

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

COTGRAVE REGENERATION PROJECT

Purpose of the Report

1. To set out Nottinghamshire County Council's involvement in the Cotgrave Regeneration Project and to nominate an elected member to sit on the Cotgrave Members Panel.

Information and Advice

2. The redevelopment of the former Cotgrave Colliery site is seen as an opportunity to bring forward the regeneration of Cotgrave town centre. To be successful the regeneration will need partnership working by Rushcliffe BC, Nottinghamshire County Council, Cotgrave Town Council, the Homes and Communities Agency, local community groups and other agencies. Nottinghamshire County Council has significant interests including land holdings, highways maintenance, highways design, education, estate management, access to services, policy and strategic planning and economic development.
3. There are a number of important discussions to take place regarding site acquisition, development, investment, accessibility, land value and future service delivery, all of which are of critical significance to the County Council. Currently there is a senior officer level strategic board steering the project, chaired by Allen Graham, the Chief Executive Officer of Rushcliffe Borough Council. The Planning Group Manager represents the County Council on this board with representatives from the Homes and Communities Agency, Cotgrave Town Council, Spirita and Nottingham Regeneration Ltd. There is currently no formal representation of elected members.
4. In order to progress the regeneration project, this Council recognises the need for governance arrangements which engage the political decision makers of the three tiers of local government in Cotgrave. It is proposed to set up an elected member panel, to be known as the Cotgrave Members Panel, comprising an elected member from each of the following: Nottinghamshire County Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council and Cotgrave Town Council. The chair of the officer board would report to the Members Panel. Whilst the Members Panel would oversee the regeneration project in an advisory capacity and provide direction, it would not have any authority to make any decision on any matter which is the responsibility of any of the tiers of local governance. Reports will be brought to each constituent body for approval as necessary.
5. The Members Panel will seek to work together towards the regeneration of Cotgrave town centre. Its duty will be to report to the constituent bodies on progress from time to time but not

less than half yearly. Its members will have a duty to represent the work of the Panel to their respective constituent bodies. The Panel Chairman shall be drawn from one of their number on an annual basis.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

6. It is proposed that an elected member be identified to represent Nottinghamshire County Council on the Cotgrave Members Panel and that officers continue to work on the Cotgrave Regeneration Project. Councillor Richard Butler would be appropriate as the representative as Cotgrave is within his Division. All engagement will be on the basis that any decisions would be made by the proper authority and this will be clearly set out in any terms of reference.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) To agree the establishment of the Cotgrave Members Panel as set out in the report.
- 2) That local councillor and Cabinet Member for Environment & Sustainability, Councillor Richard Butler be appointed to represent the County Council on the Cotgrave Members Panel.
- 3) To note that all decisions in relation to Nottinghamshire County Council responsibilities including land holdings, highways maintenance, highways design, education, estate management, access to services, policy and strategic planning and economic development will remain the remit of the Council through its democratic processes.

Sally Gill
Planning Group Manager

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Sally Gill 0115 9774537

Constitutional Comments (NAB 3.10.11)

8. Cabinet has authority to approve the recommendation set out in this report.

Financial Comments (DJK 03/10/11)

9. The contents of this report are duly noted; there are no financial implications.

Background Papers

10. None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Cotgrave – Councillor Richard Butler