be necessary, it is suggested that the most appropriate way of agreeing details of the interest rate and repayment conditions in respect of the existing loan and the potential future loan would be to delegate this aspect to the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Portfolio Holder for Finance.

### **Security of loans**

19. The partnership loan is secured as a charge on the NCCC ground. This would be sufficient to secure the potential additional loan. In addition, the Club has provided financial projections to support their request for a further loan. However, it should be noted that the projection is very much subject to the ability to put on "big" matches (such as the tests). The projections assume that loans are treated and on the terms stated above, with the County and City Councils also supporting in the same way.

## **Financial Comments**

The financial implications of this report are primarily addressed within the report itself and in reaching their decision Cabinet will need to balance a number of issues including the levels of past and future community benefits, the financial impact of major sporting events and the levels of resources foregone. It has previously been recognised by the Partnership Delivery Group that the arrangements have already provided a significant level of value for money. The report indicates that there is potential for this value for money to continue into the future. In addition any improvements to the ground could result in additional financial benefits through arrangements for the retention of local business rate growth.

Under the current arrangement NCCC have made interest payments of £49,200 per annum (£39,360 after tax). From January these will reduce to the equivalent of £20,725 (£16,580 after tax), an amount that still exceeds the current levels of return achieved within the Council's investment portfolio. It should be noted that this benefit will reduce as the principal is repaid at £82,000 per annum between 2013 and 2027.

If adopted NCCC's proposals would see the Council receive annual interest payments of £14,400 (£11,520 after tax) between 2013 and 2016 and potentially no repayment of principal at the end of this period.

The proposals for the new loan outlined by NCCC will provide a net return of 2.4%, an amount that exceeds the returns currently achieved by the Authority on other investments. It is also important that should interest rates rise the Council takes steps to protect its position, proposals to achieve this by linking interest payable to PWLB rates are outlined at paragraph 17 and would need to be finalised as part of the final negotiations. The delegation of this negotiation to the Section 151 Officer acting in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Portfolio Holder for Finance provides a mechanism by which this can be achieved.

## **Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act**

The Cotgrave Positive Futures project in particular has had a significant beneficial impact on the level of crime and anti-social behaviour in the Town.

## **Diversity**

Whilst Positive Futures does target identified young people it also offers numerous activities that are open to all young people in Cotgrave. It runs sessions for girls and boys, some separate and some mixed. They have also run inter-generational events that aimed to bring young people and older people together to challenge perceptions and break down barriers. The impact that Positive Futures has had and the promotion of that means that the image of young people in Cotgrave has improved significantly.

## **Background Papers Available for Inspection:**

Minutes of the Partnership Delivery Group 3 July 2012  
An evaluation of Cotgrave Positive Futures July 2009 – December 2010: J Buffin, School of Social Work, University of Central Lancashire, July 2011

## Extract from the Cabinet Minutes 4 December 2012

32. **Support to Nottinghamshire Cricket Club**

Councillor Cranswick presented the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (CB) which indicated that when the partnership loan to the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club (NCCC) was approved in 2007, provision had been made for a five year review of its terms. Following the significant successes of the partnership, particularly the Positive Futures project, the Club had requested that as part of the review consideration be given to conversion of all or part of the loan to grant. In addition the Club had also requested further support to ensure that a new stand was built in time to satisfy the conditions of their successful bid to host an Ashes test in 2015.

Commenting further, Councillor Cranswick stated that the report covered two financial aspects of the partnership with the Cricket Club. Firstly a review of the existing partnership loan and secondly the request from the Club for further financial assistance towards the building of the new stand required so the Club could retain the Ashes test in 2015.

By referring, to paragraph two of the report he outlined the package that had been supported when the original partnership loan had been approved by Cabinet in July 2007. He went onto to explain that the report also outlined the repayment arrangements, the annual value of the community benefits arising from the agreement and the net yield for the Council.

