



**NOTES**  
**OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY GROUP**  
**TUESDAY 19 MARCH 2013**

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

**PRESENT:**

Councillors R Hetherington (Chairman), Mrs D M Boote, H A Chewings, A M Dickinson, J E Greenwood (substitute for Councillor Mrs M Stockwood), E J Lungley, F A Purdue-Horan

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

M Stratford                      Locality Manager, Early Years and Early Intervention,  
Nottinghamshire County Council

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

D Hayden                      Community Engagement Manager  
K Marriott                      Executive Manager - Transformation  
V Nightingale                  Senior Member Support Officer

**APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillors Mrs M Stockwood

**21. Declarations of Interest**

There were none declared.

**22. Notes of the Previous Meeting**

The notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22 January 2013 were accepted as a true record. The Group accepted the responses in regard to the actions and were pleased to note that Members would be informed if any further difficulties were encountered with accessing schools.

**23. Partnership Work With Sure Start Children's Centres**

The Community Engagement Manager presented a report outlining the provision of Sure Start in Rushcliffe. He explained that the Group had last considered this item in September 2010 and that since then there had been many changes in this area including the provision of services in Rushcliffe. As this was the responsibility of Nottinghamshire County Council Ms Stratford had been invited to attend.

Ms Stratford gave a presentation defining the various Children's Centres in Rushcliffe. She explained that Rushcliffe had been the last area in the County to receive any provision. Now there were seven centres, in Bingham, Cotgrave, Keyworth, Ruddington, East Leake and two in West Bridgford. Each centre had its own catchment area and these centres provided cover for the whole of the Borough. She stated that the service tried to make better use of buildings that were not used in the day and they had recently acquired

accommodation in the new Young People's Centre in West Bridgford and at the youth centre in Ruddington.

The Group was informed that their strategic vision was to improve the outcomes for young children and their families. At first they had concentrated on children from 0 – 5 years; this had now been extended to 12 years. It was important that families were supported throughout the primary years and during the transition to secondary education. The service assessed local needs and identified gaps and opportunities to close the gap between the vulnerable and the rest. They worked with partners and child care professionals, including health visitors, child minders, nurseries etc. They worked with partners such as Job Centre Plus and health services to offer the community drop in support and access to services. In engaging with parents and enabling them to develop parents forums had been set up and the service was encouraging these to become constituted groups so that they could access other services.

Ms Stratford explained that they received referrals from partners which enabled them to reach the more vulnerable families, those who suffered from abuse, poverty, teenage parents and children with disabilities. The service ran a programme of activities in areas but could also run pop up sessions where they could target children's activities in the local parks of deprived areas.

In respect of successes Ms Stratford stated that by focussing resources on the more vulnerable they had increased their reach from 29% to 45% and in the last quarter had received 85 referrals for one to one support. Following taking accommodation in the new youth centres it was anticipated that the service would be able to offer more targeted services in those areas. Also the staffing structure had been refreshed and this had increased front line services.

In conclusion Ms Stratford explained the challenges and opportunities for the future. As well as increasing the provision from 5 to 12 years there were plans to develop a new centre in Bingham in the new library in 2014. Discussions were under way to utilise existing space in Keyworth's Early Years Unit at the school to reach the most vulnerable in that area. It was anticipated that they would be able to enhance their offer through commissioning arrangements with the new Nottinghamshire Children and Families Partnership.

The Group was pleased to note that the number of families contacted had increased but queried how the service reached families that were homeless, travellers or where English was not their first language. Ms Stratford explained that they provided services/activities at the travellers' site near Radcliffe on Trent as well as working with the Friary. Officers stated that services were also provided at the Council's two lodges.

In respect of the various groups Members asked if there was a specific grandparents' group as they were increasingly becoming carers for young children. Ms Stratford stated that there was no specific group at present but they would take this on board.

Members queried how the service would interact with 5-12 year olds. Ms Stratford explained that this would be targeted support, especially for those

children with poor attendance records. She said that they would not be duplicating services such as before and after school clubs.

Following a question Members were informed that marketing was a balancing act, by providing too much information then the service would be inundated and would not reach the more vulnerable, which is why they worked with health visitors. In respect of Ruddington 100 families had attended the last event. The Chairman stated that an article could be placed in Rushcliffe Reports, Ms Stratford agreed to provide information.

In respect of the five wards that had centres Members queried how services were delivered. Ms Stratford explained that work was undertaken in partnership with other services, including Job Centre Plus, who made appointments with Sure Start for the families to receive targeted support, including helping parents to gain skills. Provision of services was also part of the Rushcliffe Young People's Plan. Officers explained that as part of the Rushcliffe Community Strategy there was a separate child poverty plan. Following a request, officers agreed to provide Members with the plan.

Ms Stratford explained to the Group that there had been a commissioning exercise undertaken by the County Council which had increased frontline resources and enabled them to provide more services for less resources and that they were secure for the next three years. The administration of the County Council had stated that they were keen not to close any centres. Also the outreach programme was considered to be very good value for money.

The Chairman thanked Ms Stratford for her presentation and answering Members' questions.

The Group AGREED that the Group endorsed the work being undertaken by Rushcliffe Borough Council in partnership with Sure Start Children's Centres,

#### **24. Progress Report on Rushcliffe Community Strategy Action Plans**

The Community Engagement Manager presented a report which gave the Group an update on the Partnership's performance within each theme group from 1 April 2012 to 1 March 2013. In May 2012 the Local Strategic Partnership Management Board reduced the number of themed groups from six to four. The Building Stronger Communities and the Environment Group were covered by other organisations. It was recognised that the Environment Group had been run primarily by the Borough Council's officers.

