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Our reference:
Your reference:
Date:

Wednesday, 29 September 2021

To all Members of the Communities Scrutiny Group

Dear Councillor

A Meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Group will be held on Thursday, 7 October 2021 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road, West Bridgford to consider the following items of business.

This meeting will be accessible and open to the public via the live stream on YouTube and viewed via the link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/RushcliffeBC>
Please be aware that until the meeting starts the live stream video will not be showing on the home page. For this reason, please keep refreshing the home page until you see the video appear.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Sull'.

Sanjit Sull
Monitoring Officer

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes of the Meeting 22 July 2021 (Pages 1 - 12)
4. Police Performance and Resources in Rushcliffe (Pages 13 - 16)
5. YouNG and Positive Futures Update (Pages 17 - 22)
6. Work Programme (Pages 23 - 24)

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8.30am - 4.30pm

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Membership

Chairman: Councillor J Wheeler

Vice-Chairman: Councillor B Bansal

Councillors: G Dickman, L Healy, R Jones, R Mallender, F Purdue-Horan,
R Walker and G Williams

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY GROUP THURSDAY, 22 JULY 2021

Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Rushcliffe Arena,
Rugby Road, West Bridgford
and live streamed on the Rushcliffe Borough Council YouTube channel

PRESENT:

Councillors J Wheeler (Chairman), B Bansal (Vice-Chairman), G Dickman, L Healy, R Jones, R Mallender, F Purdue-Horan, R Walker and G Williams

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr J Dunne	WISE
Mr D Edwards	WISE
Mr S Baumber	Nottinghamshire County Council

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

D Banks	Director of Neighbourhoods
D Burch	Service Manager - Neighbourhoods
G Carpenter	Service Manager - Public Protection
D Hayden	Communities Manager
H Tambini	Democratic Services Manager

APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

1 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 29 April 2021

Councillor Jones referred to Minute 37 'Carbon Management Plan' and to the sentence "It would also be helpful if the Council could produce a document to assist potential homeowners, when choosing a property, to allow them to question developers regarding the environmental and ecological measures they used."

Councillor Jones stated that at the meeting, the Group had considered that this would be a worthwhile action; however, he was not aware that any action had been taken and requested an update.

In response, the Director – Neighbourhoods advised that the action had been logged and would be incorporated into the second section of the Carbon Management Action Plan, which set out how the Council would influence and support local residents and businesses to make carbon reductions.

Councillor Jones raised a further matter in relation to the Carbon Management Plan, and stated that given the recent 'exceptional' but predicted extreme

weather events around the world, would it be possible to request an interim report on the steps being taken on carbon reduction, and to ask the County Council what the flood risks were in the Borough, if Rushcliffe experienced such heavy downpours.

The Chairman reminded the Group that flood risk issues and the Carbon Management Plan had both been scrutinised in the last six months and suggested that officers be asked to provide an update on the latter topic and circulate that to members of the Group. It was noted that given the Group's very busy Work Programme, it was not possible to keep revisiting issues.

The Director- Neighbourhoods reiterated that both items had been scrutinised recently and advised that the County Council had been undertaking a Flood Risk Assessment for West Bridgford, and the Borough Council would continue to liaise with the County Council regarding this issue. Flooding risk information was also available on the Environment Agency's website.

3 WISE: Environmental Crime Enforcement Update

The Service Manager – Public Protection presented the report of the Director – Neighbourhoods, which provided an update on the Council's approach to environmental crime enforcement.

Mr John Dunne and Mr Daniel Edwards from WISE (Waste Investigations Support and Enforcement) attended the meeting, to assist with the consideration of this item.

The Service Manager – Public Protection and Mr Dunne delivered a presentation reviewing the Council's partnership with WISE, and how WISE operated, which provided details on the following issues, and members of the Group were invited to make comments and observations on the presentation and report:

- Background and examples of fly tipping in the Borough.
- Fly tipping data.
- The Council's enforcement approach.
- WISE – history and service overview.
- Fixed penalty levels.
- Partnership management.
- WISE – six month pilot - background and aims.
- How the enforcement service works.
- Details of enforcement actions.
- Fixed penalties and notices by wards and towns/villages.
- FPN (Fixed Penalty Notice) offenders outside of the Borough and offence locations.
- FPN processes.
- Cost of the service.
- Ad-hoc weekend parks patrols.
- Examples of positive media.

