

**When telephoning, please ask for:** Laura Webb  
**Direct dial** 0115 914 8511  
**Email** [constitutionalservices@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:constitutionalservices@rushcliffe.gov.uk)

**Our reference:**  
**Your reference:**  
**Date:** Monday, 25 June 2018



**Rushcliffe Community  
Contact Centre**  
Rectory Road  
West Bridgford  
Nottingham  
NG2 6BU

To all Members of the Partnership Delivery Group

Dear Councillor

A Meeting of the Partnership Delivery Group will be held on Tuesday, 3 July 2018 at 7pm in the Council Chamber Area B, Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road, West Bridgford to consider the following items of business.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julian Crowle'.

Julian Crowle  
Monitoring Officer

## **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 March 2018 (Pages 1 - 6)
4. Introduction to the Partnership Delivery Group  
  
A presentation will be provided by the Executive Manager – Neighbourhoods.
5. Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust (Pages 7 - 28)
6. Review of the Cooperation Agreement for Fleet Maintenance and Garage Service Provision for 2017/18 (Pages 29 - 32)  
  
The report of the Executive Manager – Neighbourhoods is attached.
7. Partnership Delivery Group Annual Report (Pages 33 - 40)  
  
The report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services is attached.

**In person**  
Monday to Friday  
8.30am - 5pm  
First Saturday of  
each month  
9am - 1pm

**By telephone**  
Monday to Friday  
8.30am - 5pm

**Telephone:**  
0115 981 9911

**Email:**  
[customerservices@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@rushcliffe.gov.uk)

[www.rushcliffe.gov.uk](http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk)

**Postal address**  
Rushcliffe Borough  
Council  
Rushcliffe Arena  
Rugby Road  
West Bridgford  
Nottingham  
NG2 7YG



8. Work Programme (Pages 41 - 42)

The report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services is attached.

Membership

Chairman: Councillor J Cottee

Vice-Chairman: Councillor S Bailey

Councillors: R Hetherington, J Lungley, Mrs M Males, R Mallender, A Phillips, L Plant and Mrs J Smith

<b>Meeting Room Guidance</b>
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**Toilets:** are located to the rear of the building near the lift and stairs to the first floor.

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**MINUTES  
OF THE MEETING OF THE  
PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY GROUP  
TUESDAY, 20 MARCH 2018**

Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber Area B - Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road,  
West Bridgford

**PRESENT:**

Councillors J Greenwood (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), S Bailey, J Donoghue,  
J Lungley, R Mallender, A Phillips and L Plant

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

D Banks

Executive Manager -  
Neighbourhoods

D Hayden

Principal Community Development  
Officer

L Webb

Constitutional Services Officer

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Inspector C Berry

Nottinghamshire Police

J Collins

Chair - Rushcliffe Business  
Partnership

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillor Mrs J Smith

**18 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**19 Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 January 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17 January 2018 were  
accepted as a true record with all actions completed.

**20 Rushcliffe Business Partnership Annual Review**

The Principal Community Development Officer presented the report of the  
Executive Manager – Communities which outlined the work of the Rushcliffe  
Business Partnership (RBP). The Rushcliffe Business Partnership had been  
set up in 1999 as a forum for local businesses to network with each other,  
develop new business opportunities and to develop links between local  
authorities and other agencies on commercial matters.

The Principal Community Development Officer explained that the Rushcliffe  
Business Partnership was currently funded by a £2,000 Service Level  
Agreement from Rushcliffe Borough Council to deliver:

- 12 monthly networking events
- 1 annual event
- 1 website maintained and updated on a regular basis
- 3 quarterly themed networking events

The Principal Community Development Officer was pleased to report that all of the targets for the Service Level Agreement for 2017 – 18 had been met.

Dr John Collins, Chair of Rushcliffe Business Partnership attended the meeting and delivered a presentation to the Group which provided a progress report regarding the work of the Rushcliffe Business Partnership since January 2017. The presentation covered:

- The key aims of the Rushcliffe Business Partnership
- Key highlights of 2017 – 18
- Rushcliffe Business Partnerships 2018 – 19 priorities
- Rushcliffe Business Partnerships 2018 – 19 targets

Members of the Group asked how the RBP was looking to grow, the Chair of the RBP advised that in order for the Rushcliffe Business Partnership to expand, paid membership opportunities could potentially be considered. The Chair of the RBP also noted that members of the Rushcliffe Business Partnership were being directed to a D2N2 Scale Up programme which offered financial support and coaching to businesses which would help them step up to the next level.

Members also asked several specific questions regarding the advantages of small businesses attending networking events. The Chair of the RBP advised that networking allowed small businesses to gain from peer to peer support. The Principal Community Development Officer noted that the networking events were an important method for businesses to be signposted to other support programmes. The Group were also pleased to be informed that young people had been attending the networking groups.

The Chair of the RBP advised that he currently attended the Rushcliffe Strategic Growth Board and noted that the Rushcliffe Business Partnership aimed to work closer with the growth boards in 2018 – 19 in order for them to gain a better understanding of the growth agenda for Rushcliffe.

The Vice Chairman thanked the Principal Community Development Officer for delivering the presentation and for answering their questions.

**It was RESOLVED that:**

- a) the Report of the Executive Manager – Communities be noted.
- b) the work of the Rushcliffe Business Partnership be endorsed.

## 21 **Review of South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership**

The Executive Manager – Neighbourhoods presented a report which detailed a review of the South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership (SNCSPP). It was noted that the Partnership covered the administrative areas of Rushcliffe, Broxtowe and Gedling. The Executive Manager advised that the statutory and voluntary partners who participated in the SNCSPP aimed to reduce crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and to promote healthy and safer communities.

Inspector Craig Berry, the District Inspector for the Borough of Rushcliffe delivered a presentation to the Group which covered:

- Statements about demand on policing
- Changes in the demand of policing
- Recorded incidents v recorded crime
- Rushcliffe crime in the last twelve months
- Rushcliffe by crime type
- Nottinghamshire force by crime type
- Integrated partnership working

Members of the Group asked about the changes in the national crime recording standards. Inspector Berry advised that the categories of recording burglaries had changed from 'dwelling' and 'non-dwelling' in 2016/17 to 'residential' and 'business and community' in 2017/18. The Group were also pleased to be informed of the introduction of a new burglary team who were due to commence work on the 2 April 2018 and be based in West Bridgford. It was also noted that there was a reduction in the possession of drugs by 11.9% due to positive police action and that there had also been a reduction in the number of occurrences of "stop and search".

Members also asked several specific questions regarding the recording of rural crime. Inspector Berry confirmed that rural crime was not a crime type and therefore was not recorded separately, however it was noted that Paddy Tipping – Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner had stated that tackling rural crime was a key priority. The Group discussed how the Police responded to incidents of unauthorised encampments and how the Council supported this work.

Members of the Group asked about the recording of hate crime, Inspector Berry noted the rise in reported hate crime incidents had given the police an opportunity to understand the issues that residents faced in everyday life and while hate crime was terrible it was positive that victims felt able to report it to the police. In regards to the Borough of Rushcliffe, it was noted that the location of the Nottingham Forest Football Club and Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club being situated within the Borough can also impact on hate crime incidents.

Members of the Group were pleased to see the introduction of a local policing model from 2 April 2018 which would see a response team coming under Inspector Berry's control. It was also noted that two police officers would be based in Cotgrave as part of the Cotgrave Town Centre regeneration project

which will help to ensure a local presence.. The Group were also pleased to see an increase of police presence in Ruddington.

Inspector Berry advised the group about the establishment of the Rushcliffe multi-agency rough sleeper group. It was noted that there had been an increase of rough sleepers in the past year and that the multi-agency group had dealt with 30 cases of rough sleepers within the Borough. The multi-agency group had worked with Framework Outreach Services in order to understand the mental health issues that rough sleepers faced and which could lead to alcoholism, anti-social behaviour and begging. The Group expressed concern at the increase of scamming and phishing phone calls, especially within rural areas of the Borough. Inspector Berry advised that residents should refrain from revealing any information about themselves to uninvited callers as they could be scammers and that they should visit the national fraud website for more information. The Group were pleased to learn that Nottinghamshire Police had recently introduced a cyber and fraud team.

