



NOTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY GROUP
TUESDAY 22 MARCH 2016

Held at 7 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford

PRESENT:

Councillors Mrs J A Smith (Chairman), J Donoghue, J E Greenwood,
E J Lungley, G R Mallender, A Phillips, E A Plant, M W Suthers,
J G A Wheeler

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Sergeant S Robinson Nottinghamshire Police
Station Master A Turner Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue

OFFICERS PRESENT:

D Banks Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods
K Emery Emergency Planning Officer
K Marriott Executive Manager - Transformation and Operations
V Nightingale Constitutional Services Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

There were no apologies for absence

19. Declarations of Interest

There were none declared.

20. Notes of the Previous Meeting

The notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19 January 2016 were accepted as a true record.

With regards to the actions Members were informed that the Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods would be producing a briefing note regarding the current position on affordable housing. Currently investigative work was being undertaken in respect of the Development Company and a briefing note would be sent to all Members in the future. The topic would also be discussed at a future Scrutiny Chairmen and Vice Chairmen's meeting.

Councillor Greenwood stated that she had enjoyed the hard hat tour of Bridgford Hall and had found it very informative, she encouraged other Members to take the opportunity. The Executive Manager - Transformation and Operations informed the Group that there would be a further hard hat tour, she said that volunteering opportunities would be advertised by Rushcliffe Community & Voluntary Service and that officers were investigating how the filming could be undertaken.

In respect of the Rushcliffe Business Partnership the Executive Manager - Communities had spoken to them and it had been agreed that if they required funding for a specific project they would contact the Council.

21. **Review of the South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership**

The Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods presented a report on the performance of the South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership during 2015. Members had requested information from the Police and the Fire and Rescue Service who were both part of the partnership.

Sergeant Robinson gave Members a presentation outlining the performance of the Police force against their targets. He explained that there had been an overall increase in crime of 6.3% but this had to be taken in the context that crime had fallen every year for the past six years and had reached a low level. He was pleased to say that in certain types of crime investigations police community support officers were accompanied by a police officer. The Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods explained that the Council worked with the Police to assist with target hardening by promoting how people could protect themselves from crime, he said that this was very much a partnership between the Police, the Council and the public. Members queried how many bikes were stolen and were informed that it could be up to 35 per month and that they were disposed of in a variety of ways. Often these thefts were the result of poor locks being used and that it was difficult to identify a bike. The Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods asked Members to encourage the public to attend the Council's bike marking events where they could have their bike coded.

Mr Turner gave a presentation on the work of the Fire and Rescue Service as part of the Partnership. He was pleased to report that the number of incidents had declined in 2015 and that the service was now assisting the East Midlands Ambulance Service in providing both a medical response and helping them to gain access to properties.

He outlined their statutory duties and how legislation had provided a national framework for England. He felt that there had been a number of reports over the last 20 years that had led to better education and training for both officers and the public.

He outlined the number of incidents that were attended by the Service broken down into actual fires, false fire alarm calls and non-fire incidents. He explained that technology had helped to reduce incidents due to better building design, engineering and better furniture manufacturing processes.

Members were informed of a recent Department of Communities and Local Government report which highlighted the number of properties that had smoke alarms and the types of alarms fitted. He also explained that the Service visited properties and gave advice on these devices especially in high risk properties. He stated that 25,000 properties had been visited during the previous year. He said that over the last 10 years there had been an institutional change and the Service was now more involved with community safety work and he informed Members of the decrease in incidents that had

occurred. He also said that following improvements to the A46 and A453 there had been a reduction in road traffic collisions.

Mr Turner explained that in 2014 there had been a community safety review undertaken for Nottinghamshire and that this had led to a reorganisation. A centralised community safety team had been formed and other small reactive teams had been formed including a 'persons at risk' team. Following a question regarding vulnerable people and hoarding, Mr Turner stated that there was often a need to have a collective approach across the partnership, as this was often a sign that there was a variety of issues. These cases needed to be handled sensitively and taken at a pace that the individual concerned is comfortable with. It was noted that hoarding could be a fire risk and there was an identified clutter rating of 1-9. The Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods explained that the Council's environmental health team worked closely with the Fire Service as it could become a risk; and rather than taking enforcement action, officers tried to work with the individual to declutter.

The Group was informed that they had a revised community safety strategy 2016-19 which outlined five categories, performance, road safety, persons at risk, older persons and education. In respect of education they worked with children at Key Stage 1-3, especially promoting road safety. For older persons the service supported other agencies with wider assessments on falls, cold and warm & well. Mr Turner then said that initiatives were targeted from the strategy, in consideration with local community needs and risks. Current initiatives included the Hoarding framework, alarms for landlords in the private rented sector, New Cross, which was working with troubled families in Sutton in Ashfield and 'A man named Bob' a stereotypical fatality, it was noted that that these were people known to local authorities but not to the Fire Service. With regard to alarms Members queried if there was funding available for vulnerable and elderly people. Mr Turner explained that these were funded by the Service however, there had been Government funding available for the procurement of fire alarms five years ago. In respect of landlords there was a £1.3 million fund. Mr Turner concluded that it had been recognised that prevention initiatives were very successful and that they would be considering further areas.