The Director – Neighbourhoods advised that following a discussion with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder, Councillor Inglis, who was delighted with how the trial had progressed and given the positive outcomes and behaviour change that had been seen, it was proposed to extend the trial for a further 12 months.

The Chairman thanked the Service Manager – Public Protection and Mr Dunne for the excellent presentation and suggested that the Group agree that the presentation, together with WISE terms of reference be circulated to all Councillors, reminding them of the important role that they played as community leaders in spreading the message about incident reporting via the Council's website.

All members of the Group thanked the Service Manager – Public Protection and Mr Dunne for the informative presentation, which was extremely positive, and looked forward to the trial being extended.

Councillor Healy asked what publicity was being given to the trial and how were areas being identified, was it through requests by Councillors, parish and town councils or simply due to the number of calls logged about a particular incident. Mr Dunne advised that the pilot itself was focussed on complaints regarding fly tipping, dog fouling and littering, and once a complaint had been received, WISE officers had 24 hours to investigate that complaint. Whilst in one particular area, officers would also undertake proactive patrolling, and during the six month trial, WISE had initially been given a 'hot spot' list from Environmental Health, which it had now added to, through its own work and investigations.

In answer to a question regarding enforcement against littering, Mr Dunne confirmed that in order to take any action, a person had to be visibly observed by an officer in the act of littering, and in those cases the standard operating procedures would be followed on issuing a Fixed penalty Notice (FPN).

Councillor Healy concluded by asking if it would be possible for Councillors to be updated on a monthly basis with the numbers of FPNs issued and resulting fines paid. Mr Dunne clarified that in layman's terms an FPN was a fine, as once an FPN had been issued, a person had to pay the fine, or they would be prosecuted. In respect of statistics, all reporting systems were in real time, and that information could be broken down into specific areas and supplied to Councillors if they requested it through Environmental Health.

Councillor Richard Mallender referred to fly tipping on public and private land and sought clarification on how action could be taken on those two different types of land. Mr Dunne confirmed that in respect of enforcement, WISE would investigate all instances of fly tipping, and if evidence could be found, a FPN would be issued; however, there was an exemption in the legislation, for a landowner to be able to deposit waste on their property, or give permission to someone else to do so. With respect to cleansing, the Group was advised that if it was public land, WISE would investigate and contact Streetwise to remove it; however, if it was private land, it would be referred to Environmental Health for further investigation. The Director – Neighbourhoods advised that cases of waste storage on private land would also be referred to the County Council for investigation, as potentially those sites might require planning permission.

Councillor Jones referred to instances of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and littering associated with young people and alcohol at Sharphill Woods and asked who residents could report that to.

The Chairman reiterated the concerns regarding littering at Sharphill Woods, which was an eyesore, and should be enforced against, and the volunteers who worked tirelessly to remove the litter were thanked for their efforts.

The Service Manager – Public Protection reminded the Group that in the first instance the Police were responsible for dealing with ASB. Mr Dunne confirmed that WISE could work outside normal hours to deal with ASB and littering and would be happy to look at the issues in Sharphill Woods.

In response, the Chairman suggested that it would be helpful to contact all local volunteer groups, to ensure that they had the same reporting information.

Councillor Jones stated that he was aware of people using the Council's website to report street cleaning issues to Streetwise and asked if that reporting mechanism was linked to WISE. Mr Dunne advised that reports made online were logged on the Council's Citrix system, and immediately forwarded to WISE, to be investigated within 24 hours. Once investigated, if necessary, Streetwise would be asked to take action to clear a site.

