

Full Council

Thursday, 21 September 2017 at 10:30

County Hall, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

AGENDA

1	Minutes of the last meeting held on 13 July 2017	7 - 24
2	Apologies for Absence	
3	Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below) (a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary) Chairman's Business	
	a) Presentation of Awards/Certificates (if any)	
5	Constituency Issues (see note 4)	
6a	Presentation of Petitions (if any) (see note 5 below)	
6b	Responses to Petitions Presented to the Chairman of the County Council	25 - 36
7	Local Code of Corporate Governance and Annual Governance Statement - 2016-17	37 - 58
8	Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Strategy Annual Update	59 - 82
9	Questions a) Questions to Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority	
	b) Questions to Committee Chairmen	

MOTION ONE

This Council is dismayed at the decision of the Department of Transport to cancel the electrification of the Midland Main Line train route in our region. The Department for Transport announced that electrification of the Midland Main Line (MML) would not continue beyond Kettering on the line. The MML electrification from Kettering to Leicester, Derby, Nottingham and Sheffield had been due to be completed by 2023.

This Council believes that the decision to cancel it will have an adverse impact on the East Midlands' economy.

This Council believes that the Department for Transport is shortsighted as the proposed replacement bi-mode trains – proposed to run on both existing lines and electric lines is a poor replacement and not environmentally friendly. We believe that we deserve rail investment – just like other regions and not electrifying the line would lead to a loss of the chance to capitalise on the investment opportunities linked to HS2.

Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands deserve better. We call for the Council to make representations to the Department of Transport in the strongest terms in support of re-instating the project.

Councillor Rachel Madden Zadrozny

Councillor Jason

MOTION TWO

This Council notes that the Ashfield Local Plan Publication, including supporting evidence and consultation responses, was submitted to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government earlier this year. This includes significant house building plans for areas like Mowlands in Kirkby and Sutton Junction.

This Council notes that these plans are largely dependent on Nottinghamshire County Council making land available for the forward plan. Residents in the Ashfield District have had to put up with years of uncertainty because of the failure of the Council to implement a Local Plan. In 2014, the council voted to withdraw its local plan after a Government inspector said it was probably "unsound".

We therefore call on Nottinghamshire County Council to withdraw their land from the plan in specific locations where it will cause significant harm to the Ashfield district to be developed and where there are huge concerns from the public.

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We believe that our Council should not profit from the misery of Ashfield residents and associated harm caused to Ashfield District. We call for no land to be made available for development in the Sutton Junction and Mowlands areas until concerns about

11 ADJOURNMENT DEBATE (if any)

Notes:-

(A) For Councillors

- (1) Members will be informed of the date of their Group meeting for Council by their Group Researcher.
- (2) The Chairman has agreed that the Council will adjourn for lunch at their discretion.
- (3) (a) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Procedure Rules for Meetings of the Full Council. Those declaring must indicate whether their interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest or a private interest and the reasons for the declaration.
- (b) Any member or officer who declares a disclosable pecuniary interest in an item must withdraw from the meeting during discussion and voting upon it, unless a dispensation has been granted. Members or officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services prior to the meeting.
- (c) Declarations of interest will be recorded and included in the minutes of this meeting and it is therefore important that clear details are given by members and others in turn, to enable Democratic Services to record accurate information.
- (4) At any Full Council meeting except the annual meeting, a special meeting and the budget meeting, Members are given an opportunity to speak for up to three minutes on any issues which specifically relates to their division and is relevant to the services provided by the County Council. These speeches must relate specifically to the area the Member represents and should not be of a general nature. They are constituency speeches and therefore must relate to constituency issues only. This is an opportunity simply to air these issues in a Council meeting. It will not give rise to a debate on the issues or a question or answer session. There is a maximum time limit of 30 minutes for this item.

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(5) Members are reminded that petitions can be presented from their seat with a 1 minute time limit set on introducing the petition.

<u>Notes</u>

- (1) Councillors are advised to contact their Research Officer for details of any Group Meetings which are planned for this meeting.
- (2) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:-

Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.
 - Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Democratic Services (Tel. 0115 977 3141) prior to the meeting.
- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.
- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx

Nottinghamshire County Council

Meeting COUNTY COUNCIL

Date Thursday, 13th July 2017 (10.30 am – 2.30 pm)

Membership

Α

Α

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

COUNCILLORS

John Handley (Chairman)
Mrs Sue Saddington (Vice-Chairman)

Reg Adair John Knight Pauline Allan Bruce Laughton Chris Barnfather John Longdon Rachel Madden Joyce Bosnjak Ben Bradley David Martin Nicki Brooks Diana Meale Andrew Brown John Ogle Richard Butler Philip Owen Steve Carr Michael Payne John Peck JP John Clarke Neil Clarke MBE Sheila Place John Cottee Liz Plant

Jim CreamerMike PringleMrs Kay Cutts MBEFrancis Purdue-HoranSamantha DeakinMike Quigley MBE

Alan Rhodes Maureen Dobson Dr John Doddy Kevin Rostance **Boyd Elliott** Phil Rostance Svbil Fielding **Andy Sissons** Kate Foale Helen-Ann Smith **Tracey Taylor** Stephen Garner Glynn Gilfoyle Parry Tsimbiridis Keith Girling Steve Vickers Keith Walker

Kevin Greaves
Tony Harper
Errol Henry JP
Muriel Weisz
Paul Henshaw
Tom Hollis
Vaughan Hopewell
Keith Walker
Stuart Wallace
Muriel Weisz
Andy Wetton
Gordon Wheeler
Jonathan Wheeler

Richard Jackson Yvonne Woodhead
Roger Jackson Martin Wright
Eric Kerry Jason Zadrozny

HONORARY ALDERMEN

Terence Butler John Carter

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Anthony May (Chief Executive)
Jayne Francis-Ward (Resources)

David Pearson (Adult Social Care and Public Health)
Colin Pettigrew (Children, Families and Cultural Service)

Adrian Smith (Place)
Sara Allmond (Resources)
Carl Bilbey (Resources)
Martin Done (Resources)
Anna O'Daly-Kardasinska (Resources)
Neil Robinson (Resources)
Michelle Welsh (Resources)

OPENING PRAYER

Upon the Council convening, prayers were led by the Chairman's Chaplain.

1. MINUTES

RESOLVED: 2017/024

That the minutes of the last meeting of the County Council held on 25th May 2017 be agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence were received from:-

Councillor Maureen Dobson (medical/illness)

Councillor John Longdon submitted his apologies as he needed to leave the meeting at 11.30am to attend to a constituency matter.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Monitoring Officer clarified that a general dispensation had been granted to all Members to confirm that they could vote on item 9 – Members Allowances Scheme – Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

4. CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

None

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

The Chairman updated the Chamber on the business he had carried out on behalf of the Council since the last meeting.

5. CONSTITUENCY ISSUES

The following Members spoke for up to three minutes on issues which specifically related to their division and were relevant to the services provided by the County Council.

Councillor Muriel Weisz – regarding school nurse provision at Special Schools, particularly Carlton Digby School

Councillor Andy Wetton – regarding Meden swimming pool in Warsop.

Councillor Kate Foale – local provision for the community in Beeston

Councillor Diana Meale – regarding speed humps and buses on Winthorpe Street

6. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

The following petitions were presented to the Chairman as indicated below:-

- (1) Councillor Rachel Madden regarding parking on layby on A608 at Junction 27
- (2) Councillor Rachel Madden requesting a residents parking scheme for Erewash Street, Kirkby in Ashfield
- (3) Councillor John Peck JP requesting parking restrictions next to Maypole Green, Wellow
- (4) Councillor Joyce Bosnjak requesting road safety improvements on Peafield Lane, Mansfield Woodhouse
- (5) Councillor Tony Harper requesting a residents parking scheme on Queens Road North, Eastwood
- (6) Councillor Andrew Brown requesting a crossing at Brookside Primary School, East Leake
- (7) Councillor Andy Sissons regarding parking issues on Newgate Lane, Mansfield
- (8) Councillor David Martin requesting road resurfacing on Bridge End Avenue, Selston

(9) Councillor Kevin Greaves requesting a residents parking scheme in Elkesley village

RESOLVED: 2017/025

That the petitions be referred to the appropriate Committees for consideration in accordance with the Procedure Rules, with a report being brought back to Council in due course.

7. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Councillor Richard Butler introduced the report and moved a motion in terms of resolution 2017/026 below.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts

RESOLVED: 2017/026

That, Councillor Tony Harper be appointed as a Vice-Chairman for Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee in place of Councillor Ben Bradley until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2018.

8. YOUR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, YOUR FUTURE: THE NEW COUNCIL PLAN FOR 2017-2021

Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts introduced the report and moved a motion in terms of resolution 2017/027 below.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Reg Adair.

Following a debated, the motion was put to the meeting and after a show of hands the Chairman declared it was carried.

The requisite number of Members requested a recorded vote and it was ascertained that the following 40 Members voted 'For' the motion:-

Reg Adair Tony Harper Chris Barnfather Tom Hollis

Ben Bradley Vaughan Hopewell
Andrew Brown Richard Jackson
Richard Butler Roger Jackson
Neil Clarke MBE Eric Kerry

John Cottee Bruce Laughton
Mrs Kay Cutts MBE Rachel Madden
Samantha Deakin David Martin
Dr. John Doddy John Ogle

Boyd Elliott Philip Owen
Stephen Garner Francis Purdue-Horan
Keith Girling Mike Quigley MBE
John Handley Kevin Rostance

Phil Rostance
Mrs Sue Saddington
Andy Sissons
Helen-Ann Smith
Tracey Taylor
Steve Vickers

Keith Walker Stuart Wallace Gordon Wheeler Jonathan Wheeler Martin Wright

Jason Zadrozny

The following 23 Members voted 'Against' the motion:-

Pauline Allan Diana Meale Joyce Bosnjak Michael Pavne Nicki Brooks John Peck JP John Clarke Sheila Place Jim Creamer Liz Plant Sybil Fielding Mike Pringle Kate Foale Alan Rhodes Glynn Gilfoyle Parry Tsimbiridis **Kevin Greaves** Muriel Weisz Errol Henry JP Andy Wetton

Paul Henshaw Yvonne Woodhead

John Knight

There were no abstentions.

The Chairman declared that the motion was carried and it was:-

RESOLVED: 2017/027

- 1) That the County Council approves Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future the County Council's strategic plan for 2017-2021.
- 2) That progress against the aims and ambitions set out in the plan are monitored in accordance with the agreed Planning and Performance Framework.

Having previously submitted his apologies Councillor John Longdon left the meeting during consideration of this item and did not return.

9. MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME – REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

Councillor Richard Butler introduced the report and moved a motion in terms of resolution 2017/028 below.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Nicki Brooks

RESOLVED: 2017/028

1) That the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) be noted.

- 2) That the proposed revised Councillors' Allowances Scheme, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the IRP report, be approved.
- 3) That a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) be paid to the Chair of the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Panel when held by an Independent Member on the Panel at the same rate as that which a County Councillor undertaking the role would be paid.

10. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS 2016/17

Councillor Richard Jackson introduced the report and moved a motion in terms of resolution 2017/029 below.

The motion was seconded by Councillor John Ogle

RESOLVED: 2017/29

- 1) To note the provisional 2016/17 year end revenue position.
- 2) To approve the level of County Fund Balances as set out in section 7.1 and Appendix A of the report.
- 3) To note the movements in reserves as detailed in section 7 and Appendix B of the report.
- 4) To note the Capital Programme and it's financing.
- 5) To note that the Council's Prudential Indicators were not breached in 2016/17 as detailed in Appendix D of the report.
- 6) To note the Treasury Management outturn report in Appendix E of the report.
- 7) To approve the revised MRP Policy for 2016/17 and 2017/18 as set out in Appendix F of the report.

11. FIRE SAFETY AND RESPONSE TO THE GRENFELL TOWER TRAGEDY

Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts introduced the report and moved a motion in terms of resolution 2017/030 below.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Andy Brown.

RESOLVED: 2017/030

- 1) To note the steps taken so far to assess and review fire risk safety.
- 2) To agree to receive a further report in future when review work is complete.

12. QUESTIONS

(a) QUESTIONS TO NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE AUTHORITY

No questions were received

(b) QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Eight questions had been received as follows:-

- 1) from Councillor David Martin concerning pavement repairs (Councillor John Cottee replied)
- 2) from Councillor John Peck JP regarding free school meals (Councillor Philip Owen replied)

Questions 3 and 4 were taken together

- 3) from Councillor Jason Zadrozny about waste transfer station on Lowmoor Road (Councillor John Cottee replied)
- 4) from Councillor John Knight about waste transfer station on Lowmoor Road (Councillor John Cottee replied)

Council adjourned from 12.30pm to 1.20pm.

- 5) from Councillor Kate Foale regarding effect of Brexit on residents and businesses (Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE replied)
- 6) from Councillor Liz Plant about Grammar Schools (Councillor Philip Owen replied)

The full responses to these questions are set out in set out in Appendix A to these minutes.

The time limit of 60 minutes allowed for questions was reached before the following questions were asked. A written response to the questions would be provided to the Councillors who asked the questions within 15 working days of the meeting and be included in the papers for the next Full Council meeting.

- 7) from Councillor Helen-Ann Smith concerning review of Veolia waste management contract (Councillor Richard Jackson replied)
- 8) from Councillor Kevin Greaves regarding funding for highways projects (Councillor John Cottee replied)

13. NOTICE OF MOTION

A motion as set out below was moved by Councillor Alan Rhodes and seconded by Councillor Michael Payne:-

"In light of the terrible incidents of terrorism affecting our communities in recent times and the shocking incident at Grenfell Tower in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in London, Nottinghamshire County Council:-

- a) opposes any further reductions to the Police, Fire and Ambulance services and calls for all blue light services to be properly funded and resourced, in order to respond to such incidents and in order to keep our communities in Nottinghamshire and elsewhere across the country safe.
- b) calls upon the Leader of this Council to write a letter to the Prime Minister opposing any further reductions to our blue light services in Nottinghamshire and to ask that Nottinghamshire's blue light services are protected from any further funding cuts."

An amendment to the motion as set out below was moved by Councillor Gordon Wheeler and seconded by Councillor Andrew Brown:-

"In light of the terrible incidents of terrorism affecting our communities in recent times and the shocking incident at Grenfell Tower in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in London, <u>the Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council will write to the Prime Minister</u>:-

- a) calling for opposes any further reductions to the Police, Fire and Ambulance services and calls for all blue light services to be reviewed to ensure that they are operating in the most integrated and effective way possible properly funded and resourced, in order to respond to such incidents and in order to keep our communities in Nottinghamshire and elsewhere across the country safe;
- b) calling for fundings upon the Leader of this Council to write a letter to the Prime Minister opposing any further reductions to our blue light services in Nottinghamshire to be maintained at a level which supports the outcomes of any such review and any requirements arising from the forthcoming public enquiry into the Grenfell Tower incident.and to ask that Nottinghamshire's blue light services are protected from any further funding cuts."

Council adjourned from 2.05pm to 2.27pm to allow members to consider the amendment.

