



Civic Centre,
Arnot Hill Park,
Arnold,
Nottinghamshire,
NG5 6LU

Agenda

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: **Monday 5 October 2015**

Time: **5.30 pm**

Place: **Reception Room**

For any further information please contact:

Helen Elizabeth Lee

Elections and Members' Services Officer

0115 901 3894

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Membership

Chair Councillor Viv McCrossen

Vice-Chair Councillor Gary Gregory

Councillor Bruce Andrews
Councillor Sandra Barnes
Councillor Tammy Bisset
Councillor Kevin Doyle
Councillor Roxanne Ellis
Councillor Paul Feeney
Councillor Helen Greensmith
Councillor Marje Paling
Councillor Stephen Poole
Councillor Alex Scroggie
Councillor John Truscott

AGENDA

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MINUTES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday 20 July 2015

Councillor Viv McCrossen (Chair)

Councillor Gary Gregory
Councillor Bruce Andrews
Councillor Tammy Bisset
Councillor Kevin Doyle
Councillor Paul Feeney

Councillor Helen Greensmith
Councillor Stephen Poole
Councillor Alex Scroggie
Councillor Muriel Weisz

Apologies for absence: Councillor Sandra Barnes

Officers in Attendance: H Barrington, A Dubberley and H Lee

Guests in Attendance

79 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS.

80 TO APPROVE, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 APRIL 2015.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record.

81 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

None.

82 RECORDING OF MEETINGS

Helen Barrington, Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer and Alec Dubberley, Service Manager Elections and Members' Services attended the meeting to inform Members about the options available for the recording of Council committees following a request made at the previous committee.

Three viable options for the recording of meetings were outlined:

Option 1 – Recording of meetings for Council use. This would entail making audio recording of any meeting taking place in the Council Chamber using a simple recorder connected to the audio system already

installed. The cost of this could be managed from existing budgets with only officer time would be required to administer the recordings. Access to the recordings would have to be considered. This option would do nothing to comply with the spirit of the 2014 regulations by promoting transparency of meetings.

Option 2 – Video Webcasting of meetings. This would require the Council Chamber to be adapted to enable meetings to be fully recorded through the installation of a series of cameras. The audio and video could then be streamed live over the internet and integrated into the Council's committee management system to enable the public to watch meetings. The videos would be archived and available to watch online after the meeting. This would have the advantage of making Council proceedings accessible to a greater number of citizens and provide a definitive record of the meeting. It would be a very expensive option and there is currently no budget available to deliver this system.

Option 3 – Voice Webcasting meetings. As with Option 2 the Council could consider webcasting the audio content of the meeting. This would achieve the same outcome as video webcasting but only the audio recording would be broadcast. This would provide an affordable option as no equipment would need to be purchased as it can be streamed, through the existing microphone system via a tablet computer, to the internet. There are no set up costs and the council would have a 'pay as you go' arrangement. The cost is relatively modest and could be met from existing budgets requiring only minimal staff time. Recordings would be available on line for a year. Members listened to a recording made at an earlier meeting which demonstrated how the system could work.

Members were informed that none of these systems would stop members of the public recording or filming meetings but would act as an official transcript should any mischievous or malicious recordings be made.

Members again expressed concern about members of the public potentially making their own recordings and re editing the content. They were particularly concerned that this could happen at Planning and full Council meetings. After discussion Members agreed that Option 3 would be the most viable and would go some way to alleviating their concerns.

RESOLVED:

- I. A report be sent to the September Cabinet recommending that the Council implement a system of voice webcasting of meetings as laid out in Option 3.
- II. A progress report on the recommendation made to Cabinet be presented at the next Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Helen Barrington, Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer provided an explanation of how the performance management system is derived and how the use of traffic light symbols show progress for both action and performance indicators. Members were informed how to access the performance information through the web link.

An overview of Q4 2014/2015 performance which had been to Cabinet on the 25th June was presented:

- Progress against actions is particularly strong. 92% (56 out of 61) are either completed or on target with outcomes secured or on the way to being so, compared with 93% (49 out of 53) in 2013/14 and 83% in 2013/14.
- Progress against Performance Indicators overall has improved in the final quarter, with 57% (20 out of 35) with green status at year end compared with 44% at the end of Quarter 3.
- There has been strong improving performance in a number of areas, including the time taken to process housing benefit claims; creation of new apprenticeships; reduced sickness absence; cleanliness of streets and processing of major planning applications.
- Any improvement actions assessed as Red would be rolled forward into the 2015/16 Gedling Plan and/or relevant Service Plans and revised target agreed.
- This year has seen the launch of a range of significant projects, including the opening of the Gedling County Park; opening of the 'Men in Sheds' project; progression towards a dementia friendly organisation; successful relocation of the Arnold Job Centre to the Civic Centre; adoption of the Aligned Core Strategy and agreeing planning permission for the Gedling Access Road to open up the former Gedling Colliery site for development.