In relation to the review of the existing partnership loan the report, at paragraph 5, detailed the Club's request setting out the potential amount to be converted from loan to grant to reflect the significant community benefits arising from the arrangements. It also set out the repayment arrangements for the remaining amount and the proposal to convert this from a loan to grant in 2016.

Councillor Cranswick stated that the report set out details of the request for assistance towards building a new stand as well as outlining the funding also requested from the County and City Councils. It also highlighted how the new stand was required to bring the ground up to the capacity as promised within the Club's successful bid for the Ashes Test in 2015. Within its recommendations the report specifically made reference to determining if, in principle, funding for this purpose should be made available under a separate agreement and Councillor Cranswick confirmed this would at some point require a further report to Cabinet to finalise any such arrangements.

Commenting further Councillor Cranswick stated that the report set out in detail the benefits received from the arrangement with the Club highlighting the success of the Positive Futures programme. He added that the programme had been, without doubt, the "jewel in the crown" of the partnership because not only had it succeeded in turning round the lives of many young people in Cotgrave, it had impacted very positively on the level of crime and quality of life in the Town.

Councillor Cranswick went onto explain that the key matter for Cabinet to determine was the level of support it wanted to give taking into account the positive benefits of the arrangements. As such he believed a reasonable

figure would be to convert £450,000 of the existing partnership loan to grant based on the success of the partnership arrangement. Furthermore converting annually an amount of £90,000 to grant, for a maximum of four years up to December 2016, would be appropriate in return for the provision of the Positive Futures Project in the Borough during that period. In terms of the further loan request he believed the key issue was the potential economic benefits this could secure.

Councillor Cranswick informed Cabinet that in order to be clear of its decision a revised recommendation for the report had been drafted. To assist the Cabinet in making its decision the Chief Executive read through this revised recommendation.

There followed a number of comments from Cabinet Members particularly in relation to the value of the Positive Futures programme and its significant impact in Cotgrave and how this had assisted the areas regeneration plans. A comment was also made about the financial advantages of the arrangements, how these reflected with interest rates on investments and the sustained benefit the arrangement brought to the community.

The Deputy Chief Executive (CB) in his capacity as Section 151 Officer, explained that any further loan to the Club would have to form part of the budget setting process by Council, because it would be met from the agreed capital programme. He added that this would be a matter for Cabinet to recommend to Council as part of its consideration of the budget.

**RESOLVED** that Cabinet agreed:

- a. the sum of £450,000 of the existing partnership loan to the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club be converted to grant in respect of work undertaken in connection with the Positive Futures Project over the five years to date,
- b. that further amounts of £90,000 be converted to grant on an annual basis for a maximum of the following four years to December 2016 in return for the provision of the Positive Futures Project within the Borough during that period,
- c. the amounts approved under (a) & (b) above be conditional upon the Positive Futures Project continuing at, at least the current standard but that the geographical scope and nature of the project be subject to review with a further report being brought to Cabinet in due course,
- d. that in order to secure the economic benefits that accrue to the Borough through the major events attracted by the Cricket Club it (i) supports the principle of a further loan to support the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club of up to £2m, and (ii) such a loan be on a commercial basis with no principal repayment holiday and an interest rate tied to the Public Works Loan Board interest rate with a minimum of 3%,
- e. that the Section 151 Officer be given delegated authority to negotiate the interest rates payable and capital repayment terms in respect of these loans in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Portfolio Holder for Resources.

**Notice of Call-In of Key Decision**

In accordance with Rule 16 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules of the Council's Constitution, we the undersigned hereby give notice that we wish to call-in the following key decision:

1. Decision... SUPPORT FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB  
..... (ITEM 4) .....
2. Meeting at which the decision was made ... CABINET .....
3. Date of the meeting ... 04/12/12 .....