The amendment to the motion was accepted by the mover of the motion with minor amendments to paragraph (a) replacing the word "reviewed" with "funded" and in paragraph (b) deleting the words "...of any such review".

The motion as amended was put to the meeting and after a show of hands the Chairman declared that it was carried and it was:-

RESOLVED: 2017/031

In light of the terrible incidents of terrorism affecting our communities in recent times and the shocking incident at Grenfell Tower in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in London, the Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council will write to the Prime Minister:-

- a) calling for the Police, Fire and Ambulance services to be funded to ensure that they are operating in the most integrated and effective way possible, in order to respond to such incidents and keep our communities in Nottinghamshire and elsewhere across the country safe;
- b) calling for funding to our blue light services in Nottinghamshire to be maintained at a level which supports the outcomes and any requirements arising from the forthcoming public enquiry into the Grenfell Tower incident.

14. ADJOURNMENT DEBATE

None

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2.30 pm.

CHAIRMAN

APPENDIX A

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13TH JULY 2017 QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Question to the Chairman of the Communities and Place Committee, from Councillor David Martin

Does the new administration intend to increase the budget and accelerate the programme for pavement repairs? Because under previous administrations they have been allowed to deteriorate into a shocking state due to lack of funding and are now in such poor conditions that radical action needs to be taken immediately if any attempts are ever to be made to resolve this issue.

Response from Councillor John Cottee, Chairman of the Communities and Place Committee

The Conservative and Mansfield Independent Forum administration recognises that our highway network is a vital asset to our local economy and our communities, and it is requiring adequate investment for its maintenance and improvement.

At the Finance and Major Contracts Management Committee on 19th June 2017, we allocated £1 million of extra revenue funding to help address the deterioration of our network including pavements.

In addition to this extra £1 million, a report is being presented at the Communities and Place Committee on 20th July to recommend the investment of a further £3 million over the next three years on larger highway maintenance schemes, which include pavements, to tackle the worst of the network's problems and to ensure a balanced spend to accommodate the intervention measures such as surface dressings which prolong the life of our roads. Officers will be writing to all Members of the Council shortly to gather candidate locations for future programmes.

Question to the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee, from Councillor John Peck JP

Does the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee join me in congratulating yet another Conservative u-turn regarding the abolishment of universal free school meals for infant aged children and does he, therefore, recognise that this was an ill-thought out policy that would have been at the expense of over 19,400 infant school aged children in Nottinghamshire including over 2,700 infant school aged children living in the area of Mansfield?

Response from Councillor Philip Owen, Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee

The 2017 Conservative General Election Manifesto stated:-

'We do not believe that giving school lunches to all children free of charge for the first three years of primary school - regardless of the income of their parents - is a

sensible use of public money. There is now evidence that school breakfasts are at least as effective in helping children to make progress in school. So under a new Conservative Government, schools in England will offer a free school breakfast to every child in every year of primary school, while children from low-income families will continue to receive free school lunches throughout their years in primary and secondary education.'

Her Majesty The Queen, during her speech at the State Opening of Parliament, outlined Government plans to introduce 27 Bills and Draft Bills. Many of these relate to delivering an optimum Brexit and are sufficiently complex to keep Parliament extremely busy over the next two years.

Councillor Peck reflects in his question that the current legislative programme does not include a Bill to change policy regarding school breakfasts or school lunches, so our opinions on the merits of such policy would be, I think, premature because there is no substantial legislation put forward at this stage, for us to comment on.

It is not my position to dictate which legislative measures the Government should bring forward, or when. My duty, so far as national policy is concerned, is to deal with policy and law which currently exists in relation to Children and Young People. I will of course also keep a close eye on Bills going through Parliament and make representations if necessary at the time that they are going through Parliament or during the earlier consultation stages, but I see no reason to formulate a comment on a Bill that does not yet exist.

If a future Queen's Speech brings forward a new legislative proposal in relation to school breakfasts and lunches, then that would be the appropriate time to discuss the matter further.

Question to the Chairman of the Communities and Place Committee, from Councillor Jason Zadrozny

A site on Lowmoor Road, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, which borders my Division has recently become a waste transfer station. Many of my residents and other local people have begun to suffer from overpowering stenches and biblical swarms of flies. Kirkby residents are dismayed that this site has been placed so close to residential properties with little consultation. Clearly the site is not being managed properly and much needs to be done to ensure that if it is to remain there it is not causing such problems for local people.

Would the Committee Chairman agree to meet with me and other local members to explore options to resolve the matter? I believe we need the Environment Agency to act to help us resolve the issue and any pressure the Chairman can put on them to bring them to the table would be much appreciated.

Question to the Chairman of the Communities and Place Committee, from Councillor John Knight

Is the Chairman of the Communities and Place Committee aware of the foul stench coming from the Veolia site in Kirkby in Ashfield, which is making local residents' lives a misery, they are not able to have their windows open or sit out in the garden, and the smell is coming into their house, what is the council intending to do about this as it is clearly affecting many residents? Will the Chairman talk to me about the lack of consultation which took place amongst residents by Veolia and what actions will he be taking to work with the Environment Agency to make sure the remedial procedures are put in place?

Response from Councillor John Cottee, Chairman of the Communities and Place Committee

Firstly, I fully agree that residents should not have to suffer from odours or insect infestations resulting from the operation of a nearby business, which is why the County Council contracts with Veolia, one of the leading waste management companies in the world.

The site is subject to controls imposed under both the Planning Permission and the Environmental Permit. Veolia are actively involved in discussions with both the Environment Agency and the Waste Planning Authority to resolve the current problems being experienced with this facility. Veolia have prepared a programme of works to address these issues. Some of these works, where these relate to site management and operational practices, have already been implemented and subsequent visits indicate that these have resulted in improvements in odour control and fly management.

A number of further operational and infrastructure changes to help improve the situation have also been proposed and are currently being investigated. A meeting is scheduled with representatives of the local community, Veolia, the Environment Agency and the Waste Planning Authority to discuss the current position in the near future.

However, to say that the facility was built with little consultation is simply not true. The site has been through a full Planning and Environmental Permitting process with both the County Council and the Environment Agency. As part of the planning process, consultation took place with 33 local residents, Ashfield District Council, and the other interested parties. A single letter of objection was received from a neighbouring business and the application was reported to Planning and Licensing Committee for determination.

Please rest assured that the County Council as both Waste Disposal Authority, and Waste Planning Authority is working closely with Veolia and the Environment Agency to ensure the current issues are short lived.

Question to the Leader of the Council, from Councillor Kate Foale

What is being done to ensure the residents and businesses of Nottinghamshire do not suffer from financial hardship as a result of Brexit and what work do you intend to do in order to ensure that the services and projects currently funded or part funded by the European Union in our communities across Nottinghamshire continue after Brexit?

Response from Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE, Leader of the Council

Negotiations on Brexit began less than a month ago in fact 19th June so, so far it's too early to be predicting the outcome of those negotiations.

There is an implicit assumption in Councillor Foale's question that the Brexit deal - if there is one - will be damaging for Nottinghamshire. However, as a confirmed 'Vote Leaver' and an advocate of 'Hard Brexit', I do not share such pessimism.

Clearly, there will be a major change to the way we work financially, legally and politically, and I expect there will be a period of turbulence as we make those adjustments. Nevertheless, I am confident it will not take long before business across the country begins to benefit from the ability to trade more freely on a global basis.

I believe Brexit must be treated as an opportunity for established and developing Nottinghamshire businesses to grow and create new jobs. I am also confident that with a global outlook we can attract and accommodate new industries that previously may not have had a significant presence in our county. This positive vision is reflected in 'Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future', our Strategic Plan, as you probably noticed.

Of course our approach the economic development and other policy areas will be flexible, to respond to whatever form Brexit eventually takes, but I do not accept Councillor Foale's premise that Brexit is a route towards financial hardship. Nor do I accept Councillor Foale's assumption that a loss of European funding will automatically mean a lack support for local services and projects going forward.

I do not dispute that "so-called" European Funding has benefited some projects in this county. But I use the words "so-called" for a reason. European money is not actually European, it is ours. It is our taxpayers' money that we have given to the EU. The EU then recycles it, takes away a decent slice of it, and hands the remainder back to us on their terms, with their branding. Not a bad business model while you can get away with it!

In 2016 the UK government paid £13.1 billion to the EU budget, while EU spending on the UK was forecast to be about £4.5 billion. So the UK's 'net contribution' was estimated at £8.6 billion and I had the independent website verify those figures. Each year the UK gets an instant discount on its contributions to the EU – the 'rebate' won for us by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in 1984. It was worth almost £4 billion last year. Without it, the UK would have been liable for £17 billion in contributions.

So let us not pretend that European Union funding is doing us an irreplaceable financial favour. The one area where I would agree with Councillor Foale is that, assuming these contributions are not paid to the EU in the future, then we must ensure that a fair share of that retained money is devolved from Central Government to Nottinghamshire. That way, elected local representatives can decide where it needs to be spent, rather than some Whitehall mandarin or some Brussels bureaucrat.

Irrespective of the European funding situation, this Council seeks to seize every opportunity to urge Government to strike the best deal for businesses - be that through the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership, local MP's, or through the Midlands Engine Chair, Sir John Peace. We are committed to getting our fair share, and that is why there is significant work underway, outside of this dependency on the EU, to make sure Nottinghamshire can stride ahead and I refer there, of course, to the tying of the knot on our friendship with the Chinese dedication, which came a few weeks ago.

The new Conservative and Mansfield Independent Forum administration has already looked to expand the county's horizons in international trade and investment far beyond the constraints of Europe. Last month's China Symposium was hugely successful. Here the County Council worked proactively with the private sector, introducing them to 60 Chinese firms as part of an exclusive trade summit to open doors to lucrative new opportunities.

The work underway in relation to the Prosperity Plan (which will be shared with Policy Committee in there early autumn) will set out the concrete actions we will be taking. This will include investing in what we do well but also tackling some of the long-standing productivity barriers in the county, including skills and connectivity.

So, to summarise, whatever the future holds for this country and this county with regard to Brexit, Nottinghamshire County Council will get on with the job of serving its residents and promoting its businesses. I believe the best way to do that is to be positive about the future and talk up the prospects of this county, because that is what attracts investment from Government and private enterprise alike.

Question to the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee, from Councillor Liz Plant

Does the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee join me, the majority of head teachers, teachers, governors, teacher unions, Labour Members of Parliament, many Conservative Members of Parliament and the former head of OFSTED in welcoming Theresa May's u- turn on her "blast from the past", vanity project of the re-introduction of Grammar schools across the country, and does the Chairman agree with me that the funding Theresa May found for the re-introduction of Grammar schools should now be used to support existing schools which are facing unprecedented, real- term budget cuts for years to come, including over £39 million worth of cuts to schools in Nottinghamshire?

Response from Councillor Philip Owen, Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee

As I said to Councillor Peck earlier, my duty is to deal with current national policy in relation to Children and Young People, and to keep an eye on Bills going through Parliament. It is not a requirement for me to comment on Bills that don't yet exist.

However, on this occasion Councillor Plant already knows my position, because we were both present in this Chamber in September last year when Councillor Foale

and former Liberal Democrat Councillor Ken Rigby tabled a motion against the introduction of grammar schools.

Conservatives voted against that motion, and our stance was supported by councillors from the Mansfield Independent Forum and the Ashfield Independents.

Eight months later, it was the Conservative, Mansfield Independent Forum and Ashfield Independent groups who gained seats at the County Council Elections, while anti-grammar school Labour and Liberal Democrats were the big losers, so make of that what you will.

Councillor Plant boasts in her question that she has the support of head teachers, teachers, governors, teacher unions, Labour MPs, some Conservative MPs and the former Head of OFSTED in welcoming the absence of grammar schools from the current legislative programme.

I notice that in all of that she doesn't consider parents or children to be worth any mention one way or the other in her list, which probably tells us everything we need to know about where Labour's priorities and loyalties lie.

Councillor Plant's question also repeats the scaremongering about school funding which of course worked so well at the County Elections for her former colleagues in towns like Hucknall and Retford. Some Labour leaflets urged voters to visit the 'School Cuts' information website to find out how much their school would lose, that of course based on data compiled by those bastions of political impartiality, the NUT, the NAHT, the GMB, not forgetting Unison and Unite. No agenda there, then.

Naturally, I couldn't resist a quick look at the website myself, and it stated at the bottom of the opening page that this was, and I quote, "An Outlandish Website". Let's just say it certainly lived up to its name!

Back in the real world, the truth is that the Government conducted a public consultation on the National Schools Funding formula between the 14th December 2016 and 22nd March 2017. This was the second phase of the consultation, and after that we had the General Election. The upshot is that final decisions on the National Schools Funding Formula have not yet been made, so any calculations around schools gaining and losing from the eventual formula are speculative.

What we do know is that the Conservative Manifesto pledged to inject an extra £4 billion into the schools budget by 2022 to ensure no school loses in cash terms from the new National Funding Formula. The original intention was to fund this from savings made through changes to the school meals policy, but, as we discussed earlier, this is not yet part of the legislative programme. Nevertheless, the Government reiterated its promise of "fairer funding" in the Queen's Speech, and Education Secretary Justine Greening MP clarified in Parliament, only two weeks ago (27th June), that the Government remains committed to ensuring no school loses money under the new National Funding Formula.

At this point we await details of exactly where that money will now be found, but I am reasonably confident it will come from a more sustainable source than Jeremy Corbyn's magic money tree.



Report to County Council 21 September 2017

Agenda Item: 6b

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMUNITIES AND PLACE COMMITTEE

RESPONSES TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the decisions made by the Communities and Place Committee concerning issues raised in petitions presented to the Chairman of the County Council on 23rd February, 23rd March and 25th May 2017.

A. <u>Petition to improve the visibility at the junction of Owlston Close and Greenhills Road,</u> Eastwood (Ref 2016/0220)

- 2. A 29 signature petition was presented to the 23rd February 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Keith Longdon. The petition is to improve the visibility of this junction for residents who need to exit Owlston Close onto Greenhill Road.
- 3. A site meeting was held on the 6th February 2017 involving Councillors Greaves and Longdon, the District Manager for the Broxtowe area and interested residents when residents' concerns were discussed along with possible remedial measures.
- 4. Potential options to resolve the residents' concerns for this location are currently being considered and if a satisfactory solution can be agreed it will be considered for inclusion in a future highways programme.
- 5. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

B. <u>Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on Charles Street, Ruddington (Ref: 2016/0221)</u>

- 6. A 12 signature petition was presented to the 23rd February 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Reg Adair on behalf of residents of Charles Street, Ruddington. The petition requests that a residents' parking scheme is introduced on Charles Street, Ruddington due to parking by non-residents.
- 7. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and where a scheme won't negatively affect nearby streets and town centres, or increase rat running or vehicle speeds. Schemes are prioritised based on the level of non-resident parking.