Councillor Jones concluded by asking if taking court action was complicated and costly and if the courts provided costs to the Council and would that be apparent to the person issued with the notice. Mr Dunne confirmed that when cases were referred to court, they were dealt with under a single justice procedure. Due to Covid, courts had been extremely busy, which had led to a backlog in environmental crime cases being considered; however, that backlog was now easing. It was noted that a court would award costs back to the Council.

Councillor Rex Walker reflected on the excellent work already achieved, and in looking to the challenges that lay ahead over the next 12 months, questioned how a balance could be struck between taking action against more easily detectable environmental crime, such as littering, and the more complex cases, including fly-tipping, which were more time consuming and costly. Mr Dunne stated that the costs and margins were regularly reviewed, and in respect of enforcement, the Group was reminded that WISE investigated fly-tipping and would only deal with littering when there were no fly tipping cases to investigate. However, going forward, looking at lessons learnt, it would be possible to further refine the service over the next 12 months.

The Director – Neighbourhoods confirmed that WISE had responded and listened to feedback regarding how Rushcliffe wanted the pilot to work, including a focus on more serious environmental crime, specifically fly tipping. The Group was advised that WISE had also undertaken some business compliance work, which had proved extremely valuable and cost effective to the Council.

In answer to a question regarding ways to increase the detection of fly tipping, the Service Manager – Public Protection advised that the quality of evidence was paramount, and in many cases, it was difficult to gather. The Council could accept evidence from CCTV and dashcam footage and having witness statements was extremely important to increase detection rates. Mr Dunne reiterated the comments made and advised that currently a number of investigations were ongoing, and it was envisaged that next year all of those cases would result in penalties, which would increase the detection rates.

The Chairman noted that the pilot had been agreed to try to solve the problem of fly tipping, rather than to generate income. The Group was reminded that given the rural nature of the Borough, involvement from parish and town councils was important to increase reporting and detection rates.

Councillor Bansal asked if any data analysis was being undertaken on the information being received, and if there was any capability to predict where future events might occur. Mr Dunne advised that fly tipping occurred randomly, and although data was collected it would be extremely difficult to predict future events. The Director – Neighbourhoods confirmed that the mapping undertaken had identified a number of 'hotspots' throughout the Borough, and the covert CCTV cameras were moved to those 'hotspots' and that had proved very successful in the past.

In answer to a question regarding costs to the Council's Legal Services team, the Service Manager – Public Protection agreed that this was an issue, and given that the trial was to be extended, how to sustain in house costs would have to be addressed going forward. Mr Dunne advised that it was hoped that once the legal cases were being regularly processed, the Council would receive enough money from the courts to offset the legal costs.

Councillor Dickman requested clarification regarding the rules on households leaving scrap metal, including old electrical goods on their properties to be collected by anyone passing by. Mr Dunne confirmed that there was an exemption in the legislation, which allowed waste to be deposited for short periods. It was noted that WISE would investigate all cases of waste on a public highway, and the outcome of that investigation would depend on the responses received, and that was why there was a robust representation system in place, to ensure that any decisions could be monitored and reviewed.

The Chairman stated that it was important that residents were reminded that they should use one of the Council's approved providers to remove scrap metal, rather than to leave it outside a property and just expect someone to take it away.

The Chairman thanked Mr Dunne for his comments and reiterated the importance of Councillors using the correct reporting function on the Council's website and suggested that it would be helpful to raise awareness through Councillors' Connection and for Councillors to remind parish and town councils to do the same. The Chairman also stated the importance of ensuring that local businesses were aware of the procedures being enforced to protect the environment, and their responsibilities, in particular after Covid, when many

were opening up again.

RESOLVED

- a) that the WISE: Environmental Crime Enforcement Update and presentation be noted;
- b) that the presentation and WISE terms of reference be circulated to all Councillors; and
- c) that a reminder of the importance of reporting environmental crime, together with details of the reporting procedures, be included in Councillors' Connections.

4 Safeguarding Adults and Children Strategy

The Director – Neighbourhoods, introduced a report, which provided an update on the Council's approach to safeguarding, and advised the Group that the Council worked closely with key partners as a team, to ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in the Borough, and the Group was reminded of the key role that Councillors played whilst undertaking their duties.