In response to a recent incident at a local school, the Group asked for more information regarding the number of armed police within the Borough and were advised that the provision of armed officers was a regional resource but that will change under the new local policing model.

The Vice-Chairman thanked Inspector Berry for attending the meeting and for answering the Group's questions.

**It was RESOLVED that:**

- a) the report of the Executive Manager – Neighbourhoods be noted.
- b) the presentation of the Police Inspector be noted.

## 22 **Work Programme**

The Group considered its Work Programme.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Group's Work Programme, as set out below, be approved.

### **3 July 2018**

- Review of Positive Futures
- Review of the Corporation Agreement for Fleet Maintenance
- Partnership Delivery Group Annual Report
- Work Programme

### **16 October 2018**

- Review of Metropolitan Housing Partnership
- Building Control Agreement with South Kesteven District Council
- Work Programme

### **8 January 2019**

- Review of Waterloo Housing Partnership
- Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust
- Work Programme

### **19 March 2019**

- South Notts Community Safety Update
- Grantham Canal Partnership with the Canal and Rivers Trust
- Work Programme

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

CHAIRMAN

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## Partnership Delivery Group

3 July 2018

## Nature Conservation Partnership Work

### Report of the Executive Manager – Communities

#### 1. Summary

- 1.1. This report is to update Members on how the Council is working with the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust (NWT), to deliver the Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy and biodiversity gain in Rushcliffe.
- 1.2. Janice Bradley, Head of Conservation, for Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust will provide a presentation for Members focussing on delivery of the service level agreement with the Council.
- 1.3. Members are requested to comment on Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust's delivery of nature conservation services within Rushcliffe and whether they support this model for delivering biodiversity services in the future.
- 1.4. The work of NWT was previously considered by the Community Development Group on 18 April 2011 and Partnership Delivery Group on 8 July 2014 and Members endorsed the work.

#### 2. Recommendation

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Group:
  - a) Endorse the work that has been undertaken to support nature conservation in partnership with NWT
  - b) Support the continued Service Level Agreement (SLA) with NWT.

#### 3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1. Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust achieved the outcomes within the Service Level Agreement during 2017 and a strong working partnership exists which complements the work of the Council's part time Environmental Sustainability Officer. The end of year report is attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2. The Portfolio Holder for Housing Planning and Waste Management will be updated on the performance of NWT throughout the duration of the current agreement and will be consulted on the content of any future service level agreement, which is due for renewal on 31 March 2020.

## 4. Supporting Evidence

- 4.1 Rushcliffe's 41,000 hectares contains a wide variety of wildlife. Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's) cover 62 hectares or 0.15% of Rushcliffe and county Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)) cover around 1891 hectares or 4.91%. There are eight designated Local Nature Reserves.
- 4.2 Rushcliffe has had a nature conservation strategy since 1995; this has most recently been refreshed in 2010 and in 2015 and will be due for renewal in 2020. The strategy has six objectives, of which the NWT make a significant contribution to the delivering:
- a. Promote Landscape Scale Conservation to create a more resilient natural environment
  - b. Promote the maintenance and enhancement of nature reserves
  - c. Promote sympathetic land management for wildlife in rural and urban areas
  - d. Support continuing surveying, monitoring and reporting of Rushcliffe's biodiversity
  - e. Raise awareness of nature conservation issues
  - f. Seek to influence the impact of development on wildlife.
- 4.3 Since 2004, the Council has had a service level agreement with Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust. The current agreement runs to March 2020.
- 4.4 Highlights of the partnership work include:
- The original 210 hectares classed as nature reserve has more than doubled to around 460 hectares since 2004
  - Recorded voluntary practical nature conservation work has increased from 3,138 hours in 2004 to 10,219 hours in 2016 (worth an estimated £190,993 based on Volunteering England guidance 2014, equating to £18.69 per hour)
  - Cumulative totals of habitat creation in Rushcliffe since 2011 are: Wildlife Grassland: 15.3ha; Woodland: 21.1ha; Wetland: 37.8ha; Ponds: 465m<sup>2</sup>
  - Approximately 200 educational activities have been carried out in schools across Rushcliffe, working with 4000 plus school children, since 2004.
- 4.4 The SLA end of year report (attached as appendix 1) details work undertaken during 2017.
- 4.5 The end of year report also provides information on complementary work undertaken in Rushcliffe by Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust. This work is not

funded by the Council through the SLA; however, the Trust has indicated that the Council's SLA funding investment is important in supporting this work.

## 5. Risk and Uncertainties

5.1 The current SLA is operational until March 2020. It is necessary to review the existing delivery mechanisms and outcomes in order to establish the most appropriate format for a renewed agreement for the period April 2020 onwards.

## 6. Implications

### 6.1 Finance

- The Service level agreement with NWT during the period 2016 to 2020 is for £15,750 per annum and is contained within existing budgets.

### 6.2 Legal

- The SLA with NWT was established in conjunction with the Council's Legal Services team.
- Biodiversity Duty - Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, section 40 states that the Council has a legal obligation to consider biodiversity in the delivery of its services.

### 6.3 Corporate Priorities

- Maintaining and enhancing our residents' quality of life.

### 6.4 Other Implications

- Nature conservation work is promoted to all residents and can help to address issues relating to equality, diversity, mental and physical health.
- Nature Conservation can help reduce the impact of climate change by providing green spaces which can absorb greenhouse gases and provide heat sinks.

<b>For more information contact:</b>	Paul Phillips Environmental Sustainability Officer 0115 914 8595 Email: <a href="mailto:pPhillips@rushcliffe.gov.uk">pPhillips@rushcliffe.gov.uk</a>
<b>Background papers available for inspection:</b>	Service Level Agreement between Rushcliffe Borough Council and Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust – Biodiversity Services 2016  Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy, online at <a href="http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/media/1rushcliffe/media/documents/pdf/environmentandwaste/environment/nature/Rushcliffe%20Nat">http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/media/1rushcliffe/media/documents/pdf/environmentandwaste/environment/nature/Rushcliffe%20Nat</a>

	<a href="#">ure%20Conservation%20Strategy%202016_2020%20final.pdf</a> The Nature of Rushcliffe Annual Report 2016, online at <a href="http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/media/1rushcliffe/media/documents/pdf/environmentandwaste/environment/nature/Annual%20Report%20June%202016.pdf">http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/media/1rushcliffe/media/documents/pdf/environmentandwaste/environment/nature/Annual%20Report%20June%202016.pdf</a>
<b>List of appendices:</b>	Report for Activity Delivered January to December 2017



## **Rushcliffe Borough Council & Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust**

### **Service Level Agreement Report on Activity**

**January to December 2017**

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## Service 1: Complete site surveys, draft / update management plans for sites within Rushcliffe and help implement plans

*Output: At least 4 sites supported per year (sites to be agreed on an ongoing basis and reviewed annually)*

*Outcome: Increased biodiversity on sites through adoption of management plans plus increased awareness and knowledge amongst residents and Council staff of how to manage natural green space in Rushcliffe appropriately*

### Dewberry Hill, Cliff top walk and Lily Ponds (Radcliffe-on-Trent Conservation Volunteers and Parish Council)

#### Update

- Provided advice on putting together a possible funding bid for a package of works at Lily Ponds, including pollarding over mature willow trees along the river bank, interpretation etc.
- Amphibian survey (details under training) of Lily Ponds.
- Kept in touch in relation to contractor management works on Dewberry Hill, which has included mowing parts of the meadow to encourage floral diversity, and winter scrub work.
- Liaised closely about planting of Dewberries on Dewberry Hill.
- Met Parish Council representative on 7 December to provide management advice on managing cliff top habitats alongside the walk/ path.