- 8. Charles Street is a residential, one-way street situated to the east of the town centre with no off-street parking. Whilst there are some existing on-street parking restrictions on the road; a parking survey will be undertaken to determine whether a residents' parking scheme should be considered a priority at this location for possible inclusion in a future year's integrated transport programme.
- 9. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

C. <u>Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on Montague Road, Hucknall (Ref: 2016/0222)</u>

- 10.A 76 signature petition was presented to the 23rd February 2017 meeting of the County Council by former Councillor John Wilmott on behalf of residents of Montague Road, Hucknall. The petition requests that a residents' parking scheme is introduced on Montague Road, Hucknall.
- 11. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and where a scheme won't negatively affect nearby streets and town centres, or increase rat running or vehicle speeds. Schemes are prioritised based on the level of non-resident parking.
- 12. Montague Road is a residential road situated to the north-west of the town centre, has a school located off the road and has some existing on-street parking restrictions.
- 13. The County Council proposes to undertake an area wide review of parking in Hucknall during 2017/18 following the completion of the Hucknall town centre improvement scheme. The review will consider non-resident parking on a number of streets in Hucknall and it is proposed that Montague Road be included in the proposed review.
- 14. Following the completion of the Hucknall parking review, a residents' parking scheme (or alternative parking restrictions) on Montague Road will be considered for inclusion in a future integrated transport programme should it be considered appropriate (subject to Transport and Highways Committee approval).
- 15. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

D. <u>Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on Peveril Street, Hucknall (Ref: 2016/0223)</u>

- 16.An 18 signature petition was presented to the 23rd February 2017 meeting of the County Council by former Councillor John Wilmott on behalf of residents of Peveril Street, Hucknall. The petition requests that a residents' parking scheme is introduced on Peveril Street, Hucknall.
- 17. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and where a scheme won't negatively affect nearby streets and town centres, or increase rat running or vehicle speeds. Schemes are prioritised based on the level of non-resident parking.

- 18. Peveril Street is a residential road situated to the north-west of the town centre, there are currently no parking restrictions and three parking bays located on the road.
- 19. The County Council proposes to undertake an area wide review of parking in Hucknall during 2017/18 following the completion of the Hucknall town centre improvement scheme. The review will consider non-resident parking on a number of streets in Hucknall and it is proposed that Peveril Street be included in the proposed review.
- 20. Following the completion of the Hucknall parking review, a residents' parking scheme (or alternative parking restrictions) on Peveril Street will be considered for inclusion in a future integrated transport programme should it be considered appropriate (subject to Transport and Highways Committee approval).
- 21. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

E. Petition to re-open the car park at Shireoaks railway station (Ref 2016/0224)

- 22. An 86 signature petition was presented to the 23rd February 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Sybil Fielding. The petition requests the re-opening of the station car park as its closure is impacting on local residents, rail customers and part of the national cycle network.
- 23. The station at this location, which is not staffed, is manged by Northern Rail. The County Council has contacted Northern Rail to discuss these issues and request a speedy resolution to the problems that have been highlighted in the petition; and is now waiting for the Northern Rail station manager to respond to the issues raised.
- 24. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

F. <u>Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on East Lane, Edwinstowe (Ref: 2016/0225)</u>

- 25.A five signature petition was presented to the 23rd February 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor John Peck on behalf of residents of East Lane, Edwinstowe. The petition requests that a residents' parking scheme is introduced on East Lane, Edwinstowe due to parking by non-residents.
- 26. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and where a scheme won't negatively affect nearby streets and town centres, or increase rat running or vehicle speeds. Schemes are prioritised based on the level of non-resident parking.
- 27. East Lane is a residential road situated to the east of the town centre. There is a mixture of properties on the road, there are currently no parking restrictions, but the majority of properties have off-street parking. There is a car park located off East Lane, managed and operated by Edwinstowe Parish Council.
- 28. As most of the properties on East Lane have off-street parking the introduction of a residents' parking scheme at this location would not currently be considered a priority.

29. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

G. <u>Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on Lovers Lane and Meyrick Road, Newark (Ref: 2017/0226)</u>

- 30. A 45 signature petition was presented to the 23rd March 2017 meeting of the County Council by former Councillor Tony Roberts on behalf of residents of Lovers Lane and Meyrick Road, Newark. The petition requests that a residents' parking scheme is introduced on the roads due to parking by non-residents accessing Newark Northgate rail station and the town centre.
- 31. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and where a scheme won't negatively affect nearby streets and town centres, or increase rat running or traffic speeds. Schemes are prioritised based on the level of non-resident parking.
- 32. Lovers Lane and Meyrick Road are residential roads situated to the north-west of the town centre. Lovers Lane has a mixture of properties, some of which have off-street parking, with some existing on-street parking restrictions. Meyrick Road has no off-street parking and there are currently no on-street parking restrictions.
- 33. Parking surveys have consequently been undertaken on Lovers Lane and Meyrick Road and once the results have been analysed they will be used to consider the request for possible inclusion in a future year's integrated transport programme.
- 34. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

H. <u>Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on Newstead Avenue, Newark (Ref: 2017/0227)</u>

- 35. A 16 signature petition was presented to the 23rd March 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Maureen Dobson on behalf of residents of Newstead Avenue. The petition requests a residents' parking scheme is introduced on the road.
- 36. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and where a scheme won't negatively affect nearby streets and town centres, or increase rat running or traffic speeds. Schemes are prioritised based on the level of non-resident parking.
- 37. Newstead Avenue is a residential road situated to the north-west of the town centre and whilst there are currently no parking restrictions on it, the majority of the properties have off-street parking.
- 38. As the majority of the properties have off-street parking, the introduction of a residents' parking scheme at this location would not currently be a priority. Residents are, however, able to fund the provision of white advisory H-bar markings to prevent obstruction of their driveways.

39. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

I. <u>Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on Barton's Close, Newthorpe (Ref: 2017/0228)</u>

- 40. A 24 signature petition was presented to the 23rd March 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor John Handley on behalf of residents of Barton's Close. The petition requests that a residents' parking scheme is introduced on the road.
- 41. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and where a scheme won't negatively affect nearby streets and town centres, or increase rat running or traffic speeds. Schemes are prioritised based on the level of non-resident parking.
- 42. Barton's Close is a residential road situated to the north of the village with no off-street parking. There are currently no on-street parking restrictions. It was unclear from the petition as to the nature of the parking issue or its causes and therefore the lead petitioner would be contacted to discuss these in more detail.

J. Petition requesting a the resurfacing of Bagshaw Street, Pleasley (Ref: 2016/0229)

- 43. An 83 signature petition was presented to the 23rd March 2017 meeting of the County Council by former Councillor Darren Langton on behalf of local residents. The petition requests that the whole length of Bagshaw Street is resurfaced as a priority.
- 44. All roads in the county are subject to an annual safety/enhanced inspection by the local highway inspector and a 'visual engineering inspection' every 3 years. The analysis of the technical condition survey data from these surveys, supplemented with local knowledge/judgement are then used to help develop future maintenance programmes.
- 45. Bagshaw Street was last inspected in February 2017 but we will undertake further inspections to determine if the road condition has deteriorated further and should be prioritised for maintenance works. Poplar Drive will be included as part of this assessment with a view to combining any proposed works if it is determined that such works are a priority.
- 46. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

K. <u>Petition requesting the adoption of a footpath between Blackhill Drive and Burton Road, Carlton (Ref: 2016/0230)</u>

- 47. A 29 signature petition was presented to the 23rd March 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Jim Creamer on behalf of local residents. The petition requests that the footpath between Blackhill Drive and Burton Road be formally adopted, to make it clean and tidy and to install lighting.
- 48. According to the County Council's records this footpath is currently not adopted highway or a public footpath.

- 49. Requests for the Council to adopt a footpath can be made by the landowner of the footpath; and such requests would be subject to the processes set out in Section 38 of the Highways Act. The landowner would, however, be required to pay for the path to be brought up to the Council's required design and maintenance standards (the former of which is not possible in many cases) before it could be adopted.
- 50. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

L. <u>Petition concerning proposed traffic restrictions on Ilkeston Road, Stapleford (Ref: 2016/0231)</u>

- 51.A 64 signature petition was presented to the 23rd March 2017 meeting of the County Council by former Councillor Stan Heptinstall on behalf of local residents. The petition is in response to consultation undertaken on proposed Traffic Regulation Order to introduce waiting restrictions on Ilkeston Road and Melbourne Road, Stapleford.
- 52. Planning approval has been granted for up to 450 new homes on land north of Ilkeston Road and the proposed development will be accessed from Ilkeston Road. The new access will require a number of alterations to the layout of Ilkeston Road and the safety audit of the proposed new road recommended that parking restrictions be introduced to help ensure the safe and efficient operation of the proposed new junctions and pedestrian refuges along the road. Consequently, a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for the introduction of 'no waiting at any time' (double yellow lines) along sections of Ilkeston Road and Melbourne Road was consulted on.
- 53. Whilst the petition was submitted after the consultation closing date the objections highlighted in the petition were considered when determining whether to proceed with the waiting restrictions. A report on the proposed TRO ('THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (A6007 ILKESTON ROAD AND MELBOURNE ROAD, STAPLEFORD) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 2017 (5218) CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS') was presented to 16th March 2017 Transport and Highways Committee for consideration; at which time the Committee overruled the objections and determined to proceed with the TRO as advertised.
- 54. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

M. <u>Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on Magdalene Way, Hucknall (Ref: 2017/0232)</u>

- 55.A 22 signature petition was presented to the 23rd March 2017 meeting of the County Council by former Councillor John Wilmott on behalf of residents of Magdalene Way. The petition requests that a residents' parking scheme is introduced on the road.
- 56. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and where a scheme won't negatively affect nearby streets and town centres, or increase rat running or traffic speeds. Schemes are prioritised based on the level of non-resident parking.
- 57. Magdalene Way is a residential road situated to the north-west of the town centre and whilst there are currently no parking restrictions on it, all of the properties have off-street parking.

- 58. As all the properties on Magdalene Way have off-street parking, the introduction of a residents' parking scheme at this location would not currently be considered a priority. Residents are, however, able to fund the provision of white advisory H-bar markings to help prevent obstruction of their driveways.
- 59. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

N. <u>Petition requesting a pedestrian crossing on Bingham Road, Cotgrave (Ref: 2016/0233)</u>

- 60. A 40 signature petition was presented to the 23rd March 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Richard Butler. The petition requests the installation of a pedestrian crossing on Bingham Road, Cotgrave.
- 61. The County Council has negotiated contributions from the developer to provide measures that will help mitigate traffic from the proposed nearby development (such as improved bus services) but these do not include new pedestrian crossing facilities on Bingham Road.
- 62. The County Council receives far more requests for such crossings than it is able to fund. Requests for crossings are therefore prioritised based on the numbers of people crossing, traffic volumes and other relevant factors such as accident history so that the available funding helps the greatest number of people. Surveys will therefore be undertaken to determine whether a crossing at this location should be prioritised for possible inclusion in a future year's integrated transport programme.
- 63. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

O. <u>Petition requesting double yellow lines at the junction of Northwold Avenue and Loughborough Road, West Bridgford (Ref: 2016/0234)</u>

- 64. A 57 signature petition was presented to the 23rd March 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Gordon Wheeler. The petition requests the installation of double yellow lines at the junction of Northwold Avenue and Loughborough Road.
- 65. Northwold Avenue forms part of the recently delivered West Bridgford cycling network and a puffin crossing has recently been installed close to the junction. As part of these improvements the County Council proposes to introduce a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) at this junction to install 'no waiting at any time' (double yellow lines) restrictions; and has recently undertaken consultation on the proposals. A separate report on the proposed TRO will be presented to Community & Place Committee to consider the proposals.
- 66. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

P. Petition for junction improvements to access Bilsthorpe (Ref 2016/0236)

67. Up to a 1,000 signature petition was presented to the 25th May 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Bruce Laughton. The petition was requesting improvements to the junctions in and out of Bilsthorpe onto both the A614 and A617.

- 68. Some improvements / adjustments have been undertaken in this area over the last few years. Bilsthorpe residents like those of many other rural settlements can, at times, have some delay to safely join the more strategic road network (in this case either the A614 or A617). It is not feasible to introduce signals to provide more controlled entry and exit to all such villages and any such policy would not only be unaffordable, up to £500,000 per junction, but would also cause significant additional delay across the Countywide network.
- 69. There have been 12 slight accidents at the five locations since 1st January 2014 including six at the Mickledale Lane junction. Due to these numbers this has just triggered a review for further investigation, but consideration will need to be given to achieving a high rate of economic return on any potential improvements which could be difficult based on the accidents alone.
- 70. Any further development in and around Bilsthorpe will be subject to the usual planning process and require mitigation measures from the developers, if it is considered that impacts would be severe. These will be investigated as part of the transport assessment at the planning application stage.
- 71. Further feasibility work will be undertaken to look at these issues and consider the benefits and dis-benefits of any further junction works, including signal options.
- 72. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

Q. <u>Petition requesting a residents' parking scheme on West Street, Arnold (Ref: 2016/0237)</u>

- 73.A 14 signature petition was presented to the 25th May 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Muriel Weisz on behalf of residents of West Street, Arnold. The petition requested that a residents' parking scheme be introduced on the roads due to parking by non-residents accessing the town centre.
- 74. Requests for residents' parking schemes are prioritised in locations where residents do not have off-street parking and where a scheme will not negatively affect nearby streets and town centres, or increase rat running or traffic speeds. Schemes are prioritised based on the level of non-resident parking.
- 75. West Street is a residential road situated to the west of the town centre with a mixture of properties, including social housing schemes managed and operated by Gedling Homes with associated private car parks accessed off West Street. There are existing parking restrictions on the road.
- 76.A parking survey will be undertaken to determine whether a residents' parking scheme should be considered a priority at this location for possible inclusion in a future year's integrated transport programme.
- 77. It was recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

R. Petition Regarding Road Condition in Eastwood (Ref: 2016/0238)

- 78. A 192 signature petition was presented to the 25th May 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Tony Harper concerning the number of potholes and the general state of the roads in and around Eastwood.
- 79. In recent years, resurfacing works have been carried out at several sites in the Eastwood area, most notably Nottingham Road and Dovecote Road with some additional works on some unclassified roads in the area. The maintenance programme 2017/18 includes resurfacing works in the vicinity of IKEA. In recent years greater emphasis has been placed on surface treatment works on the unclassified road network countywide and this is reflected also in the future proposals for Eastwood. This current financial year surface dressing works have been undertaken on numerous roads on the Daisy Farm Road Estate to help save them from further deterioration.
- 80. One of the key principles with highways asset management is to increase the use of 'preventative non-invasive treatments' and reduce the level of invasive high-cost worst-first resurfacing schemes where possible. Only fixing the very worst roads every year means that a lot of public money is spent on only a few sites and while this is being carried out, other sites will deteriorate to a point where they too will require high-cost resurfacing. The current strategy therefore is still to carry out full resurfacing at a limited number of sites but for the cost of one resurfacing scheme, 'preventative' works which will save several other sites from deteriorating to a similar level can be undertaken for the same money.
- 81. In the past, priority has been given to the classified road network and this has led to a gradual countywide deterioration of the unclassified network (estate roads and some rural links). To redress this imbalance, plans are in place with more of a focus on the unclassified network whilst still maintaining the classified roads in a safe and serviceable condition.
- 82. The scheme selection system involves a 'candidate list' of potential sites in all categories, ranging from those requiring full reconstruction to those which can be saved from further damage. It is possible that some sites may have had patchwork repairs over several years in order to maintain safety and whilst they may not be aesthetically pleasing they are at least fit for purpose from a safety perspective.
- 83. The main priority at all times is for the safety and serviceability of the highway network, including footways, cycleways and all other associated assets. For this reason, highway safety inspections are carry out at varying frequencies (monthly, quarterly, six-monthly, annually) dependent upon the hierarchy of the road / footway in question. There are a series of 'intervention levels' for defects on the highway and these are attended to either as part of this inspection regime or as a result of individual enquiries from members of the public, local councillors or other source.
- 84. A programme of works focused on the small sites which have received excessive patching and / or pothole repairs is being prepared. It is planned that this will lead to surface course repairs, approximately 40mm thick, to restore sections of some roads to a serviceable condition and to prevent further use of public money in continuous reactive repairs. These sites may then be suitable for further preventative surface treatment in future works programmes.
- 85. The above mentioned 'candidate list' contains many sites in the Eastwood area which are potentially suitable for a variety of treatments and these are currently being considered for