We believe that the following principles of decision making have been breached by the making of this decision (tick relevant boxes):

	Principle	Reasons why breached	Please tick
a.	Proportionality	SEE THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SECTIONS 2 AND 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b.	Due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers	NO SCRUTINY OF THE GRANT REQUEST BY A SCRUTINY GROUP SEE THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SECTIONS 4 AND 8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c.	Respect for human rights		<input type="checkbox"/>
d.	A presumption in favour of openness		<input type="checkbox"/>
e.	Clarity of aims and desired outcomes	NOT ENOUGH INVESTIGATION OF THE GRANT REQUEST AND WHAT THE EXPECTED OUTCOMES WOULD BE SEE THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SECTIONS 5, 6 AND 8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

f. A record of what options were considered and giving the reasons for the decision

NO ALTERNATIVES HAVE BEEN EVALUATED  
SEE THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SECTION 7



1. Signed..... *S. J. Boote*  
Name..... S. J. BOOTE  
Date..... 11/12/12
2. Signed..... *R. Davidson*  
Name..... R. DAVIDSON  
Date..... 11/12/12
3. Signed..... *L. J. Abbey*  
Name..... LINDA J. ABBEY  
Date..... 11/12/12
4. Signed..... *D M Boote*  
Name..... D M BOOTE  
Date..... 11/12/12
5. Signed..... *Roy Jones*  
Name..... ROY JONES  
Date..... 11/12/12

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SHEET FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,

## Cabinet meeting on 04/12/12

### Call-in of decision on support for Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club (agenda item 4)

- (1) We feel that the decision to give a grant to NCCC totalling £810,000 has not been properly researched and is not backed up by sufficient evidence of community benefits.
- (2) The decision to commit a very large capital sum to sport is extraordinary at a time of increased stringency, when council taxpayers are being asked to accept lower levels of service in return for their taxes. At the very least, we would expect that a very full and detailed justification of this commitment should be provided to all councillors and taxpayers.
- (3) No sports club should receive a subsidy from public funds unless it can demonstrate a quantifiable and proportionate level of benefit to the community.
- (4) We believe that the decision was made by Cabinet without sufficient examination or scrutiny, and there is insufficient evidence of payback to the Rushcliffe community.
- (5) Decision (a) provides that £450,000 should be given to NCCC retrospectively in respect of work undertaken in connection with the Positive Futures project over the 5 years up to now. However, this work has been undertaken only in Cotgrave, and it is unreasonable and disproportionate to give a very large sum of Rushcliffe taxpayers' money to a project undertaken in only one small part of the borough. Although there has been a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in Cotgrave, there is no proof of how much (if any) of this has been directly attributable to Positive Futures, and there has been no attempt to quantify how much has been spent per crime or ASB incident in order to achieve this reduction. Such an attempt would have been crucial in evaluating how effective the Positive Futures project has been in Cotgrave.
- (6) Decision (b) provides that a total of £360,000 should be given to NCCC in return for the provision of the Positive Futures project within the Borough during the 4 years up to December 2016. However, there has been no attempt to plan or to explain where the project would be extended to, when it would be rolled out, what would be done in each area of the Borough, and what benefits would accrue to residents throughout the Borough.
- (7) No alternatives to decisions (a) and (b) have been presented for evaluation, such as (for example) rescheduling the existing loans to NCCC, or spending equivalent funds on artistic and cultural activities (as an alternative to sport) to achieve similar benefits for the community.
- (8) Decision (c) provides that the grants should be conditional upon the Positive Futures project continuing at at least the current standard. However, no attempt has been made to evaluate the current standard or to explain how much benefit is being obtained for each unit of expenditure, and, despite the decision to commit the money, no attempt has been made to estimate the future reach of the project. While the decision allows for the project to be subject to review and a further report to Cabinet, there is no provision for the project to be dependent on a satisfactory outcome of such a review.
- (9) We therefore request that the decision be referred back for scrutiny by the Partnership Delivery Group in order that a full recommendation by members based on an officers' report can be made in accordance with the decision-making principles of the Council.

Councillors S. J. Boote, G. Davidson, L. J. Abbey, D. M. Boote, R. M. Jones