#### Plans for 2018

- NWT to keep in contact with the conservation group and parish council.
- NWT to run amphibian survey and possible bat walk at the Lilly Ponds, in conjunction with Nottinghamshire Bat Group.
- NWT to help with setting up reptile survey at Dewberry Hill in spring 2018.

### The Green Line

#### Update

- NWT led 7 Sunday morning work parties and 1 weekday session, which were carried out to implement objectives/ prescriptions in the management plan. The details of the work parties are below:

Date	Task	Volunteer attendees	Vol hours	NWT staff	Staff hours
8 Jan	Scrub clearance	7	16.5	CS	3
12 Feb	Scrub clearance	3	6	CS	3
12 Mar	Installation of bench	4	12	CS	3
22 and 24 Sep	Mowing	5	15	CS	6
8 Oct	Scrub clearance	3	9	CS	3
5 Nov	Scrub clearance	3	6	CS	2
3 Dec	Scrub clearance	8	15	CS	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>33</b>	<b>79.5</b>		<b>23</b>

- £200 of funding was secured for the Friends of Green Line from Musters Road Open Gardens towards the two new wooden benches, which were installed during the March work party.
- Additional NWT staff time was required for preparing for the work parties (tool maintenance, pre-works site visits to put up posters etc).



- Initial work has started on updating the management plan, which will cover the period 2018 - 2022.



New bench (March 2017)



Installation of the new bench at The Green Line (12 March 2017)

#### Plans for 2018

- Continue supporting the group by attending committee meetings and promoting three further winter work parties (January, February and March), leading two of these.
- Circulate updated management plan for comment to the Friends Group and RBC and issue final version.

#### **The Hook**

##### Update

- NWT provided advice to Friends of The Hook (FrOTH) on management issues, including management of silt trap, balsam, orchard, tree and shrub planting, grassland (wild flower meadow) management and education pond.
- Some SLA time was spent on progressing the 'Wetland Landscapes for All' project, which will result in some new wetland features being installed on site, such as improvements to the ditch, new scrapes and ponds. This partnership project is funded by moneys secured by NWT but officer time is being required to implement the project and this is being supported by RBC. Design plans have been drawn up and relevant permissions have been secured from the Environment Agency. At the time of writing a contractor has been identified and will be instructed to commence in early 2018.
- Site visits were carried out to review implementation of management plan and to progress the wetland project.

- The pond liner was replaced by a contractor in December 2016, under supervision of NWT and FrOTH. The pond was re-profiled in order to provide a larger catchment area and the fenced enclosure extended. NWT and FrOTH has continued to monitor the pond throughout 2017 and it has colonised well.



Re-profiled education pond at The Hook (9 December 2016)



The pond has naturally re-vegetated (1 August 2017)

#### Plans for 2018

- Organise/ oversee contractor works in relation to the 'Wetland Landscapes for All' project, liaising with RBC and FoG.
- Continue with the current level of support.

#### **Meadow Covert**

#### Update

- Made contact with Barrett/ David Wilson Home in relation to drainage issue and adjacent ditch and reedbed off Belfry Way.

#### Plans 2018

- Arrange a meeting with the new Head and NWT education and conservation Teams and RBC to discuss future use/ management of the site.
- Issue final version of updated management plan and include condition assessment targets.
- Help the school implement the plan.

## Sharphill Wood

### Update

- NWT has provided ongoing advice and support to the group.
- On-going issues including surfacing of footpaths, forest school use of the site, interpretation panels, protection of badgers, understory and ground layer planting, mapping of management compartments and planning issues in relation to the adjacent urban extension.
- Provided advice on interpretation, especially content of interpretation panels, which the group has approached the developers about, with a view to them sponsoring them.
- Attended a meeting with Friends and RBC in August to look at progress with implementing management plan and to discuss update of management plan for 2018-2022.
- NWT has drafted the management plan for 2018-22, with input from the Friends.

### Plans for 2018

- Finish the management plan update.
- Support the Friends at their 10-year anniversary event in the spring/ early summer.

## Sheldon Field

### Update

- Site meeting in December 2017.
- Drafted an update of management plan, which will cover the period 2018 – 2022.

### Plans for 2018

- Issue final version of management plan in early 2018.
- Carry out updated botanical survey in May/ June, in order to inform future management.

## Other sites –plans for July to December 2017

- Keep in touch with other groups and provide support as/ when required e.g. Gotham Nature Reserve, Bingham Linear Park, Meadow Park East Leake, Springdale Wood, East Bridgford etc.

## Service 2: Land Management Advice

*Output: Provide advice to 10+ external (i.e. not NWT or RBC estate) landowners in Rushcliffe in addition to 1. above (this may include private landowners, parish councils, schools etc.)*

*Outcome: Increased awareness and improved quality of the natural environment in Rushcliffe*

Advice was delivered to 12 external landowners during this reporting period

The SLA visits are listed below:

Date	Site	Details/ outcome
25 Jan and 2 Nov	Stanton-on-the-Wolds Golf Course	Following up initial contact made by the ecology group. Following provision of technical advice, scrub has been cleared around one pond and it is envisaged it will be de-vegetated and re-profiled in early 2018. There are options for work on another large pond and for tree planting, all of which will link to the Cotgrave Forest Project.

21 Feb , 8 May and 16 Nov	HMP Whatton	Initial introductory visit in February to look at wildlife enhancements within the grounds. The work is very extensive and impressive. NWT provided a letter of support for them in relation to their entry into the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) Wildlife Award, which they won. A second advisory visit was carried out with Carol Collins, in relation to them providing nesting opportunities for swifts and making links with the wider Rushcliffe Swift Project. This has resulted in offenders making boxes, which have been put up in the grounds. Further boxes have been made for use elsewhere in Rushcliffe.
21 Mar	Landowner, Langar	Visit to a horse paddock newly acquired by landowners. Provided advice in relation to enhancing grassland, scrub/ tree management, ponds and ragwort control.
27 Apr	Homeowner, Orston	Visit to house in Orston, where neighbors reporting seeing adder in the gardens. As this is a species which is currently considered extinct in Notts this is of particular interest. It is however thought most likely to be a grass snake.
31 May	Normanton-on-Soar	Visit with church warden and local residents with a view to developing a grassland /meadow project, focusing on a number of sites in the parish (road verge, churchyard, river bank and incorporating any other suitable land). Ongoing support included provision of information and leaflets for the church exhibition.
27 Jun	Meditation retreat, Hickling Pastures	Advisory visit in relation to planting native hedge, trees and creation of a wildflower meadow.
21 Aug	Gresham Marsh	Visit with EA to look at habitat management works required, which might possibly be funded through EA. Follow up written advice provided.
2 Sep	Cotgrave Forest	Meet with private woodland owner, who is supporting the training day
13 Oct	Millennium Green, Orston	Meeting with committee member regarding management of the green. Also in contact about riparian mammal and reptile monitoring.
24 Oct	Field east of East Leake	Meeting with Cllr Hetherington regarding East Leake Parish Council land purchase and provided advice on management of the land for nature conservation.
7 Dec	Clifftop walk, Radcliffe on Trent	Met with parish council about clearing sight lines from benches and provided advice on replanting with lower growing shrubs (also reported on under Service 1).
8 Dec	Sheldon Field, Cropwell Butler	Met with management committee regarding update of management plan (also reported on under Service 1).

Additional visits were carried out to the following sites:

- Wilford Hill Cemetery (26 Jan, 6 Apr and 2 Nov) to provide further land management advice, including tree and shrub planting, installation of planters, bat boxes and swift box installation in the chapel tower, which is being funded through a donation from the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management's Metals Recycling fund.
- St Gobain Ruddington site (15 Mar) in relation to ecological survey/ mitigation
- St Gobain British Gypsum site (31 Mar, 24 May and 28 Sept) in relation to woodland management and Schedule 1 birds at East Leak and grassland/ scrub management at Silver Seal Site in Bunny (with RNCSIG).