- the draft Capital Maintenance Works Programme for 2018/19 which will be presented to this committee in the Autumn.
- 86. All sites are assessed against their peers from across the whole county. Funding is allocated on a pro-rata funding basis which is connected to the Road Condition Indicator (a national measure) for each road class to ensure the money are appropriately spent.
- 87. It was recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

S. <u>Petition regarding network condition on Cropston Close, West Bridgford (Ref: 2016/0239)</u>

- 88. An 18 signature petition was presented to the 25th May 2017 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Gordon Wheeler concerning condition of the road surface on Cropston Close and the need for additional yellow lines.
- 89. Planning permission for the school was granted in 2012, including conditions that various highway improvements were to be carried out and a review of the parking situation to be undertaken within 12 months of the works being completed. Parking restrictions were put in place in tandem with laybys being constructed and then amendments to the parking restrictions were made in response to the review finishing in March 2016. Both these sets of improvements were subject to the formal public consultation process with all parties in the local area including residents, the school, Councillors, emergency services and various statutory consultees. These works were adjudged to satisfy the requirements of the Planning Conditions which were then discharged.
- 90. Some further complaints from residents regarding parking have been received in the intervening time, but these are now separate from the Planning process and the previous funding received from the school project. The criteria for parking restrictions is based on a pattern of reported injury accidents involving parking being apparent or bus services/emergency services suffering severe obstruction. Both the bus services and emergency services were included in the two previous public consultations and neither have requested any further restrictions be put in place. The ambulance service has also commented previously that they do not expect unobstructed access to narrow residential streets and have methods to deal with these situations as a result.
- 91. Further issues have also become apparent on Swithland Drive and a petition is being prepared along similar lines. It is therefore considered appropriate that these are dealt with in parallel and will be evaluated together once the second petition has been submitted.
- 92. It was recommended that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

Statutory and Policy Implications

93. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the contents of the report and the actions approved be noted.

Councillor John Cottee Chairman of Communities and Place Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Adrian Smith, Corporate Director, Place adrian.smith@nottscc.gov.uk

Background Papers and Published Documents

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- Arnold South Councillors John Clarke and Muriel Weisz
- Carlton West Councillors Jim Creamer and Errol Henry
- Collingham Councillor Maureen Dobson
- Cotgrave Councillor Richard Butler
- Eastwood Councillor Tony Harper
- Greasley and Brinsley Councillor John Handley
- Hucknall North Councillor Ben Bradley
- Leake and Ruddington Councillors Reg Adair and Andrew Brown
- Mansfield West Paul Henshaw and Diana Meale
- Muskham and Farnsfield Councillor Bruce Laughton
- Newark East Councillor Stuart Wallace
- Sherwood Forest Councillor John Peck JP
- Stapleford and Broxtowe Central Councillors John Doddy and John Longdon
- West Bridgford West Councillor Gordon Wheeler
- Worksop West Councillor Sybil Fielding



Report to Full Council

21 September 2017

Agenda Item: 7

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNANCE & ETHICS COMMITTEE

LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT – 2016/17

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform Members of a proposed Local Code of Corporate Governance for Nottinghamshire County Council, the proposed Annual Governance Statement 2016/17 and to seek Members' approval of the Statement prior to it accompanying the Statement of Accounts 2016/17.

Information and Advice

- 2. The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 require the Authority to review the effectiveness of its system of internal control and publish an annual governance statement, prepared in accordance with proper practices in relation to internal control.
- 3. Using guidance developed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives, an Annual Governance Statement has been drafted and is attached (*Appendix 2*). This guidance was updated for the 2016/17 financial year, and the opportunity has been taken to prepare a separate Local Code of Corporate Governance (draft attached as *Appendix 1*). Previously, the practice at this Council has been for the Annual Governance Statement to incorporate the key features of the Council's governance arrangements. In accordance with best practice, it is now proposed to set out the Code of Corporate Governance as a separate document, which may be posted on the Authority's website as a clear statement of the importance that this Council affords to governance issues. This then allows the Annual Governance Statement to become a more targeted document, focused on the assessment of how well the Code has been operating in practice during 2016/17.
- 4. The Annual Governance Statement has been drawn up on the basis of a range of evidence sources:
 - The outcomes of the quarterly governance meetings of the three statutory officers (Chief Executive, the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Financial Officer);
 - Assurance statements received from Corporate Directors and other key officers regarding the operation of the governance framework during 2016/17 in their areas of responsibility
 - Other evidence supplied by relevant officers or obtained from the Council's website to support the assessment of specific aspects of the Code.

5. The Statement was endorsed by the Governance & Ethics Committee at its meeting on 19th July 2017, and it has been signed off by the Leader of the Council and by the Chief Executive.

Other Options Considered

6. The requirement to publish an annual governance statement is set out in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011. No other options are available.

Reason for Recommendation

7. To set out how the Authority has met its governance responsibilities for 2016/17.

Statutory and Policy Implications

This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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. To approve the Local Code of Corporate Governance and the Annual Governance Statement 2016/17.

Councillor Bruce Laughton Chairman of Governance & Ethics Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Rob Disney - Head of Internal Audit

Constitutional Comments (SLB 16/8/17)

Full Council is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments (SES 17/08/17)

There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

ΑII



LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

1. Defining governance

- 1.1. Governance is about how the Council ensures that it is doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people, in a timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable manner.
- 1.2. The governance framework comprises the culture, values and duties of the Authority, supported by the systems and processes put in place to provide assurance that the culture, values and duties are complied with in practice. The Authority uses this framework to direct and control its work and ensure that it engages with, leads, and accounts to the community it serves. The framework enables the Authority to provide assurance over the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost-effective services within the existing legal framework.
- 1.3. The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Authority's aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

2. Annual Governance Statement

- 2.1. Each year the Council will carry out a review of its governance arrangements to ensure compliance with this Code. The purpose of the review will be to provide assurance that governance arrangements are adequate and operating effectively, or to identify action that is planned to ensure effective governance in the future.
- 2.2. The outcome of the review will take the form of an Annual Governance Statement prepared on behalf of the Leader and Chief Executive. It will be submitted to the Audit Committee for consideration and review.
- 2.3. The Annual Governance Statement will accompany the Council's Statutory Statement of Accounts, as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations

3. Core Principles of Good Governance

3.1. The County Council has adopted a Code of Corporate Governance based upon the CIPFA / SOLACE document entitled "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework.' The Framework identifies seven core principles of good governance, along with a number of sub-principles. These are set out below, along with details of the actions and behaviours Nottinghamshire County Council adopts to put these principles into practice.

Key governance
principles and supporting
actions and behaviours:

What the Council does to apply them:

A. Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law

Behaving with integrity:

- Maintains appropriate Codes of Conduct, for both members and staff, together with a Code on Member and Officer Relationships
- Operates a Conduct Committee, responsible for considering complaints relating to breaches of the Code of Conduct for Councillors and Co-opted Members
- > Sets out the required standards of conduct at meetings
- > Has in place a Member induction and development programme
- > Maintains a comprehensive, online staff induction programme
- Maintains the Council's Constitution, setting out how decisions are made and the procedures followed to ensure that these are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people.
- Incorporates in the Constitution a formal scheme of delegation, setting out the delegated powers of the Authority's most senior officers
- Implements and publicises a policy and strategy for countering fraud and corruption, along with a Fraud Response Plan.
- > Maintains an up-to-date register of interests for members and staff
- > Maintains an up-to-date register of gifts and hospitality
- Provides for declarations of interest at all Council and committee meetings

Demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values:

- Sets out its shared values in its strategic plan: treating people fairly; value for money; working together.
- Sets out in the Equality Policy how the Authority aims to achieve its equality objectives, both in terms of the delivery of services and in terms of its employment practices.
- Carries out equality impact assessments for change proposals, including consultation with the relevant staff networks

Respecting the rule of law:

- Allocates to the Head of Paid Service responsibility for reporting to Full Council on the manner in which the discharge of the Council's functions is co-ordinated, the number and grade of officers required for the discharge of functions and the organisation of officers.
- ➤ Allocates to the Monitoring Officer key responsibilities for:
 - ensuring the lawfulness and fairness of decision-making. This
 includes responsibility, after consulting with the Head of Paid
 Service and Chief Finance Officer, for reporting to Full Council if
 they consider that any proposal, decision or omission would give
 rise to unlawfulness or maladministration
 - contributing to the promotion and maintenance of high standards of conduct.
- Includes constitutional comments in reports to Council and Committees to advise on compliance with the policy framework and the Constitution.
- ➤ Allocates responsibility to the Service Director Finance, Procurement and Improvement to highlight any proposal, decision or course of action which will involve any unlawful expenditure.
- Relies on the External Auditors to bring to the attention of the Council any concerns over compliance with legislative requirements

Vov. governonce	What the Council does to apply them:	
Key governance principles and supporting	What the Council does to apply them:	
actions and behaviours:		
actions and benaviours.	 highlighted by the audit process Conforms with the governance requirements of the CIPFA Statement on the Role of The Chief Financial Officer in Local Government. Maintains an effective Legal Service for the provision of ongoing advice to members and officers on all matters of legality 	
B. Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement	 Openness: Prepares and widely publishes a Strategic Plan, identifying and communicating the Authority's vision and intended outcomes for citizens and service users. Specifically, it provides for the following: Providing a clear statement of the Authority's vision, priorities and values, together with a commitment to treat people fairly, provide value for money and to work together with partners and residents. Enabling agreed political objectives and statutory requirements to drive the Authority's activities Enabling the communication of the Authority's priorities to the community of Nottinghamshire, partner organisations and staff. Providing a broad framework of objectives and performance indicators, to ensure effective performance management. Sets out on the Council's website a range of information that is freely available to the public under its publication scheme. This covers: organisational structures; priorities and performance; policies and procedures; spending and financial information; decision-making, including schedules of council meetings and supporting papers; land and property; parking; lists and registers; services provided by the council; trade union liaison. Publishes an annual performance report 	
C. Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, and environmental benefits	 Engaging comprehensively with stakeholders, individual citizens and service users: Offers a range of communication channels which are cost-effective and targeted. Has in place an established Social Media Policy Operates a Citizens' Panel to engage with citizens throughout the County on a wide range of issues Defining outcomes: Sets out the council's intended outcomes in its strategic plan Sets out in a Strategic Management Framework the Council's approach to planning, commissioning and performance management based on outcomes and intelligence. Details in its Strategic Management Framework the Council's plans and the relationship between them as part of the strategic management cycle, linking the outcomes and actions of service plans, the strategic plan and key strategies. As part of this cycle Service Plans should be developed to commence from the beginning of April each year. Regularly monitors and reports on progress against key performance indicators Sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits: Approves and publishes a Sustainable Community Strategy, setting 	

Key governance	What the Council does to apply them:		
principles and supporting	What the Council does to apply them.		
actions and behaviours:			
	 out the key priorities for Nottinghamshire over a ten year period Maintains a rolling Medium Term Financial Strategy, to serve as the financial plan which underpins the Strategic Plan. Approves the annual budget and capital programme, which includes an update of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Takes a regular report on the Council's financial position to the Finance and Property Committee, and submits separate progress reports to the Policy Committee regarding delivery of the options for change to achieve the required cost savings the Authority needs to make to achieve a balanced budget. Maintains a capital investment strategy and capital programme which is funded within a prudential financial framework. 		
D. Determining the	Determining interventions		
interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes	 Determining interventions Develops, and continues to implement, an extensive programme of change in response to the conflicting pressures the Council faces of reducing financial resources at a time of increasing demand for services. The 'Redefining Your Council' programme seeks to ensure that the Council can deliver the services that the people of Nottinghamshire value in a sustainable way. Develops and presents option appraisals to members. Consults appropriately to ensure the Council's plans for service development are well informed by the input of stakeholders. 		
	 Planning interventions Sets out, in the Strategic Management Framework, the Council's planning and control cycles that cover strategic and operational plans, priorities and targets. Aligns the Council's annual budget process with the organisation's objectives and the over-arching Medium Term Financial Strategy. Maintains a list of key strategic services for which a business continuity plan is required to be in place. The Council's Emergency Planning Team oversees and advises on the arrangements in place for disaster recovery. 		
	 Optimising achievement of intended outcomes Uses the Medium Term Financial Strategy to balance service priorities, affordability and other resource constraints. Operates a budgeting process that takes account of the full cost of operations over the medium and longer term. 		
E. Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it	 Developing the entity's capacity: Develops and maintains an effective Workforce Strategy to support the delivery of the Council's strategic priorities. Undertakes regular reviews of activities, outputs and planned outcomes to identify areas for improvement. Makes appropriate use of research and benchmarking to inform priorities for service development. Makes appropriate use of partnerships and collaborative working where added value can be achieved. 		
	Developing the capability of the entity's leadership and other		

Key governance	What the Council does to apply them:	
principles and supporting		
actions and behaviours:		
	 individuals: Establishes protocols to ensure a shared understanding between members and the Chief Executive and the Corporate Leadership Team of respective roles and objectives. Ensures the Leader and the Chief Executive have clearly defined and distinctive leadership roles Has in place a scheme of delegation which is reviewed annually. Maintains its standing orders and financial regulations Maintains an effective induction and development programme both for members and officers. 	
F. Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management	 Managing risk: ➤ Operates a Risk, Safety and Emergency Management Board to oversee the process of risk management in the Council. The Board meets periodically throughout the year. The corporate risk register is reviewed at each of the Board's meetings, to determine whether additional steps are required to mitigate key risks. ➤ Supports the Board through Risk, Safety and Emergency Management Groups, one for each department. The Groups are responsible for having an overview of risk management in each department and for maintaining a departmental risk register. 	
	 Managing performance: ➤ Implements and complies with a performance management framework to monitor delivery of the Council's strategy and key plans. 	
	 Robust internal control: ○ Operates an effective Audit Committee which meets regularly during the year and fulfils the recommended core functions as set out in CIPFA's publication, 'Audit Committees – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities. ➢ Ensures the Council's Internal Audit service is delivered in accordance with the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards ➢ Reviews and publicises the Council's counter-fraud and counter-corruption strategy Managing data: ➢ Implements a data management framework, featuring procedures and policies for the safe collection, storage, use and sharing of data. Particular emphasis is given to safeguarding personal data. ➢ Employs a designated data protection officer with primary 	
G. Implementing good	responsibility for promoting awareness of the Council's information management policies and procedures. Ensures effective arrangements are in place for sharing data with other bodies. Strong public financial management: Ensures an effective system of budgetary control is in operation at all levels of financial planning and control. Implementing good practice in transparency:	
practices in transparency,	 Complies with the local government transparency code and publishes 	

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	What the Council does to apply them:	
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		actions and behaviours:
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he Council's il's complaints ormance, value for mely manner Statement to asses orate Governance, sed actions to addre of the Head of Intern members, such that ive governance, risk plement agreed audit and of other	Whistleblowing Policy Establishes, monitors and reports on the procedure mplementing good practices in reportive Publishes a formal, annual report cover money and stewardship of resources Publishes the annual financial statement Prepares and publishes an Annual Goothe Council's compliance with this Codidentifying an areas for improvement at them. Assurance and effective accountability Complies with CIPFA's Statement on the Audit Allows its Internal Audit service direct assurance can be provided with regard management and control Provides regular updates on actions the Internal Audit recommendations	accountability

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2016/17

1. SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

- 1.1. Nottinghamshire County Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards. Public money must be safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Authority has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness. The Localism Act 2011 has, among other things, established a general power of competence for local authorities.
- 1.2. In discharging this overall responsibility, the County Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, including the arrangements for the management of risk.
- 1.3. This statement meets the requirements of regulation 4 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations (England) 2011 in relation to the publication of an annual governance statement.