Mr Steve Baumber from Nottinghamshire County Council attended the meeting, to assist with the consideration of this item, in relation to safeguarding children.

The Service Manager – Public Protection, the Communities Manager and Mr Baumber delivered a presentation relating to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, which provided details on the following issues, and members of the Group were invited to make comments and observations on the presentation and report:

- What is safeguarding.
- Main types of abuse.
- The role of Rushcliffe Borough Council.
- Adult safeguarding.
- Definition of a child.
- Self-assessment audit 2021 for children.
- How to report concerns.
- What is the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and what is its purpose?
- How we work with others.
- MASH pathway to provision.
- Number of adult and children referrals/enquiries across the county.
- Various adult and children data for Rushcliffe.
- What can Councillors do.

The Chairman thanked officers for the excellent presentation and requested that the possibility of having all Councillors signed up to the Nottinghamshire safeguarding website be investigated.

Councillor Jones referred to Council staff working in particular areas, including sport and leisure, and those dealing with homelessness, and sought assurance that they were appropriately trained to focus on potential areas of abuse and domestic violence. The Service Manager – Public Protection confirmed that Lex Leisure participated on the Council's internal group and was fully involved, and it would continue to report any issues or concerns, as it previously had. The Group was advised that in respect of homelessness, all staff undertook mandatory e-learning training.

In answer to a question regarding the use of Council facilities by outside sports bodies, the Communities Manager advised that the Council's Sports Development Officer worked with voluntary, community based clubs, ensuring that they had appropriate safeguarding policies in place, and how to share information, if they had any concerns. The Group noted that there was an expectation that each club would have a Safeguarding Officer and that they would know how to make any referrals. If any concerns were raised, they would be fed through the channels in a similar way, and officers were trained on how to make any safeguarding referrals to the MASH. Mr Baumber added that connecting and engaging with sports clubs and voluntary bodies was a considerable challenge given their numbers and ensuring that those groups were aware of safeguarding issues was extremely important. The Group noted that a piece of work was currently underway, to strengthen engagement with those sectors and faith groups, and a conference with sports clubs would be held on 6 October 2021.

Councillor Jones emphasised that in many cases checks did not work as offenders were not listed and it was often something suspicious that could spark a referral. In response, the Communities Manager advised that through the Section 11 self-assessment, it was hoped to make those training opportunities available to as many people as possible.

The Chairman noted that the Council was aware of the organisations and groups hiring its facilities and it would be helpful to ensure that all those groups knew what training was available.

In answer to a question regarding the origin of referrals, Mr Baumber advised that usually a third came from schools, a similar number from the Police, with the remainder from a range of sources. The Group noted that during the past year, there had been an increase in enquiries from families and neighbours, as more time was spent at home, and there had been a rise in concerns raised about domestic abuse and mental health.

Councillor Rex Walker referred to the statistics related to the reports of domestic violence and questioned the impact, if any, of a potential lack of stable, alternative accommodation for victims. The Director – Neighbourhoods advised that during the pandemic an increased risk of domestic abuse had been identified, and Rushcliffe had worked closely with the County Council via the Local Resilience Forum and two additional temporary domestic refuges had been set up in the County, which had proved to be very effective in providing a safe haven to those who needed it. The Group noted that this was a great example of partnership working with the County Council, who had responded positively to support the existing housing provision that Rushcliffe had, given

that occupancy rates had been reduced because of social distancing.

In answer to a question regarding the continued existence and funding of women's refuges, Mr Baumber advised that he was aware of initiatives that were taking place as a result of the new Domestic Abuse Act, with local authorities having a duty to provide local refuges. As part of that, the Group noted that the County Council, district and borough councils had received some funding from Central Government and a Domestic Abuse Partnership Board was being established, with ongoing work around funding. The Director – Neighbourhoods confirmed that the refuges were still commissioned by the County Council through the Public Health Service, and through the new Partnership Board, all parties would be working closely to respond to those new duties.