Members asked if the Service still had problems of being attacked by people, Mr Turner stated that this did still happen on occasions and that all appliances had CCTV installed.

With regard to the new fire station on London Road Members were informed that this was progressing well and should be completed in the Autumn. Mr Turner said that the response times for incidents in the Borough would improve.

The Chairman thanked both Sergeant Robinson and Station Manager Turner for their very positive and encouraging presentations.

AGREED that the Partnership Delivery Group had considered and made comments on the performance of the SNCSP during 2015 within Rushcliffe.

22. **Emergency Planning**

The Executive Manager - Transformation and Operations presented a report regarding the Local Resilience Forum. She explained that the emergency planning and resilience capability of Rushcliffe Borough Council was delivered via a Service Level Agreement with Nottinghamshire County Council. Members were informed that following the fuel crisis, severe flooding and the foot and mouth incident in the autumn and winter of 2000 the Government announced a review of emergency planning arrangements. This led to the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and a framework for civil protection from partnership working with other agencies such as Nottinghamshire County Council, the Police and the Fire and Rescue Service. The Act said that Local Resilience Forums should be based on Police areas.

Members were informed that the statutory framework at a local level identified Category 1 and 2 responders and their clearly defined roles. Category 1 responders included emergency services, local authorities, government bodies and some NHS organisations. Their roles included assessing local risks, putting in place emergency and business continuity plans, to warn and inform people, to share information and co-operate with other responders and, for local authorities, to promote business continuity. Category 2 responders mainly had to co-operate and share with Category 1 responders and these included voluntary organisations, utility companies, transport and Clinical Commissioning Groups.

The Emergency Planning Officer stated that the Forum meetings were chaired by the Chief Constable of Nottingham and comprised of strategic level staff who considered how each organisation could work together, at an operational level there were 16 working groups that looked at response and recovery. Each group had a plan that was used for training exercises.

With regards to training, two Executive Managers were trained as well as staff from the Depot, Housing Department, Environmental Health, Building Control and Communities. Leisure Centre staff had also received training. This included recovery, site clearance, flood plans, emergency accommodation and emergency mortuary provision. To test plans practice exercises were held periodically including table top exercises and live exercises. Recently there had been a two day exercise that had tested eight plans with many representatives from the various partners.

The Emergency Planning Officer explained that the Borough Council had a Service Level Agreement with Nottinghamshire County Council to provide the emergency planning function and the role was covered by the same person on a 2.5 days a week basis for both councils. This worked very well as the plans and training dovetailed and all the information was disseminated to everyone. She also explained the many Local Resilience Forums that were in place in the County and how these interacted. Regionally Nottinghamshire worked with Lincolnshire and Leicestershire as part of the National Risk Register, this allowed work to be undertaken with other authorities to share best practice and learning. Also work was undertaken nationally and there had been a number of workshops held following an incident at Oxfordshire County Council, she informed Members that at the last national exercise there had been over 800 volunteers involved.

In conclusion, the Emergency Planning Officer explained how she worked with local parishes and communities to reinforce their skills and knowledge. Following a question she stated that there were approximately seven community plans and it was suggested that these were reviewed every two years. A template had been created for community emergency plans and this helped to identify the vulnerable people. She said that the Environment Agency had an initiative to help communities provide flood wardens and another initiative undertaken by the Council had helped to provide flood protection devices where needed to improve resilience.. She highlighted work that was being undertaken at Park Homes in Radcliffe on Trent and explained that a 9 metre lightweight flood barrier had been provided as sandbags were not practical, other equipment such as walkie talkies and hi vis jackets had been provided and stored on site. She felt that communities knew what was needed in the area and who would need assistance and therefore they could be encouraged to be involved.

Councillor Suthers stated that local authorities took emergency planning very seriously. He said that during the adverse situation in 2013/14 a lot of information was put out on social media to ensure that people were informed of what could happen and where help could be found. However, at a recent incident where people were cut off from fresh water he had been very disappointed with the response, especially the fact that Councillors were not informed until 10 hours after the event. He felt that the plan should include contacts for all Councillors and the area that they represented. The Emergency Planning Officer said that the utility companies were a category 2 responder and they had contacted the County Council who had discussed with Severn Trent about the lack of communications. She explained that the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs had set a limit that if the incident affected 30,000 people or less they should be able to cope. There was a mechanism to get to people on the vulnerable list although it was recognised that the list needed to be updated. She assured Members that care homes did receive water. Issues had been identified especially the fact that normal actions had not been put in place as it had been anticipated that the problem would have been resolved earlier than it was. Following a question the Emergency Planning Officer explained that she was working on information that would be put in Rushcliffe Reports explaining how people could nominate people onto the vulnerable list.

AGREED that Members had considered and made comments on the presentation made by the Rushcliffe Emergency Planning Officer and endorsed the work of the Local Resilience Forum.

23. Work Programme

The Group considered its work programme. It was noted that the Group would consider the Positive Futures initiative at its next meeting. Officers stated that the presentation would cover the work done so far, funding and future work programme. Councillor Mrs Smith stated that the project had been working very well in Radcliffe on Trent for two years.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.