In respect of the themed groups Members were informed that they met quarterly and undertook a number of activities, which was reviewed by an Executive Group and a Management Board. In February 2013 the Partnership reviewed its activity. The Management Board did not feel that it was taking strategic decisions as these were being taken by other organisations so it was decided that instead of a Management Board and an Executive Group there would be a wider forum including both groups that would only meet once or twice a year. The themed groups would continue as normal and would receive support from the Partnership Officer and Assistant.

The Partnership had provided £68,000 of capital and £15,000 of revenue resources during the year. There were resources still available for one other project of £1,500 of capital and £1,900 of revenue.

The Group were informed of the highlights and exceptions for each themed group. With regard to the health group there were no exceptions. The Community Engagement Manager stated that there had been a significant change in how services were run and a workshop had been programmed in late May for Members.

In respect of the Business Group activity had been strengthened. Members were reminded that this issue was part of the Council's Corporate Strategy. 12 networking events had been held and this had increased the number of businesses involved. Also two annual events for both large and small businesses had been held. Business growth advice and support sessions had been held at the Rushcliffe Community Contact Centre on a weekly basis and work was focussing on young people who were 'Not in Employment, Education or Training' (NEETs).

With regard to the Children and Young People's group one of the highlights was the YouNG project which was a social network project developed in conjunction with young people from Rushcliffe's secondary schools. This helped to promote local businesses and events. Also young people had been consulted about the services that will be delivered from the new young people's centre in West Bridgford.

Following a question regarding the action plans for the Cotgrave and Trent Bridge wards officers explained that these had been created as these two wards had been crime hotspots for Rushcliffe. They were pleased to say that the Cotgrave plan was nearly complete and had been a success as it was no longer highlighted in the Police's ward rankings. Unfortunately Trent Bridge was the poorest performing crime ward in the Borough, although it compared favourably with many other wards in Nottinghamshire and did not qualify for County funding. Although there was no specific action plan for the whole of Rushcliffe officers did consider the data and analyse any trends and respond accordingly.

Members queried the issues in the Trent Bridge ward. Officers stated that the area had a large vibrant night time economy and two large sporting grounds which encouraged a large number of people into the area. Officers were working with partners in the City to tackle serious acquisitive crime. The ward also contained the new Young People's Centre and officers had worked with partners to avoid anti-social behaviour. It also had two Co-op stores which had problems with shop lifting that was being addressed nationally. Following a question, officers explained that they were consulted on planning and licensing issues in respect of crime.

With regard to the new Young People's Centre Members were informed that a CCTV camera had been located in the main reception area. The scheme had been considered by various partners and no problems were envisaged. Members agreed that CCTV was not a universal panacea and that it was a balancing act to ensure that the centre was safe whilst still making it attractive

to people. Officers assured Members that as this was a new development it would be reviewed on a regular basis and resource would follow demand.

In respect of the Wheels to Work scheme officers stated that this was administered by RCAN and the County had been awarded £50,000 for the project. This was a good example of partnership working as documents were completed by Job Centre Plus and referrals from the Rushcliffe area were strong. Officers agreed to provide Members with further information.

With regard to apprenticeships officers explained that the milestone was not yet completed as all the information would not be known until the end of the financial year. This was the first year that this data had been collected and therefore this year would form the baseline for future years and this would enable officers to measure its success. Ms Stratford explained that they were working with Job Centre Plus to increase the number of apprenticeships within the building and associated sectors. The Community Engagement Manager said that during apprenticeship week the twenty largest businesses had been contacted regarding the scheme. It was noted that if every employer had one apprentice there would be no 'NEETs' in the area.

Members queried the number of milestones that had not been completed and asked for stronger explanations as to why. Officers stated that the majority of milestones were set for the end of the financial year and that officers were working hard to input the data by then, unfortunately this was being presented just before the year end. However it could also be seen as a success that some milestones had not been met; he explained that as there had been no requests to put in CCTV in Cotgrave that milestone was not complete, which meant that the area had improved. It was agreed that future reports would explain in more detail why milestones had not been met.

The Group queried the delivery of the New Leaf programme. Officers stated that representatives had been at all the Council's major public events. Officers had taken the programme to local businesses, as well as ante natal and baby clinics to encourage people to stop smoking during pregnancy.

## 25. **Work Programme**

The Executive Manager - Transformation presented the Group's work programme. It was explained that as this was the first year of a joint service level agreement between the Borough and Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire and Rushcliffe Community & Voluntary Service the Group's next meeting would be a joint meeting with the Community Development Group. Officers asked Members to email in their questions for these organisations

Whilst considering the programme Members asked for an update to the partnership list to ensure that the Group considered all the Council's partners, including any new partnerships. It was also recognised that other scrutiny groups considered some partnerships. Officers agreed to provide the information.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

## Action Sheet

### PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY GROUP - TUESDAY 19 MARCH 2013

Minute Number	Actions	Officer Responsible
23. Partnership Work With sure Start Children's Centres	a) Officers to provide Members with the Child Poverty Plan b) Officers to check the possibility of running a feature on the work of the Surestart centres in Rushcliffe Reports c) Officers to provide the presentation to all Members	Community Engagement Manager  Exec Manager - Transformation  Member Services
24 Progress Report on Rushcliffe Community Strategy Action Plans	a) Officers to provide information on the Wheels to Work scheme b) Future reports to contain more information on why milestones had not been met.	Community Engagement Manager  Community Engagement Manager
25 Work Programme	Officers to provide an updated list on the Council's partners	Executive Manager - Transformation