In conclusion, the Director – Neighbourhoods reassured Councillors that in addition to the e-learning training undertaken by officers, more practical training was also available, and officers were reminded to be alert and curious at all times, and to report anything that did not seem right.

The Chairman questioned what signage was being used around Council premises to advertise whistle blowing numbers, and organisations such as Childline, and what work was being undertaken with the Council's leisure providers to enhance signage. The Communities Manager stated that increased signage could be considered and confirmed that the focus had been on appropriate staff training, to ensure that issues could be spotted and reported.

RESOLVED that the Safeguarding Update and presentation be noted.

5 Work Programme

The Director – Neighbourhoods presented the report of the Director – Finance and Corporate Services, which detailed the proposed Communities Scrutiny Group Work Programme for 2021/22.

The Chairman confirmed that an updated version of the Work Programme had been circulated to members of the Group, to incorporate the decisions made by the Corporate Overview Group at its meeting on 20 July 2021.

The Chairman referred to the meeting on 7 October 2021 and advised that the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Environment and Safety, Councillor Inglis, would be invited to attend the meeting when the report on Police Performance and Resources for Rushcliffe would be considered. The Group noted that the new Police inspector for Rushcliffe would also be in attendance to assist with the consideration of the item.

The Group was advised that a report on Community Facilities and Assets, due to be considered on 7 October 2021, had been removed from the Work Programme by the Corporate Overview Group. The Chairman advised that this decision had been taken given that many facilities had yet to reopen properly, or were being used for other functions, and it would be appropriate to delay the report, until the meeting in January 2022. The Chairman advised that he had

requested that a Briefing Note be sent to all Councillors, providing an overview of the current situation regarding Council facilities.

In respect of the meeting scheduled for 27 January 2022, the Corporate Overview Group had agreed that the report on Tree Conservation should be considered by the Growth and Development Scrutiny Group instead, as it would also be considering a report on Conservation Areas, and those two issues were linked. The Group noted that currently the meeting in January would have two substantive items, the Housing Delivery Plan and the delayed Community Facilities and Assets report.

The Chairman advised that for the meeting on 28 April 2022, there was a possibility that the Waste Strategy report could be delayed, as it was dependent on the publication of the Government's report.

The Director – Neighbourhoods reiterated the changes outlined by the Chairman and advised that there were a number of topics on the Scrutiny Matrix, which could further populate the Work programme in due course.

Given that the next meeting of the Corporate Overview Group would not be held until after the next meeting of this Group, the Chairman suggested that he and the Vice-Chairman would speak with the Chairman of the Corporate Overview Group and officers, with a view to agreeing which items, if any, from the Scrutiny Matrix should be added to the Group's Work Programme for its meeting on 7 October 2021. It was confirmed that the Group would be notified of any changes to the Work Programme.

It was **RESOLVED**

- a) that the Work Programme detailed below be approved by the Communities Scrutiny Group:

7 October 2021

Police Performance and Resources for Rushcliffe
Work Programme

27 January 2022

Housing Delivery Plan
Community Facilities and Assets
Work Programme

28 April 2022

Carbon Management Plan
Waste Strategy
Work Programme

- b) that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman consult with the Chairman of the Corporate Overview Group and officers, with a view to agreeing which items, if any, from the Scrutiny Matrix should be added to the Group's

Work Programme for its meeting on 7 October 2021.

ACTION SHEET

Minute Item	Action	Officer responsible
2	An update on the Carbon Management Plan be circulated to members of the Group	Director - Neighbourhoods
3	Officers to contact all local volunteer groups to ensure that they know how to report ASB	Service Manager – Public Protection
4	Article to be placed in Councillors' Connections on how members may sign up to Notts safeguarding website	Director - Neighbourhoods
4	Officers to ensure that all organisations and groups hiring Council facilities are aware of the safeguarding training that is available	Communities Manager
4	Officers to explore advisory 'how to access support' signage in relevant community facilities	Service Manager - Neighbourhoods

The meeting closed at 9.01 pm.

