

Report of the Executive Manager – Communities

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Rushcliffe Business Partnership (RBP) was launched in 1999 as a forum for local businesses to network with each other, develop new business opportunities and link in to the local authority and other agencies on commercial matters.
- 1.2 Rushcliffe Borough Council supports the partnership through an annual Service Level Agreement payment of £2,000 and officer support to co-ordinate events and activities.
- 1.3 The Service Level Agreement (SLA) was scrutinised by partnership delivery on 18 of January 2017 and there were no actions arising from the scrutiny.
- 1.3 Dr John Collins, Chair of the RBP will provide a presentation to Members on services delivered and outline future plans to promote business engagement.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Members consider and make comment on the presentation made by the Rushcliffe Business Partnership and endorse the work of the partnership.

3. Supporting Information

- 3.1 The RBP is an integral part of the local business scene with more than 550 individuals and organisations currently signed up to work with and benefit from the partnership.
- 3.2 RBP members are generally drawn from small to medium-sized enterprises based within the Borough, although membership covers everyone from small start-ups and sole traders to industries with turnover of more than £1 million.
- 3.3 General membership is free with a range of benefits including networking, training opportunities news and social media updates regarding business from across the Borough and an annual business conference held each year in November.
- 3.4 The Partnership is led by a small steering group, which meets quarterly, and holds an annual meeting to review progress and set the strategic agenda for the following 12 months.
- 3.5 The Partnership's key aims are to:

- Support businesses in Rushcliffe to grow, develop and increase profitability
- Increase trade between Rushcliffe businesses
- Increase trade for Rushcliffe businesses from outside of the Borough
- Raise awareness of issues that affect the business community (such as regional and local business support, grants and funding, and new legislation)
- Work with relevant partners to provide a forum for businesses to communicate with the public, private and voluntary sectors
- Work with other local strategic partnership theme groups to raise awareness of the needs of the business community and how the other groups can assist in meeting these needs
- Improve the general business environment in Rushcliffe.

4. Risk and Uncertainties

- 4.1 The partnership meets quarterly to ensure that any strategic and reputational risks are minimised.

5. Implications

5.1. Finance

- 5.2. The RBP is funded by a £2,000 Service Level Agreement from Rushcliffe Borough Council to deliver the following:

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

5.3. Legal

None

5.4. Corporate Priorities

Supporting economic growth to ensure a sustainable, prosperous and thriving local economy – RBP provides effective partnership working to increase and strengthen links between Rushcliffe businesses and with local/regional agencies and organisations.

5.5. Other Implications






None

For more information contact:	Derek Hayden Principal Community Development Officer 0115 914 8270 email dhayden@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers Available for Inspection:	None
List of appendices (if any):	Rushcliffe Business Partnership Action Plan 2017/18 (Year to Date)



Rushcliffe Business Partnership 2017-18



Report Author: Derek Hayden

Generated on: 07 March 2018

Action Status	
	Cancelled
	Overdue; Neglected
	Unassigned; Check Progress
	Not Started; In Progress; Assigned
	Completed

Rows are sorted by Code

Action Code & Title	Status Icon	Progress	Due Date	Milestone Description	Milestone Completed	Milestone Progress Note
Hold annual business event		<div><div>100%</div></div>	31-Mar-2018	Successful event held	Yes	The Rushcliffe Business Partnership Annual event took place on Tuesday 1st of November at the British Geological survey in Keyworth with a theme business in a changing world . The event had 167 businesses in attendance was very well received
Hold 12 networking events throughout the year		<div><div>100%</div></div>	31-Mar-2018	Quarter 1 – 6 networking events held	Yes	3 networking events in West Bridgford 3 Networking events in Ruddington
				Quarter 2 - 9	Yes	3 Networking events in West Bridgford

Action Code & Title	Status Icon	Progress	Due Date	Milestone Description	Milestone Completed	Milestone Progress Note
				networking events held		3Networking events in Ruddington 3Networking event in Keyworth
				Quarter 3 – 9 networking events held	Yes	3 networking events in West Bridgford 3 networking events in Ruddington 3 Networking event in Keyworth
				Quarter 4 - 5 networking events held	Yes	1 networking events in West Bridgford 2 networking events in Ruddington 2 Networking event in Keyworth
Maintain the Rushcliffe Business Partnership website. Publish 24 business news stories relating to Rushcliffe throughout the year		<div><div>100%</div></div>	31-Mar-2017	51 News Articles Published, covering a range of business items, including promotion of the D2N2 Growth Hib and Digital Growth Programme		
Increase the visitor traffic to the Rushcliffe Business Partnership by 50% based upon the 2016/17 analytics baseline		<div><div>100%</div></div>	31-Mar-2017	Percentage increase in visitor traffic	Yes	3961 twitter followers, 2674 followers increase since 2016/17 132 Facebook likes and followers compared to 102 Facebook followers in 2016/17
				increase in visitor traffic and engagement	Yes	There are 1606 active user regularly engaging with the site since April 2017 up to the 1 st March 2018.