### **Plans for 2018**

- It is envisaged that additional visits to woodland owners/ managers will take place in connection with the Cotgrave Forest Focal Area Project. Follow up on initial contact made with two adjacent farmers and one of the woodland owners and nearby golf courses.
- Attend any other advisory visits, as opportunities arise.

### **Service 3: Support existing Friends Groups and establish new Friends Groups to become active and self-sustaining**

*Output: Support at least 4 groups per year. (Target groups to be agreed on an ongoing basis and reviewed annually).*

*Outcome: More people actively involved in the management of local green space in Rushcliffe  
Increased level of skills for residents taking part in formal training and informal site based activities.*

#### **Friends of Cotgrave Country Park**

Our education team continues to carry out visits with Cotgrave Candleby School and the Friends of Cotgrave Country Park (further details are provided under Service 4, below). The Skylarks Team has established good working links with the group.

#### **Friends of The Green Line**

In addition to leading 7 work parties (details under Service 1), we have continued to provide administrative support for the committee meetings which occurred on 14 June (this included the AGM) and 16 August, to arrange winter work programme. We also attended a meeting on 1 Nov, with the FoG, RBC and Streetwise, to talk about management.

#### **Friends of The Hook**

Our education officer delivered 2 sessions with classes from Lady Bay Primary school at The Hook on 27 June, supported by members of the Friends Group (see Service 4).

#### **Radcliffe-on-Trent Conservation Volunteers/ Parish Council (Lily Ponds and Dewberry Hill)**

Following on from last year's initial survey, we carried out an amphibian survey at Lily Ponds with a few members of the Parish Council / Conservation Group on 15 March (details under Service 6). Good numbers of amphibians were seen again, down slightly on last year. The education officer led school activities on Dewberry Hill this spring with the Infant school (details under Service 4).

#### **Friends of Bingham Linear Park, Gotham Nature Reserve, Sharpill Wood and The Hook,**

In relation to the above groups, all of which are self-sustaining, we continue to provide occasional support or visits when required and receive regular correspondence from groups (minutes of meetings etc).

### **Skylarks HLF Project Outreach**

Further links between the Friends Groups and Skylarks Project have been forged through events, activities and training. The HLF project funding largely finished in September 2017 but the project has a lasting legacy, including formation of a new friends group to look after the site.

### **Cotgrave Forest Woodland Owners Network**

After the owners meeting last year the group is continuing to meet on their own accord, which is a positive outcome. We are continuing to encourage woodland owners to work collectively, using the focal area project as a draw. We have been updating owners on recording activities in the area, encouraging owner participation in surveys and events etc. As part of this, a formal butterfly transect was set up in conjunction with Butterfly Conservation and a moth trapping event was carried out in early August, with the woodland training event on 30 September.

### **Gresham Marsh**

NWT met with the EA in the summer and provided management recommendations for this site, which has been largely unmanaged for several years and is declining in ecological value. A further meeting with the EA, RBC is planned for early 2018, to discuss future management. Safeguarding of this important wetland Local Wildlife Site, located next to Emmanuel School, off Wilford Lane, is the main aim.

### **Plans for 2018**

It is envisaged that work under this service will concentrate on setting up a community group to look after Gresham Marsh and possibly aim towards it's designation as a Local Nature Reserve.

## **Service 4: Deliver education days linking Rushcliffe schools to Rushcliffe sites**

*Output: Work with 6+ schools to provide at least 10+ activity sessions spread across all schools. (Target schools to be agreed on an ongoing basis and reviewed annually).*

*Outcome: More young people able to appreciate firsthand the wonder of the natural world*

**We have engaged with the following 9 schools in target areas:**

### **Radcliffe on Trent**

- Visited the Deputy Head of Radcliffe-on-Trent Infant school in February 2017, to advise on school grounds improvements and to discuss possible trips to Dewberry Hill
- Ran 3 sessions at Dewberry Hill with Foundation pupils, on 10th & 11th May. A total of 75 children participated and the event had a Minibeast theme.

### **Lady Bay/The Hook**

- 2 sessions run on The Hook 27th June 2017, with 2 foundation classes from Lady Bay Primary School; 60 children attended in total. Activities included Pond dipping and minibeast hunting. The event was supported by Jane Browne from the Friends Group.

### **Cotgrave**

- Ash Lea Special School now visits Skylarks reserve regularly. We led a visit to Skylarks Reserve in June last year by younger group of Ash Lea pupils. The teacher is very keen to do more (especially Forest School).
- We continue to support the Candleby Primary visits to Cotgrave Country Park. Although not an SLA target, this activity supports the Candleby Life programme and the Friends Group. In 2017 we supported 5 sessions between January and March with total of 65 pupils participating.

- We delivered a hugely popular bat walk at Cotgrave Country Park on 1 Sept, which was attended by 70+ members of public and volunteers from FoCCP.

### Keyworth

- We provided a grounds advice visit and led grounds day in 2015 at Crossdale Primary, where we renovated the willow structures near the wildlife area. We are due to follow this up.
- Keyworth Primary School is interested in setting up Forest School sessions and we met with the school in July 2017 to provide advice on setting up education activities in the grounds. We provided a teaching training session at the school in September.

### Edwalton

- Our education officer attends Eco Hub meetings when possible; this is a useful networking opportunity with Edwalton Primary and other schools
- Consider offer of training especially for NQTs
- Head teacher retiring July 2017 and we are due to arrange meeting with the new Head in 2018.

### Bingham

- We have made contact with the infant & junior schools to offer grounds advice / session with Eco teams / school councils
- On 7 March we met with the Head at Robert Miles Junior School and held a teacher inset session with 9 adults on 8 May
- Last year we made links with Toothill Secondary: they chose NWT as their charity for 2016 and raised funds. We met the ambassadors and supported a visit to Skylarks Nature Reserve. We are keen to explore possible future links with Bingham Linear Park.

### Other links

- Rushcliffe Secondary School, Boundary Rd: a group of 12x Year 7s visited Skylarks reserve to find out about habitats, the work of NWT and potential careers. Potential for outreach/link up to The Green Line

### Rushcliffe Wildlife Watch Group

The Group (based at Rushcliffe Country Park) is led by a volunteer team. It continues to be well attended.

### Summary of activity sessions

A total of **16 activity sessions** were run, engaging with **147 children**.

Date	School	Details	No of children
Jan–Mar and Oct–Nov	Candleby Primary, Cotgrave	Visits to Cotgarve Country Park (10 sessions)	65
10 & 11 May	Radcliffe-on-Trent Infant School	3 sessions on Dewberry Hill with foundation pupils. Mini-beast theme. Volunteer Group/ Parish Council invited to help but no one available on the day.	75
27 Jun	Lady Bay Primary	2 habitat sessions with	60



	School	foundation pupils. Pond dipping and mini-beast. Support from FrOTH	
19 Jun	Rushcliffe Secondary, West Bridgford	1 session -Y7 visit to Skylarks	12
			<b>Total = 212</b>

### Plans for 2018

Continue to focus on the following target areas:

- Radcliffe on Trent
- Cotgrave
- Keyworth
- Bingham West
- Edwalton (to meet new Head in 2018)
- Lady Bay.

We have now finished supporting Candleby school sessions but aim to deliver a bat walk and family activity day at Cotgrave Country Park in the summer holidays.

### Service 5: Increase participation in nature conservation activities in the borough through events and activities

*Output:*

*a. Organise and / or participate in 7 public events (including Lark in the Park, Rush for Health, Volunteers Conference).*

*b. Provide a news story / item for public promotion monthly to Rushcliffe Borough Council.*

*Outcome: More people aware of the importance of the natural environment, participating in nature conservation activities in the borough and leading more active lifestyles*

#### ITEM a:

NWT organised and participated in a number of events, including walks and reserve open days during the reporting period. The South Notts Local Group ran a program of Rushcliffe-based walks and talks throughout the period and represented the Trust at a number of public events in the borough.