CHAIRMAN

Minute Item	Action	Officer responsible	Response
2	An update on the Carbon Management Plan be circulated to members of the Group	Director - Neighbourhoods	Completed
3	Officers to contact all local volunteer groups to ensure that they know how to report ASB	Service Manager – Public Protection	Completed
4	Article to be placed in Councillors' Connections on how members may sign up to Notts safeguarding website	Director - Neighbourhoods	Completed
4	Officers to ensure that all organisations and groups hiring Council facilities are aware of the safeguarding training that is available	Communities Manager	Still waiting for a further response
4	Officers to explore advisory 'how to access support' signage in relevant community facilities	Service Manager - Neighbourhoods	Still waiting for a further response

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Communities Scrutiny Group

Thursday, 7 October 2021

Police Performance and Resources in Rushcliffe

Report of the Director – Neighbourhoods

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. Councillors have requested a review of the South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership (SNCSP) performance with particular emphasis on the further transformation of the Nottinghamshire Police service and opportunities for community engagement and development.
- 1.2. The Communities Scrutiny Group will receive a presentation from Inspector Rob Lawton from Nottinghamshire Police.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Communities Scrutiny Group consider and make comments on the performance of the Police and the wider CSP during 2020/21 within Rushcliffe and provide suggestions on the priorities for the year ahead.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1. The SNCSP covers the administrative areas of Rushcliffe, Broxtowe, and Gedling.
- 3.2. It performs the role of being the Council's Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership which is a statutory group required by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- 3.3. Statutory and voluntary partners participate in the SNCSP with a common aim of reducing crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and promoting healthy and safe communities.
- 3.4. Nottinghamshire Police is a core delivery partner on the community safety agenda within South Nottinghamshire. In addition to an overview of crime performance within the Borough, the presentation will provide an overview of how the Police are continuing to adapt to the on-going challenges around finance, crime reporting, prioritisation (adoption of a Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment (STRA) approach) and the identification of future opportunities for further locality working with other key CSP partners such as the Council.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1. The Communities Scrutiny Group will receive a presentation covering the performance of the SNCSP within Rushcliffe during 2020/21. This will provide an opportunity to share further data on how the global pandemic has resulted in some significant challenges and changes to reported crime with reductions seen in certain types of acquisitive crime and an increase in others such as fraud and cyber related crimes.
- 4.2. The presentation will be an opportunity to explore crime trends in more detail and how local police and CSP resources are working to respond to force wide priorities such as serious violence/knife crime, sexual crimes etc alongside local priorities such as ASB and rural crime which in addition to the theft of farm equipment, fly tipping, hare coursing etc also includes more general crime types which can have a greater impact on smaller rural communities.
- 4.3. Resource deployment is a key area, and the presentation will detail how the new local inspector has structured his neighbourhood teams and the Operation Reacher staff under his command along with the opportunity to use shared priority resources such as the Council's Community Safety Officer who delivers a wide range of proactive community safety engagement work such as bike marking, neighbourhood watch schemes etc.
- 4.4. Communication and stakeholder engagement is an important aspect of successful community safety work and the presentation will explain how the current arrangements are working including newsletters, social media and how local priority setting meetings will remain a vital tool in responding to local needs.

5. Risks and Uncertainties

None identified

6. Implications

6.1. Financial Implications

The Council received funding of £24,900 from the Safer Notts Board / Police and Crime Commissioner to support the implementation of local plans in 2021/22 and is due to receive the same figure for the 2022/23 financial year.

6.2. Legal Implications

None identified

6.3. Equalities Implications

None identified

6.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

This report and accompanying presentation will demonstrate how both the Council and its partners operate to prevent crime and disorder (including anti-social behaviour), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances, and re-offending across Rushcliffe

7. Link to Corporate Priorities

Quality of Life	Ensuring that residents feel safe in their community
Efficient Services	Ensuring more efficient services by working in partnership with other agencies
Sustainable Growth	NA
The Environment	NA

8. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Communities Scrutiny Group consider and make comments on the performance of the Police and the wider CSP during 2020/21 within Rushcliffe and provide suggestions on the priorities for the year ahead.