2. THE LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

- 2.1. Nottinghamshire County Council has adopted a local Code of Corporate Governance. This Code is subject to annual review and approval by the Governance and Ethics Committee, and it is published on the Council's website.
- 2.2. The Code is based on the seven core principles of good governance, as recommended in the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework for 'Delivering good governance in Local Government' (2016 Edition).

3 REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

- 3.1. The Authority has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework. This Statement sets out the outcome of the latest review for the financial year 2016/17. The outcomes are set out in terms of the extent to which the Council has applied in practice the seven core principles of good governance.
- 3.2. The evidence to assess effectiveness is drawn from a range of sources, notably the following:

- Quarterly, formal meetings of the Council's three statutory officers (Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer), who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment. The Council's overall governance arrangements are kept under review at these meetings, and the Head of Internal Audit also attends to provide input. The statutory officers prepare an annual report.
- the Head of Internal Audit's annual report
- reports of the External Auditor and other review agencies and inspectorates
- assurance statements from Strategic Directors concerning the application of key governance issues in their areas of service
- review of core governance issues dealt with by the Council and its committee structure
- 3.3. Where any issues of concern are highlighted by the review, these issues are noted below in section 4 of the Statement, along with the key actions planned to address them.

Core Principle

Review of compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance in 2016/17

A. Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law

Assessed assurance level for compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance: Substantial

The key policies, procedures and practices set out in the Local Code of Corporate Governance remained in force during 2016/17.

Corporate Directors report, overall, a substantial level of compliance with the Council's procedures.

The application of these controls, and the evidence collected from the sources of assurance set out above at 3.2, have identified the following areas in which there is scope for action to bolster the current arrangements:

- A need for the Member Code of Conduct to be updated, arising from the few cases of complaints against Members that were satisfactorily resolved during the year (see Action Plan 1).
- Improving the consistency with which Equality Impact Assessments are carried out across the Council (see Action Plan 2).
- Introduction of a Statutory Officers' Annual Report from the 2017/18 financial year (see Action Plan 3)
- A refresh of the Council's Anti Money Laundering Policy was drafted during the year, and this needs to be formally approved and implemented (see Action Plan 4).
- In three departments of the Council, actions will be taken to remind staff of the procedures for registering interests that should be declared (see Action Plan 5).

An objection to the 2015/16 financial accounts was raised by a member of the public and this remains under investigation by the external auditor (see Action Plan 6).

B. Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement

Assessed assurance level for compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance: Substantial

The Council's Strategic Plan remained in place and the Council complied with the requirements of the Transparency Code in 2016/17.

Regular reports on Council performance were submitted to the Policy Committee. The Council's Business Reporting and Management Information (BRMI) project continues to drive improvements in the timeliness and quality of performance reporting.

Corporate Directors report a substantial level of assurance over the arrangements for stakeholder engagement with their services.

The Communications Policy remained in place during the year, securing stakeholder engagement through a range of pathways: the 'Nottinghamshire Listens' citizens' panel; the social media policy; publication of the 'Life' magazine; and continuation of the 'Emailme' service and 'Shout Out' campaign.

Core Principle	Review of compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance in 2016/17		
C. Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, and environmental benefits	Assessed assurance level for compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance: The key Council policies, strategies and reporting regimes identified in the Local Code of Corporate Governance remained in place during the year. A key area of focus continued to be the Medium Term Financia Strategy and an internal audit in 2016/17 of the processes surrounding this strategy returned a substantial level of assurance. Work is in progress to extend and embed the Strategic Management Framework and to ensure that the improved performance information received is an integral part of service improvement (see Action Plain 7).		
D. Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes	Assessed assurance level for compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance: Reasonable The 'Redefining Your Council' change programme continued to progress. Quarterly update reports presented a consolidated view of progress with organisational change programmes, performance and financial savings. A new strategic plan is under development to run from 2018. As part of this, developments with the Strategic Management Framework are planned to more closely align the Council's annual budget process with the organisation's objectives and performance monitoring (see Action Plan 7).		
E. Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it	Assessed assurance level for compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance: Substantial The Council's Workforce Strategy was revised in 2016/17. Overall, substantial levels of assurance were received from Corporate Directors regarding arrangements for: - inducting new members of staff, including the implementation of an eLearning induction programme.by one department - conducting regular employee appraisals, although one department reported the need to reaffirm expectations with all managers for EPDRs to be completed (see Action Plan 8) - regular reviews of activities, outputs and planned outcomes to identify areas for improvement - appropriate use of research and benchmarking to inform priorities for service development - appropriate use of partnerships and collaborative working where added value can be achieved. With regard to Members of the Council, a pre-determined induction		
	programme is in place for the first six months of each new administration; this is currently being devised for the post-election		

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Core Principle	Review of compliance with the Code of Corporate Covernance in 2016/17 period in 2017. Training is compulsory for all Members in relation to the code of conduct and standards. Training is also compulsory for certain Members on committees dealing with: pensions; appeals; and planning & licensing. A wide range of training for Members was carried out in 2016/17.
F. Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management	Assessed assurance level for compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance: Reasonable The key policies, procedures and practices set out in the Local Code of Corporate Governance remained in force during 2016/17. Developments in 2016/17 included the following: Revised financial regulations were agreed by the Council The Council's counter-fraud and counter-corruption strategy and fraud response plan were publicised to internal staff during the year. A Contracts and Finance Oversight Group was established and is meeting on a regular basis, chaired by the Group Manager, Procurement, with attendance from ASCH&PP staff and Finance staff, to oversee the procurement of adult social care services and compliance with financial regulations. Information governance remains a key area of focus for the Council, with action progressing to implement the recommendations of the Information Commissioner's office and of the Council's Internal Audit service. Overall, Corporate Directors report a reasonable level of assurance that effective procedures are in place. For 2017/18, it is proposed that information governance should be included as a regular agenda item at the Governance & Ethics Committee (see Action Plan 9 & 10). The evidence collected from the sources of assurance set out above at 3.2, has identified the following additional areas in which there is scope for action to bolster the current arrangements: An internal audit in 2016/17 of the Council's risk management arrangements has proposed some recommendations to further
G. Implementing	strengthen the arrangements, including the proposal for formal updates on risk management to be presented to the Policy and Governance & Ethics Committees (see Action Plan 11). - Training and an improvement and development plan considered and to be presented to new Governance & Ethics Committee during 2017/18 (see Action Plan 12). Assessed assurance level for compliance with the Code of
good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability	Corporate Governance: Substantial The evidence collected from the sources of assurance set out above at 3.2 confirmed that the key policies, procedures and practices identified in the Local Code of Corporate Governance remained in force during 2016/17.

Core	Review of compliance with the Code of
Principle	Corporate Governance in 2016/17
	One area of development in the year was the implementation of revised approach to the follow-up of Internal Audit recommendations. The amended approach is more efficient and effective, and it is demonstrating that strong action is taken across the Council to implement agreed actions.

4. SIGNIFICANT GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- 4.1. The transformation agenda: the transformation framework, 'Redefining Your Council', continues to drive the Council's response to the challenging financial and policy environment. The framework seeks different ways of delivering services by looking firstly at innovative and creative solutions. During 2016/17, three Alternative Service Delivery Models were implemented, and reviews of their early operations are helping to shape the Council's learning and future strategy (see Action Plan 13).
- 4.2. **Budget forecasting:** Effective management of the most volatile elements of the annual budget remains a key area of focus. In 2016/17, particular attention was given to a number of work-streams in the Children's, Families' and Cultural Services Department, involving an assessment of corrective actions required to achieve the savings targets in the department. For 2017/18 and beyond, further analysis is required to identify the most volatile elements of the annual budget and to bring forward proposals for how these budgets can best be managed to deliver greater assurance around the reliability of forecasts (see Action Plan 14).
- 4.3. **Brexit:** The implications for the Council and its delivery of services are currently considered to be low risk, but these remain under continual review.
- 4.4. Retention of local business rates: Preparatory work for this change in the local taxation framework continues to progress.
- 4.5. Pressure on core systems of internal control: The findings of Internal Audit continue to identify areas in which only limited assurance can be provided over the effectiveness of internal controls. Areas of concern during 2016/17 were reported through to the former Audit Committee as part of the Head of Internal Audit's progress updates. However, the revised follow-up procedure for Internal Audit recommendations is providing strong evidence that agreed actions are being taken across the Council.
- 4.6. Vulnerability to fraud: The Annual Fraud Report 2016/17 was presented to the Governance and Ethics Committee in July 2017. This identifies that the incidence of internal attacks are low, but the Council remains vulnerable to attacks from external sources. Focused efforts in high risk areas of service are identifying more cases, especially in relation to social care provision. The Internal Audit Service is working with key service managers to ensure the Council's arrangements for responding to this emerging area of fraud risk are robust and effective (see Action Plan 15).
- 4.7. Risk of exposure to serious and organised crime: National evidence identifies local government as a prime target for fraudulent activity to fund serious and organised crime. A review against the DCLG/Home Office checklist for vulnerability to serious and organised crime has been carried out and an action plan will be progressed in 2017/18. A meeting with the Police is being scheduled to discuss further assistance in assessing the current threat level (see Action Plan 16).

- 4.8. Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA): A chief officers' coordination group is in place, embracing the County Council, Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire Police. An internal Steering Board and Response Team have been established to support the work required and to co-ordinate the Council's response to assist the inquiry. Regular Member briefings have taken place and will continue during the lifetime of the enquiry.
- 4.9. **Devolution/combined authority**: A devolution deal is not currently progressing. Further steers on government policy are awaited before progressing with combined authority proposals.
- 4.10. **Controversial/sensitive decisions:** The risk of challenge and demonstrations at Council meetings, at which potentially controversial and sensitive decisions are to be taken, is recognised and remains under active management.
- 4.11. **Post-election transition**: The change in administration, following the local elections in May 2017, is being carefully managed to ensure the day-to-day governance arrangements at the Council are not unduly disrupted.

5. Action Plan 2017/18

_	5. Action Plan 2017/18				
Planned action		Officer responsible	Target date for completion		
1.	Revise the Member Code of Conduct	Corporate Director Resources	December 2017		
	Review the consistency with which Equality Impact Assessments are carried out	Corporate Director Resources	December 2017		
3.	Introduce the statutory officers' annual report	Chief Executive, Corporate Director – Resources, Service Director – Finance, Procurement & Improvement	April 2018		
4.	Implement the refreshed anti-money laundering policy	Service Director – Finance, Procurement & Improvement	August 2017		
5. a)	Actions to embed the procedure for staff to register any interests that need to be declared: In the ASCH&PP Department, undertake further work to ensure that staff are aware of the process for registering their interests	a) Corporate Director ASCH&PP b) Corporate Director	a) July 2017 b) June 2017 to set the register up.		
b)	In the CFCS Department, set up a departmentally held register of interests. In the Resources Department, remind staff of the procedure to be followed to	c) Corporate Director Resources	September 2017 to embed its use		
6.	register their interests. Respond to any recommended actions arising from the review of the objection to the accounts 2015/16	Service Director – Finance, Procurement & Improvement	To be determined on receipt of the external auditor's report		
7.	Review the content and application of the Strategic Management Framework to closely align the Council's annual budget process with the organisation's objectives and performance monitoring	Chief Executive Corporate Director Resources	Approved by Policy Committee 21/6/		
	Actions to ensure EPDRs are carried out regularly across the Council In the Adults, Social Care, Health & Public Protection Department, complete an audit and reaffirm expectations with all managers for	a) Corporate Director ASCH&PP	July 2017		
b)	EPDRs to be completed, linked to the new strategic plan Tackle the few areas where EPDRs do not take place as regularly as they should.	b) Corporate Director Resources	December 2017		

9. Continue with the implementation of agreed actions from the ICO and Internal Audit reviews of information governance 10. Report information governance	Corporate Director Resources Corporate Director	Information Governance Improvement Plan agreed by Policy Committee 21/6/2017 From September
updates on a regular basis to the Governance & Ethics Committee	Resources	2017
11. Monitor implementation of the actions relating to the internal audit of risk management	Head of Internal Audit	Quarterly updates to the Governance & Ethics Committee in 2017/18
12. Develop a programme of development for the Governance & Ethics Committee and monitor its implementation.	Corporate Director of Resources	In hand
13. Take the learning from the reviews of the existing Alternative Service Delivery Models to inform development of the Council's future strategy	Corporate Leadership Team	August 2017
14. Determine and implement a revised approach to budget forecasting.	Service Director – Finance, Procurement & Improvement	September 2017
15. Complete internal review of the Council's response to social care fraud and monitor implementation of the agreed actions	Head of Internal Audit and key Service Directors with responsibility for social care	August 2017 and quarterly updates
16. Implement the action plan for addressing the threat posed by serious and organised crime.	Head of Internal Audit and key Service Directors in affected areas of service	Per separate action plan for 2017/18

APPROVAL OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Council has adopted a robust approach to addressing these financial, demographic, technological and legislative challenges.

The Governance and Ethics Committee reviewed the local code of corporate governance and this statement at their meeting on 15 June 2017. We are aware of the steps that are being and will be taken to address the above significant governance issues and we are satisfied that these are appropriate. We will monitor their implementation during the course of 2017/18 and beyond.