The majority of the events listed below were advertised to the wider public.

During January to July 2017 we have organised and/ or supported **35** events and activities, which is well in excess of our target output of 7.

Date	Event	Lead	Attendees (where recorded)
15 Feb	Walk – wildfowl and birds at Skylarks Nature Reserve	Skylarks Team	
26 Mar	Walk –early spring at Wilwell Cutting	South Notts Local Group, SNLG	
4 Apr	SNLG AGM and Nottinghamshire bats talk	SNLG	20
19 Apr	Walk -Wilwell Farm Cutting spring wildflowers	SNLG	6



30 Apr	Walk - Dawn chorus at Sharphill Wood	Friends of Sharphill Wood	<b>12</b>
30 Apr	Bunny Wood Nature Reserve Open Day	Bunny Wood Reserve Vols	<b>100</b>
11 May	Walk - Stonepit Wood spring flowers	SNLG	<b>7</b>
17 May	Walk - Collington Common	SNLG	<b>2</b>
20 May	Ruddington Spring Fair	SNLG	
21 May	Walk -Cotgrave Forest butterflies	SNLG and Butterfly Conservation	<b>18</b>
21 May	Walk –birds at Skylarks Nature Reserve	Skylarks Team	
28 May	Walks – two at Keyworth burial ground and Keyworth Meadow Keyworth Meadow walk	SNLG	4
3 June	Wilwell Farm Cutting Reserve Open Day	SNLG	89
10 Jun	Walk - Cotgrave Country Park	SNLG	6
19 Jun	Bingham Town Fair	SNLG	
17 Jun	Walk - Flora & Butterflies of Gotham Hills	SNLG	14
17 Jun	Moth Trapping at The Hook	Skylarks Team	18
25 Jun	Walk - East Bridgford Wildlife, including Springdale Wood	SNLG	6
8 Jul	Walk -Flora for improvers at Wilford Claypits	SNLG and Dave Wood, BSBI	5
8 Jul	Walk - Butterflies and Wildflowers at Meadow Park East Leake	Friends of Meadow Park	19
8 Jul	Radcliffe on Trent Carnival	SNLG	
15 Jul	Walk - Bunny Wood Invertebrates	Bunny Wood Reserve Vols	5
23 Jul	Walk -Cotgrave Forest in High Summer	SNLG	3
27 Jul	Family Nature Day at Skylarks Nature Reserve	Skylarks Team	6
2 Aug	Support Rushcliffe’s Lark in the Park event	SNLG	16
4 Aug	Cotgrave Forest moth trapping evening organised by NWT and supported by SNLG	NWT	4
16 Aug	Fairham Brook and Bunny Moors circular walk	SNLG	6
23 Aug	A stroll round Radcliffe on Trent Lily Ponds	SNLG	16
24 Aug	Open Day at the Skylarks Nature Reserve	Skylarks Team	
1 Sept	Moth trapping at The Hook	Skylarks Team	
10 Sept	Support Sunday Funday at Rushcliffe Country Park	SNLG	
Oct - Dec	SNLG talks programme: Plant galls Wildflowers and waterways Fungi Foray Giants of the redwood talks	SNLG	2 22 31 21

**ITEM b:**

The South Notts Local Group website is regularly updated with news and events. The NWT website and members monthly newsletter has featured Rushcliffe specific news, events and the NWT website has a specific ‘wildlife on your doorstep’ section for Rushcliffe. For instance, articles on activities at Cotgrave Forest have been published.

Increasingly, short news items are featuring in social media with links being made between Rushcliffe Borough Council, RNCSIG and Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust social media accounts.

Although news stories are regularly written, we still need to develop an improved mechanism to ensure they are submitted to Rushcliffe on a monthly basis, as per item b of Service 5. NWT media contacts are Erin McDaid and Rachel Rutherford, contactable via 0115 958 8242 or email [communications@nottswt.co.uk](mailto:communications@nottswt.co.uk).

## Service 6: Provision of training

*Output: At least 3 training events delivered by NWT staff and / or external trainers per year (1 group development, 2 technical/ practical skills)*

*Outcome: Increased knowledge of the natural environment. Improved skills for local residents. Improved sustainability of 'Friends of Groups'*

Brief details of 9 training events are listed below. As with the activities and events, some of those listed were delivered through HLF funding but were advertised to residents in Rushcliffe so are included below.

Date	Event	Lead	Attendees
4 Feb	Willow Harvesting and Basket making (Ray Lister)	Skylarks Team (HLF Funded)	10
15 Mar	Amphibian survey session at Lily Ponds with Radcliffe Conservation Volunteers (Ben Driver)	NWT	5
6 May	Woodland Management Course Part 2 (Debbie Alston)	Skylarks Team (HLF Funded)	17
21 Apr	Riparian Mammals (Debbie Alston)	Skylarks Team (HLF Funded)	15
17 Jun	Bees and hoverflies (David Goddard)	Skylarks Team (HLF Funded)	15
3 Jul	Pond dipping and identification for adults (in-house)	Skylaks Team	8
15 Aug	Aquatic Macrophytes (Debbie Alston)	Skylarks Team (HLF Funded)	6
16 Aug	Pond management (Debbie Alston)	Skylarks Team (HLF Funded)	7
30 Sep	Volunteer Forum, which took the form of woodland management training session for Cotgrave Woodland owners and friends groups	NWT	13 (including 6 woodland owners, Radcliffe on Trent Conservation Group and Springdale Wood representatives)

### Ideas for 2018

- **Pond management** Although this course was run in summer 2017 by Skylarks Project Team it was not advertised to wider friends groups. But a pond creation and management course might be popular, perhaps ran in-house by NWT or by external trainer e.g. Debbie Alston.
- **Tree diseases** Very topical and might prove popular with Woodland managers/ Cotgrave Forest owners group. Forestry Commission could be approached to lead this.

- **Tree identification (in leaf)**, a request made by Friends of The Hook
- **Butterfly identification / survey training**, which could be delivered jointly with Butterfly Conservation and NWT and aimed at Friends Groups, to increase monitoring on LNRs and Blue Butterfly Site. Invite Cotgrave Woodland owners to attend.
- **Reptile / amphibian surveys**, led by NWT Perhaps invite other FOGs to attend sessions with Radcliffe-on-Trent Conservation Volunteers at Dewberry Hill and Lilly Ponds?
- **Volunteer Forum** – theme / date tbc

## **Additional NWT Activity**

*The aim of this section is to capture work not precisely fitting service descriptions above but still contributing to them and/ or the wider service in Schedule A (for NWT to 'protect and enhance the biodiversity resources of Rushcliffe in line with the Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy').*

### **Education**

- NWT provides on-going support to the Rushcliffe Wildlife Watch Group, which still meets monthly and is going strong. The Group continues to be well attended.

### **Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy Implementation Group**

- NWT attended RNCSIG meetings on 17 January, 23 March and 9 May, 5 Sep and 11 Nov.
- NWT attended RNCSIG biodiversity opportunity mapping Cotgrave Forest sub-group meeting on 19 January, 30 March and 11 May, 3 Aug and 26 Oct, helping to take forward the project
- NWT commented on The Nature of Rushcliffe 2016 and RNCSIG Action Plan.

### **Blue Butterfly Project**

- Maintaining the inventory of NWT's grassland project (Blue Butterfly Scheme) sites. There are currently 13 sites in Rushcliffe and three churchyards (total =16). We are currently trying to develop funding, to reinvigorate the scheme.
- NWT attended a national Magnificent Meadows Conference on 8 March and worked with Buglife to deliver a local pollinator workshop on 25 July, linked to the National Pollinator Strategy and supported by Defra and Lowland Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire LNP. Whilst this took place in neighboring Broxtowe it was well attended by Rushcliffe groups. This may lead to project development, particularly in relation to taking forward the B-Lines concept in Nottinghamshire. Two pollinator corridors have been identified in Rushcliffe. One of these run down from the city through Gotham, Between East and West Leake and towards Stanford on Soar and the other follows the Trent. It is envisaged that linking to this UK-wide initiative may help develop further projects that will help wild flower, meadow and invertebrate conservation. Further development of the concept and possible projects will be worked up.

