



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