



Nottinghamshire
County Council

Report to Administration Committee

11 September 2012

Agenda Item: 6 (d)

REPORT OF THE TEAM MANAGER POLICY PERFORMANCE AND RESEARCH

LENGTHSMAN SCHEME EVALUATION EVENT FOR TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for an event to be held on 13th November 2012 at Rufford Mill to provide feedback to town and parish councils on progress to implement the pilot Lengthsman Scheme.

Information and Advice

2. The County Council's refreshed Strategic Plan 2012-14 commits the authority to embracing Localism. Council approved a Localism Policy to progress this commitment on 26th January 2012. The Policy requires that the merits of a Lengthsman Scheme are evaluated which is to be based in part upon a pilot of the Scheme.
3. A pilot Scheme has been in operation since July 2012, which aims to test and evaluate the Lengthsman concept across 4 clusters of Nottinghamshire town and parish councils. The pilot will run until 31 March 2013.
4. To support evaluation of the pilot scheme it is recommended that the County Council holds an event for representatives from town and parish councils. It is estimated that 100 representatives will attend. This will provide an important opportunity to promote the scheme through demonstrating the progress of the pilot as well as gauging levels of interest on the potential roll out of the scheme in April 2013.
5. An evaluation of responses received at the event will be used to support elected Members in determining both the merits of the scheme and a suitable model for any potential roll out.
6. It is proposed that all County Councillors are invited to participate in the event.

Cost Implications

7. It is estimated that the cost of the event will be no more than £500 which can be met from the Highways Policy and Development Lengthsman Scheme budget.

This will cover provision of refreshments at the event. No charge is being applied for the use of Rufford Mill.

Other Options Considered

8. Alternative venues considered did not provide a sufficiently cost effective or geographically accessible option.

Reason for Recommendation

9. This is an important opportunity for parish and town councils to develop an understanding of the pilot Lengthsman Scheme in operation. The feedback received from the event will support elected Members decision making and the future approach to the Scheme.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. 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

- 1) That approval is given for the hospitality arrangements as outlined above.

Matthew Garrard
Team Manager Policy Performance and Research

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Paula McManus ext 73753

Constitutional Comments (SLB 22/08/2012)

Administration Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report; it is responsible for authorising hospitality to be offered by the County Council.

Financial Comments (IC 22/08/2012)

The financial implications are as contained in paragraph 7 of this report.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Nottinghamshire County Council Localism Policy

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All