### **NWT Nature Reserves**

- During 2017 we have continued to implement a busy program of community engagement. This has included running several training courses, walks, talks and schools engagement.
- Work has continued on Wilwell Farm Cutting, Wilford Claypits and Bunny Wood nature reserves. Volunteer work party statistics are below:

#### Wilwell Farm Cutting

Date	Activity	Vol hours
Apr	Scrub control	17
Jun	Open Day	32
Jun	Survey	14
Jul	Grass maintenance	7
Jul	Grass maintenance	19
Jul	Grass maintenance and ragwort control	10
Aug	Grass maintenance	5
Sep	Coppicing	12
Sep	Grass maintenance	3
Nov	Coppicing willow regrowth in marsh area.	10
Nov	Bonfire	7
Nov	Brushcutting	5
Dec	Burn arisings	12
	Total	171

#### Wilford Claypits

Date	Activity	Vol hours
Mar17	Brushcutting	14
Mar17	Scrub work	8
Mar17	Path work	24
Apr17	Ladder board	24
Apr17	Path work	24
May17	Path work	32
May17	Scrub work	8
May17	Path work	24
Jun17	Damaged trees	32
Jun17	Brushcutting	12
Jul17	Ladder board	7
Jul17	Scrub work	12
	Total	221

Bunny Wood – currently awaiting statistics

- NWT has successfully raised funds through the co-op Local Community Fund for improvements at Skylarks and currently raising funds through this scheme for the *Pondemonium! Wilford's Wetland Wonders* project, to build a new pond and dipping platform at the Wilford Claypits Nature Reserve.
- The Wetland Landscapes for all project is funding a composting toilet and new education outbuilding/ open barn at Skylarks Nature Reserve

#### Badger Edge Vaccination Scheme BEVS

- We commenced delivery of a Badger edge vaccination scheme (BEVS) in the Rushcliffe Borough, to help to protect local livestock farmers. Under this 4-year program, NWT has been vaccinating badgers in an area of almost fifty square Kilometers on the Nottinghamshire/Leicestershire border between Tithby and Long Clawson – one of the most important areas for dairy farming in

the county. Villages included in the vaccination program include Cropwell Bishop, Owthorpe, Kinoulton, Hickling Pastures, Upper Broughton and Nether Broughton.

- Vaccinating badgers is intended to help create a buffer zone of bovine TB free badger populations to prevent the spread of TB from areas of high occurrence (e.g. parts of Leicestershire) to those areas with fewer outbreaks to the north and east. Badger vaccination forms part of the government's comprehensive strategy to make England bovine TB free.
- We have now engaged with a total of 45 landowners and know of over 50 setts within the scheme boundary.
- Throughout 2017, we continued to engage with landowners. We have overcome problems with sourcing the vaccine (which was unavailable due to global shortages) and have recommenced vaccination. During 2017, 20 setts were vaccinated. From these setts, a total of 27 badgers were vaccinated. These setts included those started in 2015, plus two new setts which are a subsidiary to a main sett started in 2015.
- DEFRA has confirmed the launch of "BEVS 2" which is due to commence in April 2018. If NWT's application to the fund is successful, a new project officer will be appointed to take forward the project in 2018.

#### **Planning advice**

- Between January and December Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust submitted 25 responses to 21 individual planning applications, out of a total of 38 consultations overall. Unfortunately, NWT is unable to offer the same level of advice in relation to development control as it has in the past due to resource constraints. We issued a letter on 21 June 2016 to all Nottinghamshire 'Heads of Planning Policy' and 'Heads of Development Management' explaining our current situation and to offer to work with them constructively on finding an agreeable way forward.
- We provided comments on the Local Plan Part 2: Land and Planning Policies (two Issues and Options consultations in relation to 'additional sites') and Neighborhood Plans (Keyworth and Radcliffe-on-Trent) during the reporting period.
- We provide advice to Nottinghamshire County Council on 'county matters' affecting the district, including a response on the Rempstone Well site.

**Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust**  
**January 2018**

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Rushcliffe  
Borough Council

Partnership Delivery Group

3 July 2018

Review of the Cooperation Agreement for Fleet  
Maintenance and Garage Service Provision for 2017/18

## Report of the Executive Manager – Neighbourhoods

### 1. Summary

- 1.1. This report will provide Members with an opportunity to review the partnership with Nottingham City Council who maintain both the Council's fleet and vehicles owned by Streetwise Environmental Ltd under a cooperation agreement.
- 1.2. Senior representatives of Nottingham City Council will provide a presentation to Members on performance covering the period 2017/18 across key services and outline future plans and initiatives. Building on a positive performance and a budget saving in 2016/17 of £27,280, expenditure in 2017/18 was higher, due in the main to more vehicle breakdowns with a small overspend of £3,000 against a budget of £284,500.
- 1.3. Members are requested to comment on performance to date and any areas where the partnership could be strengthened to achieve improved outcomes.

### 2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Members consider and make comments on the presentation made by Nottingham City Council and endorse the work of the cooperation agreement partnership.

### 3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1. In January 2014, Cabinet approved an innovative cooperation agreement with Nottingham City Council for the maintenance of its fleet and vehicles owned by Streetwise Environmental Ltd. After a period of transition and mobilisation in early 2014, which included the transfer of Council staff and equipment, the maintenance of the Council's fleet commenced by the City Council at their Eastcroft and Woolsthorpe depot facilities on 1 April 2014.
- 3.2. In addition to continuing a quality maintenance service and ensuring vehicle safety, the objectives of the agreement are as follows:
  - **Financial benefit** – there should be a financial benefit to both councils
  - **Shared savings** – any additional savings should be shared in a fair manner between the councils (nominally on a 50/50 basis)
  - **Fair risk / incentive balance** – risks should be placed with the organisation best able to control them and incentives should be given to each organisation to operate in the best interests of the partnership

- **Simple** – should be as administratively simple to operate as possible, to save unnecessary costs on administration / contract management
  - **Transparent** – each side should be clear about how the partnership should work
  - **Scalable** – whatever is agreed should be capable of being added to, either via other local councils joining or an expansion of services being shared
  - **Quick to implement** – a shared service in operation by 1 April 2014.
- 3.3. Importantly, the previous maintenance arrangements delivered by the ‘in-house’ garage staff were detailed in an operational ‘specification’ which is designed to ensure clear and consistent continuity of service by the City Council during the ten year initial period of the agreement. This specification covers the following core activities:
- Undertaking all statutory maintenance
  - Compliance to VOSA’s<sup>1</sup> legal requirements
  - Documentation management and inspection sheets
  - Mobile mechanic facility
  - Management of key sub-contractors and suppliers
  - Accident repair
  - Tachograph installation and calibration.
- 3.4. During 2017/18 the working relationship between Nottingham City Council and Rushcliffe has continued to mature, although it is important to note that performance in the last year has been hampered by some upheaval in staffing levels and resources at the City Council that has led to some performance issues overall. Work is also on-going to clarify and resolve some historical work and associated invoicing with Streetwise Environmental Ltd.
- 3.5. In particular, there have been some issues over first time MOT failures, which are now being addressed and closely monitored as part of our contract management processes. Overall performance is measured against some key performance indicators that are monitored both monthly and at quarterly strategic meetings.
- 3.6. In addition to promoting and developing a strong partnership approach between both councils, there is also the opportunity to continue to explore a wider shared fleet maintenance service with other neighbouring councils.