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Report to Full Council

21 September 2017

Agenda Item: 8

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGY ANNUAL UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

 This report presents the annual review of the Youth Justice Strategy 2015-18 for approval by Full Council. An annual Youth Justice plan is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998). A copy of the full plan is attached as **Appendix 1**. The report also seeks approval for a further report to be brought back to the Committee for monitoring and evaluation of the Strategy.

Information and Advice

- 2. Youth justice services in Nottinghamshire are made up of three multi-agency locality Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and a county wide Interventions team all of which are located in the 'Family Service' provision. The service meets all of the statutory requirements of a YOT as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and includes seconded staff from Police, Probation, Health, and Futures.
- 3. The aims of the YOTs are to:
 - reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system
 - reduce the frequency and rate of reoffending by children and young people who are already within the youth justice system
 - keep the numbers of young people experiencing custody either on remand or as a sentence of the court - to a minimum.
- 4. Performance against these measures is strong and remains below the national average:
 - first time entrants to the youth justice system has reduced dramatically since 2008/09 and remains statistically low. It is also below national average levels
 - rates of re-offending and numbers of re-offences committed by re-offenders have reduced steadily since 2008/09 but have started to increase again. Nevertheless it remains lower than national re-offending rates. The YOTs are looking at this cohort of young people to explore if anything could be done differently to address this rising statistic
 - numbers of young people remanded and sentenced to custody has reduced significantly since 2009 (by over 70% in both areas), meaning that fewer young people are experiencing a period of incarceration than was previously the case.

- 5. In addition to the multi-agency make-up of the teams, the Service works closely with partners and commissioned providers at a strategic and operational level to achieve its outcomes and aims. The Service links closely with the Troubled Families agenda and acts as the lead professional where the young person committing crime or anti-social behaviour has triggered the criteria. The Service is also a designated referral point for other agencies who have concerns that a Young Person may be at risk of radicalisation under the government's PREVENT agenda.
- 6. The YOTs have experienced further staffing reductions and a new service delivery model was implemented in April 2017.
- 7. The YOTs continue to monitor their activities via quality assurance; in order to align the Youth Justice quality assurance process more closely with that operating in other areas of Children's Services, its quality management framework is now managed by the Quality Improvement Group; ensuring assessments, plans and work with children and young people remains of a high quality. It continues to seek feedback from children and young people, parents and carers regarding the service they have received and suggestions for improvement.
- 8. The YOTs continue to try to ensure that the needs of children and young people are met within an ever challenging budgetary environment. It will therefore continue to work with partners (such as Children's Social Care and the Police) to ensure that children are not criminalised or remanded unnecessarily, whilst the Board works with strategic partners to ensure that the health provision offered to young offenders provides them with equality of access that the general population experiences.
- 9. An update on the progress made against the plan in 2016/17 is included on page 3 of the strategy. Key outcomes include closer working between Locality and Intervention Teams to tackle those considered most at risk of anti-social behaviour and/or offending, the alignment of quality assurance activity with the wider Children Service's department and the introduction of improved assessment and intervention for young people with Speech Language and Communication Needs.

Other Options Considered

10. An annual Youth Justice plan is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998).

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. The Youth Justice Strategy requires the approval of Full Council.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Crime and Disorder Implications

13. An annual Youth Justice plan is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) which requires the local authority with its partners to prevent offending and reoffending by children and young people and to deliver an effective local youth justice system.

Financial Implications

14. Statutory Youth Justice plans must be fully costed and these details are included in the full plan attached as **Appendix 1**.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That:

- 1) the 2017 annual update of the Youth Justice Strategy 2015-18 is approved.
- 2) a further report be brought back to the Committee for monitoring and evaluation of the Strategy.

Councillor Philip Owen Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee

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Constitutional Comments (SLM 24/08/17)

15. Full Council is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments (SAS 22/08/17)

16. The financial implications of the report are contained within paragraph 14 above.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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 Youth Justice Strategy annual update – report to Full Council on 15 September 2016.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

AII.

C1012



Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Strategy 2015-18

2017 update



Executive Summary

Youth justice services in Nottinghamshire are made up of three multi-agency locality Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and a county wide Interventions team all of which are located in the "Family Service" provision. The service meets all of the statutory requirements of a YOT as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and includes seconded staff from Police, Probation, Health, and Futures.

The aims of the YOTs are to:

- Reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system;
- Reduce the frequency and rate of reoffending by children and young people who are already within the youth justice system; and
- Keep the numbers of young people experiencing custody – either on remand or as a sentence of the court - to a minimum.
 Performance against these measures is strong and remains below the national average.

First time entrants to the youth justice system has reduced dramatically since 2008/9 and remains statistically low. It is also below national average levels.

- Rates of re-offending and numbers of re-offences committed by re-offenders reduced steadily since 2008/9 but has started to increase again. Nevertheless it remains lower than national re-offending rates. The YOTs are looking at this cohort of young people to explore if anything could be done differently to address this rising statistic.
- Numbers of young people remanded and sentenced to custody has reduced significantly since 2009 (by over 70% in both areas), meaning that fewer young people are experiencing a period of incarceration than was previously the case.

In addition to the multi-agency make-up of the teams, the Service works closely with partners and commissioned providers at a strategic and operational level to achieve its outcomes and aims. The Service links closely with the Troubled Families agenda and acts as the lead professional where the young person committing crime or anti-social behaviour has triggered the criteria. The Service is also a designated referral point for other agencies who have concerns that a Young Person may be at risk of radicalisation under the governments PREVENT agenda.

The YOTs have experienced further staffing reductions and a new service delivery model was implemented April 2017.

The YOTs continue to monitor their activities via quality assurance; in order to align the Youth Justice Quality assurance process more closely with that operating in other areas of Children's Services its quality management framework is now managed by the Quality Improvement Group; ensuring assessments, plans and work with children and young people remains of a high quality. It continues to seek feedback from children and young people, parents and carers regarding the service they have received and suggestions for improvement.

The YOTs continue to try to ensure that the needs of children and young people are met within an ever challenging budgetary environment. It will therefore continue to work with partners (such as Children's Social Care and the Police) to ensure that children are not criminalised or remanded unnecessarily, whilst the Board works with strategic partners to ensure that the health provision offered to young offenders provides them with equality of access that the general population experiences.

Introduction

Youth justice services in Nottinghamshire are made up of three multi- agency locality Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and a county wide Interventions team, providing detached youth work in areas of high crime and deprivation. The service meets all of the statutory requirements of a YOT as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and includes seconded staff from Police, Probation, Health, and Futures.

In addition to comprising multi-agency teams, the service commissions specialist external providers from the voluntary, public and private sectors to help it deliver key statutory functions, such as substance misuse, reparation services, victim contact and appropriate adult work. The key aims of the YOTs are to:

- reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system;
- reduce the frequency and rate of reoffending by children and young people who are already within the youth justice system; and
- Keep the numbers of young people experiencing custody – either on remand or as a sentence of the court - to a minimum.

In working towards these local and national targets, the YOTs do not lose sight of the child at the centre of what they do and will work with the child and their family to seek the best outcomes for the child or young person. Improving life outcomes for the child or young person is the driving factor behind the work that is done. Working with other teams, departments and partners is key to ensuring that the best outcomes are secured for children and young people.

It is clear that key stable factors that many take for granted, such as stable and suitable accommodation, positive and enduring personal relationships, full participation in education, training or employment, feeling safe, secure and loved and a healthy lifestyle free from substances, exploitation, or unaddressed health needs drastically improve a child's ability to integrate successfully into society and lead a law abiding and productive life as an adult. No one agency has the resources or expertise to achieve these outcomes alone. It is therefore vital that there is partnership working to ensure that every child has the opportunities to achieve these

outcomes regardless of their place within the criminal justice system - as a child on the cusp of offending or a young person in youth detention accommodation with numerous offences. In adopting this approach the case manager will work with the child as an individual to identify ways to build upon their strengths and the enormous potential that they have and identify strategies to reduce the negative factors in their life which may be pulling them into offending or increasing the risk of harm to either themselves or the public.

Whilst the YOTs strive to keep the child or young person safe and free from harm and will work to improve their life outcomes, it cannot be forgotten that the young person has offended and has caused harm to individuals and communities through their actions. Keeping individual victims and the public safe will therefore always remain an equal priority.

Ensuring that victims have a voice and feel listened to is also an important aspect of the YOTs work and for that reason an independent organisation is used to deliver a service to victims and to support them in explaining the impact that the offence has had upon them to the young person and suggesting suitable reparatory activities where appropriate. Challenging the young person with the reality of the impact of their offence upon an individual victim in a supportive environment can be a very powerful way to address their offending behaviour and provides the victim with a voice and a stake in the justice system. In accordance with the Victim's Code of Practice, victims who have consented to their information being shared are contacted by the provider and offered the opportunity to participate as much as they wish with the youth justice process. This can range from voicing the impact that the offence has had upon them, to suggesting reparative activities in which they would like the young person to participate to engaging in direct reparation or mediation with the young person. Equally many would just like to be kept informed of the progress of the order in accordance with data protection considerations. Being listened to and being able to express their feelings in the aftermath of an offence and the court process can be beneficial for many victims and allows them to seek answers to the questions that may have been plaguing them since the offence, allowing them to obtain closure to the process.

Review of Youth Justice Plan 2016/17

During 2016/17 the service set out to:

Actions to be completed in 2016/17	Update on Progress
First Time Entrants (FTEs) to the youth justice system Review the strategy to better target crime prevention resources	Completed The service has continued to target its crime prevention resources to have a greater impact; targeting communities with a higher risk of crime and those at a higher risk of ASB. There are now closer working practices between the Locality Teams and Intervention team to tackle those considered most at risk of ASB and/ or offending on both an individual and group work basis.
FTEs and Re-offending – Data analysis Analyse FTE data on a quarterly basis to understand profiles and hotspots to target resources; Analyse re-offending data to identify profiles, hot spots and trends;	Completed Managers continue to review FTE's and Re Offending data increasing awareness of the two cohorts and tackling emerging issues e.g. avoiding the criminalisation of Looked After Children and ensuring a high quality of work is undertaken on Referral Orders. The service is also looking at its work in Court in relation to potential cautions and continues to work with the police to increase appropriate crime prevention referrals.
Service User evaluations Team Managers to seek young person feedback at compliance panels, following resentence for new offences, for ISS cases and for young people in custody	Completed Team Managers continue to focus on collecting feedback from the more difficult to engage young people which is being reviewed on a quarterly basis.
Review Service User feedback quarterly	Completed Managers continue to review Service User feedback. This area of work is being further developed with Quality and Improvement to ensure that all feedback is captured by the service.
Service Delivery - Remands Develop closer links with Children's Social Work Services to reduce instances of remand.	Completed Managers continue to work with CSC to try and reduce remands into custody as a result of lack of placement options. All services being part of Integrated Children's Services has assisted in relationship building and improving working practices. Remands during 2016/17 were not attributable to a lack of suitable accommodation.
Service Delivery – Asset Plus Pilot new Quality Assurance process.	Completed The Youth Justice quality assurance processes have been aligned more closely with that which is operating in other areas of Children's Services. Its quality management framework is now managed by the Quality Improvement Group and new QA processes have been successfully implemented.
Quality Assurance Devise new service quality standards for Asset Plus assessments and reports based upon Quality Assurance trends.	Completed Service quality standards have been reviewed in light of Asset Plus and findings from Quality Assurance events. Case managers are fully aware of Service expectations which is reinforced during individual QA.
Service Delivery – Speech, Language and Communication Needs Eligible young people requiring a Rapid English Screening are screened and any requiring further intervention receive this	Completed Processes are now in place to ensure that all young people receive a Rapid English (Communicate) Screening. Subsequently Young People either receive intervention or screening results are shared with the education provider so that individual needs can be addressed.
Service Delivery – Thematic leads Case Manager thematic groups agree areas of focus and action plan for each theme.	Completed Thematic groups were established and specific actions were delivered upon to improve Service delivery in the identified areas.
Service Delivery – Health YJ Ops Manager/ Board to work with key partners to identify a business case for increased YOT Nurse capacity.	Ongoing A business case was in progress to identify levels of need for additional resources; however, this is still under review and, as of yet, increased YOT Nurse capacity has not been agreed.
Service Delivery – LAC prosecutions CSC link manager to work with CSC, police and CPS to embed the LAC Prosecution policy for County LAC. Page 65	Partially Completed Work is ongoing to review the prosecution protocol for LAC to ensure that Looked After Children are not being unnecessarily criminalised.

Service Delivery – JACs Review best practice for the Junior Attendance Centre and embed best practice approaches.	Partially Completed JAC monitoring returns are submitted on a monthly basis for yearly review. Service user feedback is being collected to assist in improving service delivery. In light of a changing cohort of Young People, what was considered as best practice has been challenged and delivery practice is again under review.
Service delivery – Offenders as Victims Explore approaches and services that could be offered to young offenders who are also victims of offending.	Ongoing Case managers are very aware of the need to address the needs of offenders who are also victims and liaise with Remedi/H2H to ensure that, if identified, this is addressed.
Service Delivery – Managing reductions in funding Develop and implement a new service structure ready for implementation in April 2017.	Completed The Service has experienced staffing reductions and a new service delivery model was implemented April 2017.



Governance and Structure

Nottinghamshire YOTs are a part of the Local Authority's Children's, Families and Cultural Services department. Line Management of the service flows up through the department to the Corporate Director for Children's Services. The activities of the YOTs are monitored and directed by the Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Partnership Board, which is chaired by the Service Director for Youth, Families and Social Work. All key partners are represented at a senior level at the board. The Board reports to the Safer Nottinghamshire Board, which feeds into the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Partnership Board holds the YOTs to account by ensuring that it meets it key statutory aims of reducing first time entrants, reducing re-offending and reducing the numbers of young people experiencing custody or remand. It does this by:

- Receiving quality assurance activity reports and quarterly performance reports, highlighting performance to date, areas of opportunity and risks to performance;
- Reviewing resources on a regular basis to ensure these are being effectively deployed;
- Benchmarking the practice of the YOTs and the Board against thematic inspections and the recommendations within these;
- Reviewing every Critical Learning Review and Extended Learning Review under the Youth Justice Board Community Safeguarding and Public Protection Incident guidelines;

 Reviewing any barriers to operational delivery which could impact upon performance or service delivery and identifying solutions to overcome these;

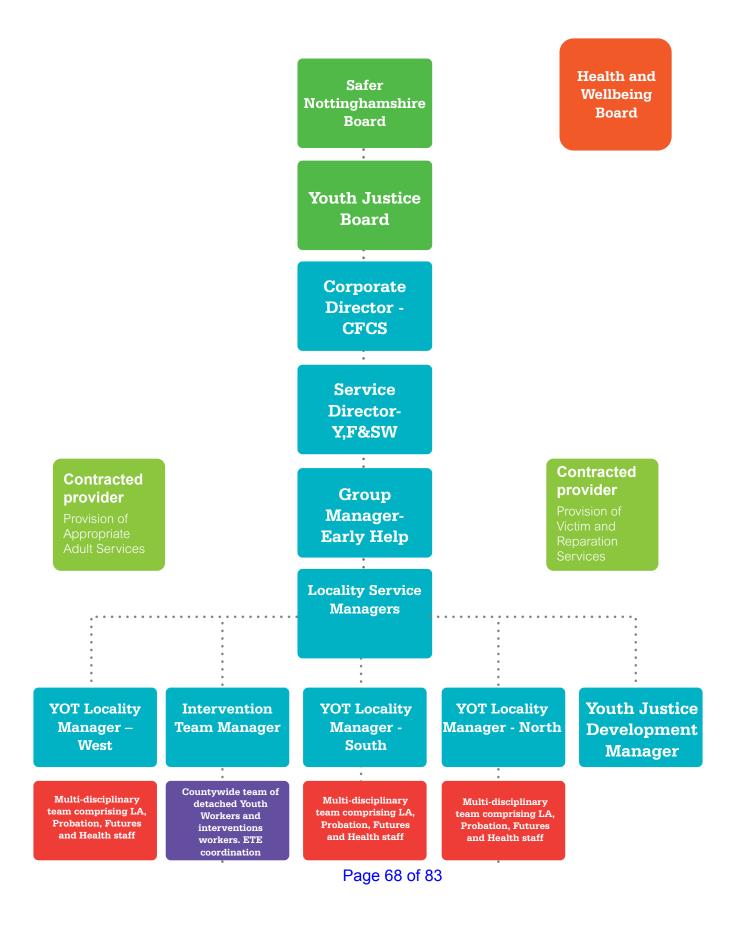
- Agreeing and signing off any action plans from Critical Learning reviews, or Inspections and monitoring these to ensure completion;
- Holding partners to account for any deficits in their operations or practice which is highlighted in any of the above.