For more information contact:	Geoff Carpenter Service Manager - Public Protection gcarpenter@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers available for Inspection:	None
List of appendices:	None

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Communities Scrutiny Group

Thursday, 7 October 2021

Performance Review of the Service Level Agreements with Trent Bridge Community Trust (TBCT)

Report of the Director – Neighbourhoods

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. Rushcliffe Borough Council provides support to children and young people through a wide variety of community engagement initiatives and campaigns. Activities are delivered through a combination of Service Level Agreements (SLAs) and contracts with external providers, as well as through directly delivery via internal council teams.
- 1.2. The Council's largest project supporting children and young people is with Trent Bridge Community Trust (TBCT) who facilitate delivery of the Positive Futures and YouNG programmes in Rushcliffe. Total financial commitment for the TBCT SLA is £192,000 per annum.
- 1.3. Considering the immeasurable impact COVID-19 has had on children and young people this report will provide the Group with an opportunity to review the largest service level agreement the Council hold for delivering services to children and young people.
- 1.4. The Group is requested to comment on performance to date and any areas where the partnership could be strengthened/adapted to achieve improved outcomes particularly considering the impact of COVID-19 and its implication for children and young people living in the Borough.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Communities Scrutiny Group

- a) consider and make comments on the presentation made by Trent Bridge Community Trust
- b) endorse the work of the Positive Future and YouNG projects and
- c) consider further areas for exploration on how we provide services to children and young people in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

The TBCT SLA was recommissioned in January 2021 for a further 4-year period and despite the short period in time there has been significant challenges facing children and young people during this period, particularly around mental health, access to education and employment opportunities. It is

therefore appropriate for the Group to scrutinise our current arrangement based on the latest information available.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1. Nottinghamshire operates a two-tier model of local government, and for the delivery children's services i.e., access to education, youth services, children's social care are the primary responsibility of the upper tier local authority Nottinghamshire County Council, however Rushcliffe Borough Council has a duty to co-operate in delivering these statutory services and ensure that we support the best outcomes for children and young people living in the Borough.
- 4.2. In addition to our statutory duties, the Council also deliver a range of discretionary services and a summary of recent children and young people activity delivered by the Communities Team is appended to this report (Appendix 1).

Trent Bridge Community Trust SLA

- 4.3. As the largest SLA related to delivering services to children the scrutiny aims to understand:
 - What impact Covid-19 has had on the delivery of the TBCT SLA since it was recommissioned in January 2021?
 - What are the current challenges in delivering the SLA and trends observed in supporting young people in the Borough?

5. Risks and Uncertainties

There is a risk that operational problems may be encountered by TBCT delivering either the Positive Futures or YouNG projects, or partner agencies could disengage with the programme which could affect achievement of the outcome targets. This was not identified as a significant risk due to the programme of area-based partnership meetings and employment of experienced staff, however the COVID-19 pandemic has created uncertainty in the medium term.

6. Implications

6.1. Financial Implications

The £192k per annum commitment for the TBCT SLA is funded from the revenue budget from January 2021 until December 2025.

6.2. Legal Implications

The Positive Futures and YouNG Project is supported by a service level agreement between Rushcliffe Borough Council and TBCT. Both agreements

incorporate a break clause for both parties providing a minimum of six months' notice.

6.3. Equalities Implications

The TBCT SLA is supported by a service level agreement between Rushcliffe Borough Council and TBCT. The agreements incorporate compliance with equalities legislation in respect of the organisation and delivery of services.

6.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

The Positive Futures and YouNG project provide a number of diversionary activities to young people to reduce the risk of crime and antisocial behaviour and increase employability through work experience and employability opportunities.