#### **4. Supporting Evidence**

- 4.1. Nottingham City Council will provide Members with a presentation covering the following areas:
- Scope of services delivered
  - Performance in key areas against performance indicators and plans for improvement
  - Summary of learning and issues from 2017/18
  - Areas for future development.

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<sup>1</sup> VOSA = Vehicle Operators Services Agency  
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- 4.2. In addition to their presentation to Members, the City Council will take questions on the above areas and any other matters as requested.

## 5. Risk and Uncertainties

- 5.1. Although this is a cooperation agreement rather than a traditional contract, the Council has developed and implemented robust 'client/contractor' style monitoring arrangements as part of the Contract Management Hub in Neighbourhoods last year. This ensures the delivery of the service to the Council's specification and is enhanced by close partnership working with the City Council to ensure that the relationship continues to grow in strength.
- 5.2. The financial success of the partnership is strongly linked to the incidence of vehicle repairs which is a variable risk factor that is mitigated through a cyclical vehicle replacement programme, delivery of a quality maintenance programme and robust driver training.

## 6. Implications

### 6.1. Finance

There are no direct financial implications to this report, however, it should be noted that the 2017/18 budget for Fleet Maintenance was £284,500. The outturn financial performance for 2017/18 was £287,364. The transfer of the Fleet Maintenance function to Nottingham City Council has also enabled the letting of the Garage facilities to Nottinghamshire County Council generating income of £75,000 per annum (net £43,000).

### 6.2. Legal

None.

### 6.3. Corporate Priorities

**Maintaining and enhancing our resident's quality of life** – ensuring that the Council's vehicles are maintained to a high standard and available for work is fundamental to the Council and Streetwise Environmental Ltd delivering services which protect public health and maintain an attractive and clean environment, all of which has a significant positive impact on our residents' quality of life.

**Transforming the Council to enable the delivery of efficient high quality services** – the transformation of fleet maintenance is a key example of how the Council has transformed a number of services as part of delivering its Transformation Plan.

### 6.4. Other Implications

None

<b>For more information contact:</b>	David Banks Executive Manager - Neighbourhoods 0115 914 8438 <a href="mailto:DBanks@rushcliffe.gov.uk">DBanks@rushcliffe.gov.uk</a>
<b>Background papers Available for Inspection:</b>	None
<b>List of appendices (if any):</b>	None



## Partnership Delivery Group

3 July 2018

## Partnership Delivery Group Annual Report

### Report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services

#### 1. Summary

- 1.1. This annual report reviews the work undertaken by the Partnership Delivery Group during 2017/18. Each of the scrutiny groups prepares an annual report and these will be presented to full Council in September 2018. The Group has met four times during the year.
- 1.2. Over the year, the Partnership Delivery Group received excellent presentations from a number of external speakers and officers keen to help the Group understand how the Council worked with its partners to deliver services across Rushcliffe.
- 1.3. In addition, the Group specifically scrutinised:
  - Positive Futures
  - The Cooperation Agreement for Fleet Maintenance and Garage Services
  - Metropolitan Housing Partnership
  - The Service Level Agreement with Rushcliffe Community & Voluntary Service
  - Waterloo Housing Partnership
  - Service Level Agreement with Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire
  - Review of all Partnerships
  - Rushcliffe Business Partnership
  - South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership.
- 1.4. The Partnership Delivery Group is asked to review the report and consider if it fully reflects the work undertaken by the group.

#### 2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Partnership Delivery Group approve the report and forward it on to Council for consideration.

#### 3. Risk and Uncertainties

There are no direct risks and uncertainties arising from this report.

#### 4. Implications

##### 4.1. Finance

There are no direct financial issues arising from this report.

#### 4.2. **Legal**

There are no legal issues arising from this report.

#### 4.3. **Corporate Priorities**

The Corporate Priorities are considered as an integral part of the Group's Work Programme.

#### 4.4. **Other Implications**

There are no other issues arising from this report.

<b>For more information contact:</b>	Peter Linfield Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services 0115 914 8439 <a href="mailto:plinfield@rushcliffe.gov.uk">plinfield@rushcliffe.gov.uk</a>
<b>Background papers Available for Inspection:</b>	Not relevant for this report
<b>List of appendices (if any):</b>	<b>Appendix 1</b> - Partnership Delivery Group's Annual Report

## Partnership Delivery Group

### Chairman's Foreword

This annual report highlights the work of the Partnership Delivery Group over the past year. Through scrutiny, the Council can review and, if necessary challenge the outcome of our investment in partnerships with outside bodies. This scrutiny enables us to be better informed about the work done in our partnerships. The role of the Partnership Delivery Group is to ensure that our many partnerships are worthwhile, mutually beneficial, and meet their desired outcomes.

Effective scrutiny helps improve accountability, performance, policies, future plans and service quality. We hope that by building good working relationships with our partners, that this ensures better outcomes for our residents and provides even better value for money.

I am confident that our work over the last year has enhanced how we all work together, and that this attracts our partners to want to work with us to benefit our residents.

I would like to thank all my colleagues, especially my Vice Chairman, Councillor Jean Greenwood, for their support throughout the year, for the lively and probing discussions and for their engagement and participation.

My thanks also go to our partners for their support in delivering quality services, and to the council staff for attending meetings and for ensuring that the scrutiny process remains effective and efficient.



**Councillor Mrs J Smith  
Chairman**



**Councillor J Greenwood  
Vice Chairman**

## **What we are responsible for?**

The main role of Rushcliffe's scrutiny groups are to:

- Develop a work programme which scrutinises the Council's priorities.
- Ensure the Group's work helps implement the Council's plans and policies.
- Review, challenge and question how the policy, plans and services are implemented and recommend to Cabinet and Council improvements to services and their performance.
- Ensure the work contributes towards value for money, continuous improvement and best practice.

The Partnership Delivery Group's remit is to:

- Make sure existing partnerships are effective, enabling them to grow and develop
- Help ensure partnership working is the norm to deliver synergy, better asset and resource utilisation, better value for money and remove duplication
- Forge public sector partnerships to deliver community benefits
- Develop future partnership working with both the public and private sector

## **Our work this year**

The Group's main work was to monitor the services of the Council's partners to help develop policy and consultation prior to Cabinet.

During this year the Group considered many service areas and issues within its scrutiny role, reviewing particularly:

- Review of Positive Futures
- The Cooperation Agreement for Fleet Maintenance and Garage Services
- Metropolitan Housing Partnership
- The Service Level Agreement with Rushcliffe Community & Voluntary Service
- Waterloo Housing Partnership
- Service Level Agreement with Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire
- Review of all Partnerships
- Rushcliffe Business Partnership
- South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership

## **Review of Positive Futures**

Members of the Group received a presentation from representatives from Positive Futures and Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club which covered the performance of the Positive Futures project. The Group were advised that the number of young people that Positive Futures had worked with had reduced so that there could be more focused one to one support for individuals. Members of the Group were advised that Positive Futures were looking into the behavioural patterns of young people and offered a counselling service for those who suffered from mental health issues. The Group were also pleased to see the successful expansion of Positive Futures into

East Leake where Positive Futures were working with ten young people. The Group were pleased to endorse the work of the Positive Futures programme and welcomed the positive difference that it made to the lives of young people within the Borough.

### **Review of the Corporation Agreement for Fleet Maintenance and Garage Services.**

Members considered and commented on the performance of the Cooperation Agreement for Fleet Maintenance and Garage Service Provision that the Council had entered into with Nottingham City Council in 2014. The Group were pleased to be informed that following on from a positive performance and a budget saving in 2015/16, the end of year financial outturn for 2016/17 showed a saving of £27,280 against a budget of £282,500.