The terms of reference for the Board are attached at Appendix 1.

Nottinghamshire has three core YOT locality teams, covering the assessment and case management of young people involved in the criminal justice system or on the cusp of offending. There is also a county wide Interventions team, which provide interventions and support for the locality teams and provides assertive outreach to children and young people in areas of high crime and deprivation. Information around staffing and volunteers is attached at Appendix 2.



Governance of the Youth Justice Service



Resources and Value for Money

Youth Justice Services in Nottinghamshire are funded from a variety of funding streams - both direct monetary payments and 'services in kind', such as the provision of seconded staff or delivery of services, such as unpaid work.

Table 1: Partner Contributions to the Youth Offending Partnership Pooled Budget 2016/17

Agency	Staffing costs (£)	Payments in kind – revenue (£)	Other delegated funds (£)	Total (£)
Local Authority		763,368		763,368
Local Authority - Public Health	120,000			120,000
Nottinghamshire Police	78,000	59,038		137,038
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner		109,000		109,000
National Probation Service	90,000	10,000		100,000
Clinical Commissioning Group	173,000			173,000
YJB Good Practice Grant		937,419		937,419
Reserves		50,000		50,000
Total	461,000	1,928,825		2,389,825

The YOTs receive additional in kind services from the County Council in terms of infrastructure (accommodation, IT support), quality and performance monitoring and administration and business support.

All senior partnership representatives at the Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Partnership Board value the contribution that the Youth Offending Teams make to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and are committed to maintaining the current level of funding until 2020. Given the level of commitment to the service by the local authority and its partners, the YOTs are sufficiently resourced to carry out their functions.

The YOTs also commission services to ensure effective delivery against it obligations. Appropriate adult services were re-commissioned in 2017 on the same hourly rate as the previous year. This contract will run until June 2018 with the option of one further annual

extension. The YOTs also commission a specialist provider to deliver its victim and reparation services. This contract has received annual extensions and will run until 2018.

Given the recent commissioning processes and the ability to extend current provider contracts beyond initial commissioning periods, the YOTs do not anticipate entering into any further commissioning processes until the victim and reparation services contracts are due to expire in 2018, unless there is a change to circumstances, such as performance or financial pressures.

Partnership Arrangements

As well as working closely with partners operationally to deliver its key objectives, the YOTs engage with partners at a strategic level to ensure that youth issues are represented within Nottinghamshire priorities. The Service Director responsible for the service sits on the Safer Nottinghamshire Board and is the 'Youth Issues' champion. The YOTs are represented by the Group Manager (Early Help) on the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children's Board, the Safer Nottinghamshire Board Performance Group and the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements Strategic Management Board.

In addition to standing representation, the Youth Offending Teams engage with local partners around key crime priorities as these develop and links to the local Community Safety Partnerships.

The YOTs are represented on the Prevent steering group and is identified as one of the referral routes for local agencies (such as schools, community safety teams) where they have concerns that a young person is displaying concerning behaviour, which could be indicative of early radicalisation. Where the behaviour is low level, and does not meet the thresholds for referral to PREVENT, the YOTs will work with the young person as part of a crime prevention referral. Work is currently underway to work more closely with the Tackling Emerging Threats to Children team to ensure that services, for these young people, are joined up at an early stage. The YOTs also provide representation on the city/county Channel Panel, providing advice and guidance regarding young people who are referred for intervention.

Since November 2015, the Troubled Families agenda has been absorbed into a mainstream service under the Family Service within Nottinghamshire County Council. The restructuring of the Youth Offending Teams in 2017 has resulted in closer alignment with the Family Service Teams in localities. Where the YOTs are already engaged with a young person who is eligible for support under the Troubled Families Criteria, the YOTs will remain the lead professional and co-ordinate an agreed plan of work and activities. Working in conjunction with the Family Service Teams gives access to increased resources for the individual child and ensures that appropriate support can also be accessed for the wider family.

Numbers of young people remanded to youth detention accommodation has again fallen and remains lower than the national average.

Nottinghamshire is keen to ensure that remand is used only for those young people where the level of risk to manage them in the community is too

great. During 2016/17 all remands were felt to be appropriate and unavoidable and, as a result of continued closer working relationships with Children's Social Care, there were no remands due to a lack of suitable accommodation.

As anticipated, the dissolution of the East Midlands resettlement consortium has had very little impact for Nottinghamshire young people. Nottinghamshire continues to offer an enhanced level of service to children and young people in custody and works with young people on their individual issues. Young people in custody are visited in person by their case manager and are also allocated an interventions worker, who visits them outside of formal reviews and works with them alongside the case manager. As young people in custody are some of the most vulnerable young people with whom we work Nottinghamshire continues to make all visits face to face, unless there are exceptional circumstances, and we have no current plans to make use of video link facilities.

In addition to the support of the case manager and interventions worker, where necessary young people are also able to access the support of an Education, Training and Employment (ETE), Substance Misuse and mental health workers. If accommodation is identified as a potential issue upon release, where the child is of statutory age, the YOTs will work closely with Children's Social Work to identify appropriate accommodation placements. If the child is approaching their 18th birthday they will be referred to the Homelessness team in the Family Service to identify appropriate supported accommodation.

In order to keep a focus on reducing the number of young people entering the criminal justice system, the YOTs continue to work with key partners such as the Police and Community Safety teams to identify appropriate young people for crime prevention activities. As indicated, YOTs are also developing closer working relationships with Children's Social Work and the Tackling Emerging Threats to Children's team to further increase crime prevention referrals. These agencies will be able to identify those at risk of criminal or anti-social behaviour at an early stage, given the intensity of contact that they have with a child or young person.

Meaningful full time engagement in education, training and employment remains one of the most significant protective factors to reduce re-offending for young people. The YOTs acknowledge this and ensure that all young people who are supervised on statutory court orders have equal and equitable

access to information, advice and guidance. Qualified specialist advisers (seconded from Futures) provide assessment, planning and supervision support if they are not in receipt of full time education, training or employment when they are sentenced through Her Majesty's Court Service.

As the offending population has decreased through the reduction in first time entrants, those young people who remain have increasingly complex relationships with schools, colleges and other education providers. This, along with the changing nature of education and training nationally, means that a different local response to the individual needs of young people in the Youth Justice System is required. As a result, the Education, Training and Employment (ETE) team within the YOTs now provides a much more bespoke response and brokerage service to Youth Justice Practitioners', young people and their families. The ETE team's policies and procedures are aligned with the wider Nottinghamshire County Council's Children Missing

Education policy and they take an active role in the Vulnerable Children's Education Commissioning group, providing multi agency solutions in relation to the education provision of vulnerable groups.

The ETE team recognises partnership working as integral to increasing opportunities for young people. By increasing communication, and providing extensive advice to the providers of education, employment and training on risk management and their duties under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act this has increased the opportunities that are available for Nottinghamshire young people who have offended.

The ETE also co-ordinates the initial request, implementation and review of Education Health Care Plan's (EHCP) for young people who are in custody. This ensures equality of access to appropriate educational provision for our Young People both in custody and upon release into the community.

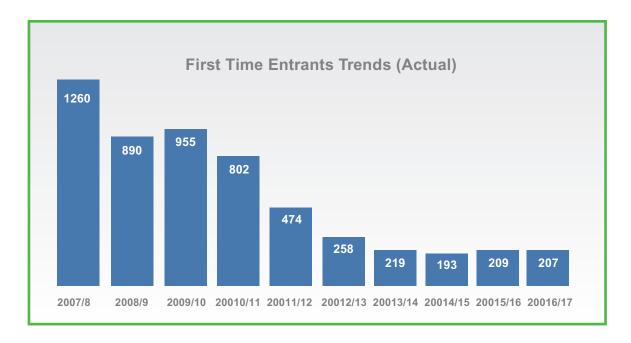


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Performance and Risks to Future Delivery

Performance: First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

During 2016/17 there were 205 actual FTEs or 292 per 100,000 10-17 population which remains of a similar figure to last year. This remains lower than the National average and final annual figures suggest that, in Nottinghamshire, there has been an 84.3% reduction in first time entrants over the last ten years.

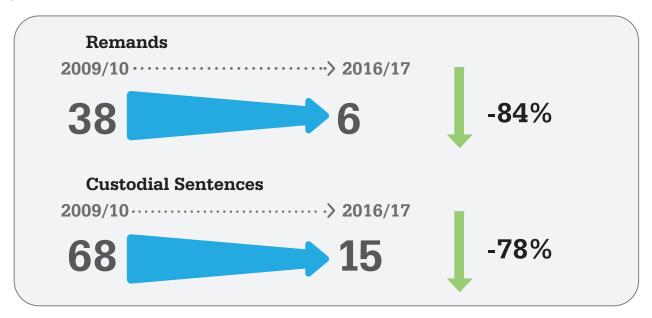


Re-offending Rates

From 2010/11 reoffending rates of young people within the youth justice system was seen to be steadily falling; however, during 2014/15 re offending rates increased significantly and, whilst confirmed full year data for 2016/17 is not yet available, projected figures indicate that the re-offending rates have continued to increase slightly to 37.9%, which is the national average. It appears that, those on Referral Orders remain the highest area of re offending; however, re offending from Young People subject to pre-court disposals is also high. YOT Managers have been asked to give further scrutiny to ensuring intervention delivery to these top groups is strong and maintain close working with the Police to encourage the referral of Young People, who have received lower level sanctions, to the YOTs for diversionary intervention.

Custodial remands / sentences

There have been significant reductions in the number of young people experiencing a custodial remand or a custodial sentence within Nottinghamshire since 2009/10 and this year has seen further reductions.



Performance Measure	Notts current or projected performance 2016/17	2016/17 target
Performance Measure	Notts current or projected performance 2016/17	2016/17 target
First Time Entrants: Number per 100,000 of 10-17 population	292	Lower than national average
Re-offending- Binary (reported 3 months in arrears)	37.9% (projected)	Lower than national average
Re-offending – Frequency re-offences per offender (reported 3 months in arrears)	1.33 (projected)	Lower than national average
Re-offending – Frequency re-offences per re-offender (reported 3 months in arrears)	6 young people	Same as or lower than 2015/16
Custodial Sentences Actual numbers (young people)	15 young people	Lower than national average

Risks to Performance and Service Delivery

The YOTs have seen a reduction in its income from both Local Authority and Youth Justice Board streams which resulted in a reduction of its case managers and a new "minimum operating" model being implemented from April 2017 to ensure that service functions continued. The Youth Justice Partnership Board were keen to protect the crime prevention element of its work and whilst it was envisaged that the thresholds for crime prevention activity would need to increase, to ensure sufficient resources for managing statutory cases, adjustments to crime prevention thresholds have not been necessary.

The Youth Service and other voluntary and discretionary services face ongoing reductions in funding streams. Whilst the Youth Service will continue to prioritise areas where there is most need, there remains a risk that there may be an impact on first time entrant figures. The outreach workers are striving to work with identifiable and targeted groups of young people that are most at risk of involvement in crime or anti-social behaviour, they will work young people in either a preventative or diversionary capacity. They will also work alongside colleagues in other areas of the local authority and beyond (e.g. in youth centres or schools) to assist in dealing with the issues that most affect young people.

In order to better manage an anticipated increase in requests for crime prevention work, the interventions team has restructured to allow for more targeted working areas and maximise use of the available resource. The Interventions team will be producing a menu of interventions for case managers to either pick from the menu or request specific interventions that meet the needs of their young person.

Many of the young people with whom YOTs work have some form of speech, language or communication need, but given the age of the young people, there is often a lack of specialist provision to address this. The YOTs aim to screen all young people on a statutory order using the communicate screening tool (which will complement the Asset Plus Speech, Language and Communication screening form) which assists in the identification of speech, language and other communication needs. For those young people of compulsory school age, the screening assessment is used to identify any issues, and informs the case managers on how to work with the young person to Page 74 of 83 best meet their individual needs; the screening results are also fed back to the school/education provider. If

issues are identified for young people post year 11, they will undertake communicate sessions as part of their order in order to improve their communication skills and their ability to engage with future employment and training opportunities.

Nottinghamshire continues to maintain one YOT nurse specialist for all three locality teams providing entrants, and re-entrants, to the service with a health needs assessment and a care plan for care and referral on to services to meet unmet health needs. Whilst there were negotiations to increase the resources put into this important area of work from the Clinical Commissioning Groups this has not yet been successful and given the numbers of young people managed by the YOTs, and the size of the County, it remains insufficient to sufficiently meet the needs of the service. For the next year, the YOT nurse specialist will continue to seek and provide opportunities for assessment of those young people who are extremely difficult to engage, and have refused health assessments from other services. There will also be a focus on working with Children's Social Work Services to provide opportunities for consultation, joined up working, supervision and training, to ensure a multi-agency approach is used to ensure the health needs of this vulnerable cohort are met and any risks/ vulnerabilities are adequately managed.

As of September 2017 Head 2 Head will no longer be commissioned to deliver specialist intervention addressing Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB), which the Youth Offending Teams has valued so highly. It is essential that going forward Young Peoples' needs are still being met, and they continue to receive a high standard of intervention to address their HSB. To ensure that this happens, and to mitigate for potential gaps in service provision, case managers will be trained in "Good Lives" Interventions to address HSB and in Addressing Complex Needs in Young People which will provide them with increased skills to deal with this cohort of young people.