RESOLVED:

- I. To note the Quarter 4 performance information.

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SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2015/2016

Scrutiny reviews 2014/2015

Members were informed about the 2014/15 programme of scrutiny reviews and that the recommendations arising from the Reducing Unemployment in the Borough review were all accepted or partly accepted and a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations would be available at the February meeting. The report and recommendations arising from the Transport Links to, and within Gedling Borough was discussed and Members were advised that the recommendations would be submitted to Cabinet with relevant

recommendations forwarded to appropriate organisations. A response to these recommendations would be requested for the October meeting.

Scrutiny at committee

The continuation of a programme of scrutiny of specific areas within individual Portfolios during the Overview and Scrutiny committee was discussed and agreed. Members were informed that the committee also had a duty to scrutinise Crime and Disorder issues and this would be included in the work programme.

Scrutiny in working groups

Members discussed and prioritised areas for in depth review for inclusion in the scrutiny work programme 2015/2016

Smoking and Obesity

Members considered this to be one of the areas to prioritise for review. They would like a wide ranging review which includes a range of health organisations including service commissioners, the Health and Wellbeing Board, Public Health, Leisure, Healthwatch and Planning. They want to examine how life chances can be improved and how the Council is influencing the work of partners organisations. Members of the committee were invited to be part of this review and it was agreed that Cllr McCrossen would chair the review and Councillors Truscott, Doyle and Bisset would be included in the working group. There would also be an invitation to non-scrutiny members to take part in the review.

Highway maintenance including the maintenance of trees on the highway.

Members were concerned about the condition of the roads, the repair of potholes and trees encroaching on the highway causing problems for pedestrians and car users. They considered this an issue for inclusion in the work programme and asked for an initial discussion with relevant officers regarding what can be done to prevent the problems caused by trees. Cllr Feeney and Poole expressed an interest in sitting on the working group for this review.

The Bonington Theatre

Members considered that the Bonington Theatre may be an area for review. Prior to setting up a review they felt it would be useful to receive information to determine if this is something that they would like to examine in more detail. They specifically asked for information relating to use and attendance figures and requested that a written report be available for them to help them decide if they would like to include this in the work programme.

GP waiting times

Concern was raised by some Members about the availability and waiting time for GP appointments whilst other Members considered that this was

not a problem. They concluded that it would be beneficial to find out if this is an issue that affect the residents of Gedling and if some surgeries are able to provide appointments quickly why other are not able to. This was agreed as an area for review. Councillors Andrews, Gregory, Scroggie and Bisset and Greensmith have asked to be included in the working group.

Care of the elderly

Members were aware of the aging population in Gedling and wanted to know if the help and support currently available from both statutory and voluntary organisations is sufficient to meet the changing need of an aging population. They were particularly concerned about housing needs and considered that this is an area where Gedling Homes should be involved. Councillors Truscott and Scroggie would like to be included in the working group.

Members were asked for suggestions for other issues for inclusion in the work programme. Information on the report of the Planning Advisory Service was requested. As this report is still under discussion and will not be presented to Cabinet until September it was decided to invite the relevant officer to the October meeting to update Members on the progress of the report.

RESOLVED:

- I. Note the responses to the Unemployment in the Borough Scrutiny Review and to request a six month update on progress of the accepted recommendations.
- II. To agree the final report and recommendations of the Transport Links to, and within Gedling Borough and refer them to Cabinet, and other appropriate organisations requesting a response within 28 days.
- III. Approve a 2015/16 rolling programme of Portfolio Holder attendance be implemented.
- IV. To set up a review to examine Smoking and Obesity in the borough.
- V. Schedule into the work programme a review of highways maintenance including issues from overgrown trees, to start with a report to committee to determine how best to focus the review.
- VI. Request a written report regarding the use of the Bonington Theatre.
- VII. Include in the work programme a review into the care of the elderly in the borough.
- VIII. Receive information regarding the Planning Advisory Report at the October meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

85 ANY OTHER ITEM WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT.

None.

The meeting finished at 7.10 am

Signed by Chair:

Date:



Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Subject: Quarter 1 Performance

Date: 5 October 2015

Author: Members' Services Officer

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To receive an overview of Quarter 1 2015/16 Council performance.

2. COUNCIL PLAN 2014/15: OVERVIEW OF QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE

Helen Barrington, Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer will provide an Overview of Quarter 1 2015/16 performance and take questions from Members.

Members have the opportunity to review the quarterly Performance Digest which is available under "**Our priorities, plans and performance/performance**" on the Gedling website, a link to this has been previously forwarded to Members. A paper copy is also available in the Members' room.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- consider, ask questions and identify any indicators that require additional information
- note the Quarter 1 performance information.