The Group received a presentation from the Transport Manager at Nottingham City Council and considered the performance indicators which had been revised for the third year of the partnership. The Group were pleased that all targets had been exceeded with the exception of the percentage of vehicles returned to the Depot by 7:00am that had narrowly been missed. The Transport Manager outlined the key highlights of the third year review of the agreement and advised that the City Council was currently in the first year of a full review of the Parking, Fleet and Transport service area which had resulted in the implementation of a Fleet Services Improvement Plan which involved reviewing all systems, agreements and improving customer service and management.

Members of the Group welcomed that the Council would continue to work collaboratively with Nottingham City Council to improve performance by considering other areas for joint working and whether it was beneficial for other local authorities to join the partnership.

The Group were pleased to endorse the work of the cooperation agreement partnership.

### **Review of Metropolitan Housing Partnership**

The Group considered the Council's partnership with Metropolitan Housing Trust and received a report and presentation on the company's work during 2016/17. Members of the Group considered and discussed many issues including, the frequency of turnover of properties, the implementation of fixed term tenancies, levels of anti-social behaviour, customer satisfaction and the performance indicators of their new repairs company 'Metworks.' The Group were pleased to be informed that Metropolitan had recently won a Gold Standard Youth Mark Award and that they were working in partnership with the Trent Bridge Community Trust to deliver local jobs clubs in Cotgrave to support 38 residents into employment. The Group were pleased to endorse the work of the Metropolitan Housing Partnership for 2016/17.

### **Service Level Agreement with Rushcliffe Community & Voluntary Service**

The Group considered a report on the Service Level Agreement with Rushcliffe Community and Voluntary Service and noted that the financial value of the Agreement for 2016/17 was £15,000. The Chief Executive of the Rushcliffe Community and Voluntary Service delivered a presentation which provided the Group with an overview of their work during 2016/17. Members were informed that 52 groups and organisations had been helped which secured £37,426 in funding. It was

also noted that 154 groups were able to develop volunteering opportunities and that 649 residents were supported into volunteering roles. The Group were pleased to note that the Rushcliffe Community Voluntary Service were working with Metropolitan to support them with the Ready4Work Clubs which helped unemployed tenants back into work through volunteering.

The Group were also advised that the Rushcliffe Community and Voluntary Service Office was due to relocate to Abbey Road in November 2017. The Group endorsed the work of the Rushcliffe Community Voluntary Service. It was also agreed that due to a reduction in funding of the Service Level Agreement, the procedures for monitoring performance of the Rushcliffe Community Voluntary Service be managed through the Portfolio Holder for Community and Leisure rather than through Partnership Delivery Group.

### **Review of Waterloo Housing Partnership**

The Group received a report and presentation regarding the partnership work undertaken by the Council and Waterloo Housing. Many issues were scrutinised including, rural exception sites, responsiveness to repairs, welfare reform, levels of complaints, call centre customer service, grounds maintenance, methods to engage with residents, housing allocations and the small turnover of void properties in Rushcliffe. It was also noted that Waterloo Housing were currently in talks regarding merging with Fortis Living in Worcestershire which would take their total housing stock to 45,000 which as a consequence would provide greater capacity for development. The Group endorsed the work of the Waterloo Housing Partnership.

### **Service Level Agreement with Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire**

The Group received a presentation from the Delivery and Development Manager at Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN) which provided information on the Service Level Agreement with the Council for 2016/17 and for the first nine months of 2017/18. It was noted that with the increased demand for the implementation of Neighbourhood plans, RCAN had held a neighbourhood planning event in March 2017 where 13 Rushcliffe parishes were represented and had resulted in six parish councils asking for follow up appointments in order to take the development of Neighbourhood Plans further. The Delivery and Development Manager noted that during the financial year of 2016/17 support and guidance had been given to 40 different groups, with 11 funding applications submitted and 8 successful applications. The funding for these groups overall was £122,289 which was a £31,289 increase from 2015/16. Following the two successful Town and Parish Forums in 2016/17 the Group noted how useful and informative these events were for Town and Parish councillors to network with each other. It was noted that RCAN were continuing their work with Ruddington and East Bridgford Parish Council to deliver their community led plans. The Group endorsed the work of the Service Level Agreement with Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire.

### **Review of all Partnerships**

The Executive Manager – Neighbourhoods presented a report providing information on all the partnerships that the Council currently maintained, and requested that members of the Group reviewed the procedures for scrutinising the work and performance of each of these partnerships in order that the Group could develop their work programme in highlighting areas for deeper scrutiny as well as considering which partnerships required less frequent consideration. It was recommended that



the Partnership Delivery Group should focus on high profile partnerships as determined by a range of factors such as financial contribution made by the Council or the scale and breadth of outcomes for the community.

The Executive Manager highlighted three new partnerships for potential consideration for scrutiny by the group which were the Communities Nature Conservation partnership with the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, the Building Control Partnership with South Kesteven District Council and the Grantham Canal Partnership with the Canal and Rivers Trust. The Executive Manager also noted that due to a reduction in the financial input made by the Council that the scrutiny of the Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire and Rushcliffe Community Voluntary Service Partnerships could potentially be carried out on a biennial basis in order to allow more time for the Group to scrutinise other partnerships.

The Group agreed that a new work programme be produced with the new partnerships taken into consideration which was subsequently approved by the Group.

### **Rushcliffe Business Partnership Annual Review**

The Group received a presentation on the work undertaken by the Rushcliffe Business Partnership which outlined the history, key aims and objectives, highlights of the past year and priorities for the future of the Partnership. The Service Level Agreement included the delivery of twelve monthly-networking events and one annual, all day showcase event; and the maintenance and upkeep of a dedicated website. In order to support local businesses it was noted that members of the Rushcliffe Business Partnership were being directed to a D2N2 Scale Up programme which offered financial support and coaching to businesses which would help them step up to the next level. It was also noted that Rushcliffe Business Partnership would continue to work with the growth boards in 2018 – 19 in order for them to gain a better understanding of the growth agenda for Rushcliffe.

### **Review of the South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership**

Inspector Craig Berry from Nottinghamshire Police provided a presentation to the Group which covered topics such as changes in demand of policing, crime in Rushcliffe in the past twelve months and integrated partnership working. Members of the Group were pleased to see the introduction of a local policing model from which would see a response team coming under Inspector Berry's control. This model also included the introduction of a new burglary team who commenced work in April 2018. Inspector Berry also informed the Group of the establishment of the multi-agency rough sleeper group which had dealt with 30 cases of rough sleeping within the Borough. Members of the Group welcomed the work of the South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership and are looking forward to reviewing its activities next year.

### **Member Panels**

The Group did not establish any Member Panels this year.

### **Call-ins**

The Group did not discuss any call-ins this year.

**Looking forward to the year ahead**

The Group will continue to help review and shape policy, ensuring improvements are implemented. This will be done by developing a challenging work programme linked to the Council's transformation strategy and four-year plan.



## Partnership Delivery Group

3 July 2018

## Work Programme

### Report of the Executive Manager – Finance and Corporate Services

#### 1. Summary

- 1.1. The work programme is a standing item for discussion at each meeting of the Partnership Delivery Group. This report presents the Group's rolling work programme.

#### 2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Partnership Delivery Group agrees the proposed work programme for 2018/19.

#### 3. Details

Date of Meeting	Item
3 July 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust</li> <li>Review of the Corporation Agreement for Fleet Maintenance</li> <li>Partnership Delivery Group Annual Report</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>
16 October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of Metropolitan Housing Partnership</li> <li>Building Control Agreement with South Kesteven District Council</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>
8 January 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of Waterloo Housing Partnership</li> <li>Review of Positive Futures/YouNG</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>
19 March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>South Notts Community Safety Update</li> <li>Grantham Canal Partnership with the Canal and Rivers Trust</li> <li>Work Programme</li> </ul>

<b>For more information contact:</b>	Constitutional Services 0115 914 8481 <a href="mailto:constitutionalservices@rushcliffe.gov.uk">constitutionalservices@rushcliffe.gov.uk</a>
<b>Background papers Available for Inspection:</b>	None
<b>List of appendices (if any):</b>	None