Developing and Improving the Service

In June 2017 the YOTs were part of the Public Protection thematic inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation. Whilst the report has yet to be published, initial feedback to the service was that they had continued to improve since it underwent a short quality screening inspection in May 2015 and they were effectively managing young people's risk of harm in the community. The verbal feedback from inspectors was extremely positive with no significant recommendations for improvement.

The Asset Plus assessment tool has been in operation in Nottinghamshire since October 2015. Having previously been successful in achieving a consistent level of quality across the service, the YOTs have strived to maintain a high standard in relation to its quality of case management work. Revised service quality standards for Asset Plus, focussing on Assessment and Reports, Planning, Delivery and Review of Interventions, Initial Outcomes and Management Oversight have been agreed; whilst there was the risk that the quality and standard of work would dip, with the introduction of a new assessment framework, evidence suggests that this has not happened. During the past year 65 cases have been quality assured, which comprises of a file read and conversations with the responsible case holder. A framework mirroring that used by HMI Probation is utilised for each case with the grading options being Poor, Unsatisfactory, Satisfactory and Good. Overall, 9% were graded unsatisfactory, 29% satisfactory and 62% good, thus indicating that the YOT has been able to sustain working at a high level of quality.

In order to align the quality assurance process more closely with that operating in other areas of Children's Services, the YOTs are now under the auspices of the Quality Management Framework, managed by the Quality and Improvement Group and outcomes of Quality Assurance will be reported upon on a quarterly basis.

The coming year will see the YOTs working more closely with the Police, Crown Prosecution Service and Children's Social Work Services to agree and implement a local protocol regarding the behaviour management of children and young people in care homes to prevent the criminalisation, or further criminalisation, of looked after children for be Page 75 that would not lead to prosecution if they were within a family home.

The Junior Attendance Centre (JAC) has been fully operational since January 2016 with Courts and Case Managers making good use of the provision to address the needs of young people on statutory Orders. Given changes in the cohort of young people who are attending the JAC, ways of working and programme implementation is being reviewed to identify new models of best practice. It is anticipated that changes will include, better use of the available resource to meet the needs of young people who can't attend appointments during the week due to school/work commitments. Using the JAC for the delivery of tailored 1-1 sessions e.g. knife crime/ relationship work. In the future there may also be the opportunity to increase the links between the JAC and the delivery of young people's reparation.



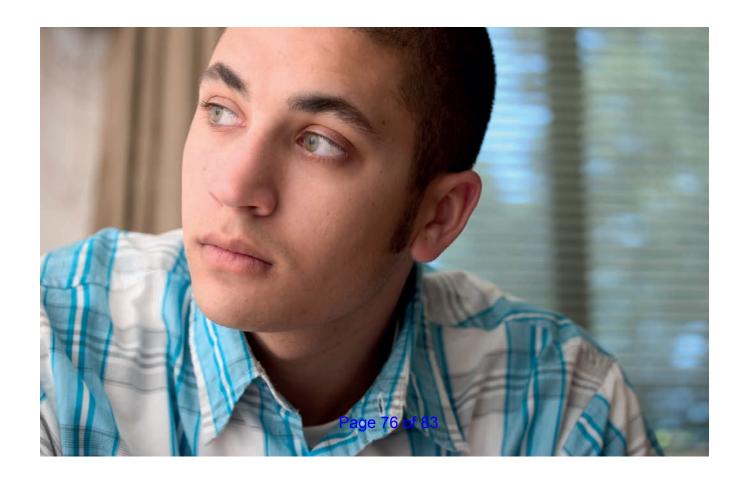
The service has continued its commitment to gathering young person and parent/carer feedback and is now working with Quality and Improvement Group to ensure that all feedback is captured and analysed on a quarterly basis. Managers continue to meet with the harder to reach young people, or those that are at risk of disengaging from the service, to encourage compliance and try to better understand how we can respond to their needs. Over the last 12 months the feedback from this cohort has been mainly positive and the majority of responses indicated that nothing more could have been done by the service which would have assisted them not to re - offend/breach their Order and nothing needed to change which is positive for the service. Viewpoint (the service user feedback tool used to

gather feedback by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation) will no longer be used and therefore sustaining practice which captures the views of those working with the service is essential.

The service recognised its large wealth of experience and skills within its workforce and during 2015 case managers were identified to take the lead in addressing a number areas of practice; identifying deficits in skills/resources within the service and creating an action plan as to how this would be addressed. There was various activity across the service, including training days, team briefings and the sharing of new and old resources; case managers' knowledge was enhanced and the number of resources was increased. As a result of this work, the YOTs have improved their service to boys, offering a group work and one to one programme to address healthy relationships, and the service now has a statement regarding the provision of services to young women; demonstrating commitment to providing interventions in a way that responds to

the identified needs of girls and young women. An area of work that is being developed further within the service is its work addressing domestic abuse and several members of staff will be trained to run a programme for 'young people that harm in their own intimate relationships'; it is envisaged that this will be running by 2018. The service no longer has identified theme leads but has an interventions Onespace on the key areas which is to be kept up to date by identified Champions within each Team.

Another area which has been under development is a programme aimed at young people who are displaying discriminatory attitudes / behaviour which is placing them at risk of entering the criminal justice system, 'Breaking the Cycle'. The YOTs have been working closely with the Holocaust Centre, City YOT, Police and Nottingham Trent University to produce a programme of work that can used with young people to address these issues. This programme is now available as an early intervention for young people and will be run in conjunction with the Holocaust centre.



Action Plan for 2017/18

Actions to be completed in 2017/18	Person responsible	Timescales
FTEs Review the strategy to better target crime prevention resources	YJ Management team	31/03/18
FTEs and Re-offending – Data analysis Analyse FTE data on a quarterly basis to understand profiles and hotspots to target resources; Analyse re-offending data to identify profiles, hot spots and trends;	YJ Management team	31/03/18
Service User evaluations Team Managers to seek young person feedback at compliance panels, following resentence for new offences, for ISS cases and for young people in custody Case managers to collect service user feedback as per the Asset Plus framework	YJ Management Team Case Managers	31/03/18
Review Service User feedback quarterly	YJ Management Team	31/03/18
Service Delivery - Remands Maintain close links with Children's Social Work Services to reduce instances of inappropriate remand Managers to review all remands locally to identify any inappropriate remands	YJ Management Team	31/03/18
Service Delivery – Asset Plus Embed Quality Assurance processes	YJ Management Team	31/03/18
Review all policies and procedures incorporating the Asset Plus framework and new service quality standards	YJ Development Manager	31/03/18
Service Delivery – SLCN All eligible young people receive a communicate assessment, those eligible receive further intervention or information passed to education providers	Interventions Team Manager	31/03/18
Service Delivery – Health YJ Service Manager to work with key partners to review the business case for increased YOT Nurse capacity	YJ Management Team	31/03/18
Service Delivery – LAC prosecutions CSC link manager to work with CSC, police and CPS to embed the LAC Prosecution policy for LAC including young people placed by OLA.	YJ Management team	31/03/18
Service Delivery – JACs Review best practice for the Junior Attendance Centre and embed best practice approaches	Intervention Team Manager	30/09/18
Service Delivery – Victim Services, Unpaid Work and Restorative Justice Complete revised specification and re-commission services	YJ Development Manager	31/03/18
Service delivery – Offenders as Victims Continue liaising with Remedi/H2H regarding young offenders who are also victims of offending to ensure they receive appropriate intervention. Work with the Office of the PCC to further analyse this area of work.	Case Managers Group and Service Manager	31/03/18
Service delivery – Addressing Harmful Sexนั้นใช้เก็ลหา้อผู้วิ Ensure the workforce are sufficiently equipped to work with young people who have displayed harmful sexual behaviour	YOT Team Manager (South)	31/03/18

Appendix 1

Terms of Reference Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Board

1. Purpose of the Board

The purpose of the Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Board is to provide strategic oversight and direction to the Youth Offending Teams and to coordinate the provision of youth justice services by the Youth Offending Teams and partner organisations.

2. Status of the Board

The Board is made up of senior representatives of partner organisations. It is the governance group for the Youth Offending Teams and acts on behalf of the County Council and partner organisations. The Board reports to the Safer Nottinghamshire Board.

3. Aim of the Board

To ensure that the Youth Justice Service:-

- prevent offending, thus reducing first time entrants to the Youth Offending Teams;
- reduce re-offending of those within the Youth Offending Teams;
- keeps numbers of children and young people remanded into custody or sentenced to custody to a minimum;
- · safeguard children and young people;
- protect the public from harm

4. Main Tasks of the Board:

Set the strategic direction of the Youth Justice Service via the agreement and review of strategic plans;

- Set the strategic direction of the Youth Offending Teams and wider youth justice services via the agreement and review of strategic plans;
- Ensure that the Youth Offending Teams and partner agencies meet their statutory obligations via the appropriate allocation of resources;
- Provide support and guidance to the designated YOT manager;
- Review the performance of the Youth Offending Teams via the quarterly performance report and commit resources to understand and remove any barriers to performance within their own agencies;
- Review the position of the Youth Offending Teams in line with national and local policy drivers;
- Review any operational issues/barriers impacting upon the delivery of youth justice

- services which could impact strategically or upon performance and identify solutions to overcome these;
- Determine and agree funds and resources necessary to provide effective Youth Offending Teams;
- Oversee reviews following Community
 Safeguarding and Public Protection Incidents
 or Serious Case Reviews and assist in the
 dissemination of learning or challenging of
 service provision/delivery;
- Ensure that the local youth justice system is safely managed, with particular reference to the management of risk and safeguarding of young people.
- Ensure that the services for young people who offend are an integral part of the services and provision for Nottinghamshire children and young people.

5. Membership of the Board

- Service Director, Youth, Families and Social Work (NCC) (Chair)
- Group Manager, Early Help (NCC) (YOT Head of Service)
- Service Manager (lead on YOTs) (NCC)
- Group Manager, Children's Social Work Services (NCC)
- Principal Educational Psychologist, (NCC)
- Superintendent Nottinghamshire Police
- Head of Nottinghamshire Probation Service -Nottinghamshire Probation
- Corporate Director District Council (Representing District Councils)
- Chief Executive Police and Crime Commissioner's office
- Senior Public Health and Commissioning Manager – Children's Integrated
- Service Manager (Homelessness Commissioning Manager) (NCC)

In order to be quorate, there must be representation from at least three statutory partners. A YJB representative is invited to each Board meeting.

6. Frequency of Meetings

The Board will meet quarterly, following the production of quarterly performance information. Additional meetings will be held as necessary.

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The terms of reference will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Appendix 2

Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Service Staffing Information

Female	Щ	59	_	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	_	0	0	2	2	71	0
əJsM	Σ	23	0	_	_	0	0	0	0	0	0	_	2	0	_	0	0	0	29	0
Volunteers	ட	23											က	<u></u>				2	29	
Volunteers	Σ	2																	5	
Student	Щ																		0	
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noitenteinimbA	Σ																		0	
Practitioners	ட	28	_					2					_				2		34	
Practitioners	Σ	15		_	_							<u></u>	2		_				21	
Managers Operational		8																	3	
Managers Operational	Σ	2																	2	
Manager Strategic	Щ	_																	<u></u>	
Manager Strategic	Σ	_																	_	
	Ethnicity	White British	White Irish	Other White	Black & Black Caribbean	<mark>स</mark> ुack & Black African	<mark>ve</mark> hite & Asian	<mark>g</mark> ner Mixed	Indian	Pakistan	Bangladeshi	Other Asian	Caribbean	African	Other Black	Chinese	Any other ethinic Group	Not known	Total	Welsh Speakers







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QUESTIONS NOT ASKED AT FULL COUNCIL ON 13TH JULY 2017 DUE TO THE TIME LIMIT FOR QUESTIONS AS STATED IN THE CONSTITUTION AND THEREFORE ANSWERED UNDER PROCEDURE RULE 39

Question to the Chairman of the Finance and Major Contract Management Committee from Councillor Helen-Ann Smith

Would the Chair of the Finance and Major Contracts Committee agree to do a review, of our current waste management contract with Veolia. I would like us to be able to look into whether an adaption to the contract could be made to allow District and Borough Councils to introduce food waste recycling?

Response from Councillor Richard Jackson, Chairman of the Finance and Major Contracts Management Committee

The Finance and Major Contract Committee would be happy to look at the Veolia contract to review its performance and establish what, if any, changes can be made during the life of the contract.

I am led to believe that the major obstacle to the collection of food waste is not the inability of Veolia to manage the food, but the costs incurred by the waste collection authorities in collecting it separately from the kerbside in the first place.

Before undertaking a review of the Veolia Contract I think it may be more worthwhile identifying which, if any, of the Borough and District Councils would wish to implement a kerbside food waste collection service. This would of course be a matter for the Place Committee which may wish to consider the matter before asking officers in the Waste Management service to discuss this matter with colleagues in the borough and district councils and report back in due course.

Question to the Chairman of the Communities and Place Committee from Councillor Kevin Greaves

Is the Chairman of the Communities and Place Committee aware of the £3 million set aside in the current council's budget for the development of the Ollerton roundabout and the £500,000 for a combined foot and cycle path that would run from the A60 Millhouse roundabout down the A57 and will he be honouring Nottinghamshire County Council's commitment to these projects?

Response from Councillor John Cottee, Chairman of the Communities and Place Committee

I shall break my answer into two parts and deal with Ollerton Roundabout first.

The 2017/18 County Council budget does not currently, and did not previously, have an allocation of £3m towards improvements to Ollerton roundabout.

This Council has been allocated £3.008m from the National Productivity Investment Fund in 2017/18; and this funding must be spent during 2017/18. One option for the use of this funding was the development and delivery of an improvement scheme at

Ollerton roundabout. However, after careful consideration, it was evident that the Ollerton scheme could not be delivered during 2017/18, so, in accordance with the stated priorities of the new administration, the NPIF money is now being allocated to road maintenance projects countywide.

Nevertheless, a bid to the County Council's Pre-development Fund has secured £30,000 towards an engineering and traffic capacity assessment, and review of the costs, for the safeguarded Ollerton scheme. The review is due to conclude in Autumn 2017 and is designed to develop the scheme to a stage where it is "shovel ready" for construction, in the event that there are future opportunities to submit bids for funding.

Secondly, I refer to the combined foot and cycle path and road maintenance project intended to run from the A60 Millhouse roundabout down the A57. A capital funding underspend of £800,000 for the whole project was carried forward from 2016/17 to 2017/18.

I reiterate this administration is very clear that its most immediate priority with regard to highways projects is road maintenance and repair. Therefore, we believe that this capital funding should be used to prioritise the road maintenance aspect of the A57 works, and other road maintenance works across the county.

I am aware that there have been some casualty incidents in this road area in recent years, but not to a level which justifies a bespoke road safety scheme to be prioritised at this location in comparison with other more justifiable sites in the county, particularly a foot and cycle path scheme as difficult and expensive to engineer as the one planned.

Officers from the highways team met with Councillor Greaves to discuss this matter yesterday (12th July), and I am happy to meet with him personally to examine any other ways we might proceed, such as attempting to seek funding from external sources.