7. Link to Corporate Priorities

Quality of Life	The TBCT SLA contributes directly to the corporate priority of ' <i>quality of life</i> ', specifically in relation to the strategic task to 'create opportunities for young people to realise their potential'.
Efficient Services	The regular review of our SLA's contributes directly to the corporate priority of ' <i>efficient services</i> ', specifically in relation to the strategic task to 'review service delivery models to ensure that residents are receiving consistently excellent services either delivered directly by the Council, or by our arm's length companies, or by private and public sector partners'.
Sustainable Growth	NA
The Environment	NA

8. Recommendation

- a) consider and make comments on the presentation made by Trent Bridge Community Trust
- b) endorse the work of the Positive Future and YouNG projects and
- c) consider further areas for exploration on how we provide services to children and young people in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information contact:	Dave Banks Director - Neighbourhoods dbanks@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers available for Inspection:	None.
List of appendices:	Summary of current Children and Young people activities supported by the council Communities department

Appendix

Summary of current Children and Young people activities supported by the RBC Communities Team:

Holiday Activities Food Scheme (Covid-19 specific programme)	Working in partnership with NCC to establish provision of school holiday enrichment activities supporting children and young people eligible for free school meals (£38k DfE funding allocation to RBC for delivery August 2021)
Community Events Programme	Hosting Nottinghamshire's biggest free outdoor children's festival Lark in the Park annually- successfully delivered for over 30 years as a celebration of National Play Day - as well as providing educational children's activities across all of the council's annual platform of events such as arts and crafts, have-a-go sports sessions, shows and free classes.
Outdoor Education at Rushcliffe Country Park	Partnership working with NCC Notts Outdoors Education to host education workshops and school visits to RCP
Parks and playgrounds in West Bridgford	Managing open spaces, parks and playgrounds in West Bridgford, including co-ordinating improvement schemes such as skate park renovations at The Hook, Lady Bay in 2019 and RCP, Ruddington in June 2021
Junior sports pitches & Facilities hire for C&YP groups	Providing subsidised community spaces for children and young people's groups to meet and provide activities
Sports & Health Interventions	<p>Working in partnership with sports and health partners through the Active Rushcliffe Health Partnership on joint projects and campaigns benefitting children and young people e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Keyworth Physical Activity Place-based work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusive football sessions and early years intervention sessions at Keyworth Primary School - Integration of C&YP groups into the creation of the Keyworth Community Garden scheme - Covid-19 physical activity packs for children eligible for free school meals • Promoting the Breastfeeding Friendly Venues scheme

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordinating the Nottingham Rugby SLA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post-Covid support for community rugby clubs Borough-wide - Cook, East & Exercise sessions for ages 5-16 years - Little Ruggers programme for ages 5-11 years - Community taster sessions at RBC events • Managing Elite Sports Grants & FANS scheme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9/19 recipients of Elite Sports Grants issued in 2021 under 18 - 14 current FANS under 18 • Supporting the Free Leisure Access for Care Leavers scheme
Safeguarding Children	Internal Safeguarding group meeting on a quarterly basis with co-opted partners to ensure our duty under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 are discharged

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Communities Scrutiny Group

Thursday, 7 October 2021

Work Programme

Report of the Director – Finance and Corporate Services

1. Summary

- 1.1. The work programme is a standing item for discussion at each meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Group. In determining the proposed work programme due regard has been given to matters usually reported to the Group and the timing of issues to ensure best fit within the Council's decision making process.
- 1.2. The table does not take into account any items that need to be considered by the Group as special items. These may occur, for example, through changes required to the Constitution or financial regulations, which have an impact on the internal controls of the Council.
- 1.3. The future work programme will be updated and agreed at the next meeting of the Corporate Overview Group on 2 November 2021, including any items raised via the scrutiny matrix.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Group agrees the work programme as set out below:

27 January 2022

- Housing Delivery Plan
- Community Facilities and Assets
- Work Programme

28 April 2022

- Carbon Management Plan
- Waste Strategy
- Work Programme

3. Reason for Recommendation

To enable the Council's scrutiny arrangements to operate efficiently and effectively.

For more information contact:	Peter Linfield Director – Finance and Corporate Services 0115 914 8349 plinfield@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers Available for Inspection:	None
List of appendices (if any):	None