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Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Subject: Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16

Date: 5 October 2015

Author: Elections and Members' Services Officer

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To discuss the 2015/2016 scrutiny work programme.

2. SCRUTINY REVIEWS 2014/2015

- **Transport Links to, and within Gedling Borough**

The final report and recommendations arising from this review were approved by the 20th July Overview and Scrutiny Committee and referred to Cabinet on the 30th July along with a request for a response from the relevant Portfolio Holder. The Portfolio Holders response and comments from Notts. County Council, Nottingham City Transport and Trentbarton are attached at **Appendix 1**.

3. 2015/2016 WORK PROGRAMME

I. Scrutiny at committee

- **Programme of Portfolio Holder holding to account**

At the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in July 20th 2015 Members agreed to continue with a programme of attendance by Portfolio Holders and relevant Corporate Directors at committee. Areas of performance within each Portfolio for examination will be identified and questions for Portfolio Holders submitted in advance of each meeting, however 'ad hoc' questions may be put forward at the meeting itself. Non-executive

members will also be invited to submit questions for the Portfolio Holder. The programme for 2015/16 is below.

The two remaining Portfolio Holders Councillor Peter Barnes, Environment and Councillor Kathryn Fox Community Development have not been included in the current programme. Members may want to consider if they would like to include them in the programme and have two Portfolio Holders attend a meeting or role their attendance forward into the 2016/17 programme.

The programme of Portfolio Holder attendance will commence at the 7 December meeting when David Ellis, Portfolio Holder for Public Protection, will attend. Areas which fall within this Portfolio include:

- i. Crime Reduction and Community Safety
- ii. Emergency Planning
- iii. Safeguarding
- iv. Environmental Health

Members are asked to consider which service areas they would like to examine in this Portfolio. If they have any specific issues they would like Councillor Ellis to address are requested to submit questions in advance of the meeting.

2015/16		
PROGRAMME OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER ATTENDANCE		
Date of Committee	Portfolio Holder	Responsibilities
Monday 7 December	Councillor David Ellis Corporate Director Dave Wakelin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime Reduction and Community Safety • Emergency Planning • Safeguarding • Environmental Health
Monday 22 February	Councillor J Clarke and Councillor Michael Payne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall Strategy and delivery of Council priorities and objectives • Oversight of all Cabinet responsibilities • Building and developing partnerships • Oversight of collaboration agreements • Budget strategy • Asset Management

	Corporate Directors: Mark Kimberley Stephen Bray	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications, marketing and promotion • Media relations • Customer services
Monday 25 April	<p>Councillor Henry Wheeler</p> <p>Corporate Directors: Stephen Bray Mark Kimberley David Wakelin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leisure Centres and Sport development • Health promotion and development • Bonington Theatre • Homelessness and housing needs • Housing and Council Tax benefits • Liaison with Public Health and Clinical Commissioning Group
Monday 16 May	<p>Councillor Jenny Hollingsworth</p> <p>Corporate Directors: Stephen Bray</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning policy • Transportation • Town Centre management and development • Onward investment • Housing Development • Employment and skills

- **The Bonington Theatre**

At the July meeting Members discussed possible areas for review. The Bonington Theatre was an item they considered may be an issue for future examination. Prior to setting up a review group it was agreed to request some basic scene setting information to determine if this was something they would like to examine in further detail. Specifically information was requested regarding:

- how well the facility it is used
- the attendance figures
- if it breakeven/makes a profit
- if we make the best use of the facility
- what new initiatives are being taken to increase use

The report attached at **Appendix 2** provides this basic information to help Members to determine if this is an issue they would like to examine further either during the full committee or by convening a working group.

- **Recording of Meetings**

At the 20th July Overview and Scrutiny Committee Helen Barrington, Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer and Alec Dubberley, Service Manager Elections and Members' Services informed members about the options available for the recording of Council committee meetings in response to a request made at a previous Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Members were concerned about the potential for members of the public to record meetings and re-edit mischievously or maliciously. Members recommended that a system of voice webcasting is introduced and that a report proposing this be submitted to Cabinet for discussion.

A report detailing the committee's recommendation went to Cabinet on 24th September and a verbal update on the discussion and decision will be made to the Committee.

- **Information requested by Members**

At the last meeting of the committee Members requested information relating to the Planning Advisory report. The Planning Improvement Plan and review report has yet to be presented to the Planning Committee, after which information will be made available to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at which time a decision can be taken if this is an issue that the Committee would like to examine in more detail.

II. Scrutiny in working groups

- **Obesity and Smoking**

Working Group members: Councillors McCrossen (Chair), Truscott, Bisset, Doyle, Walker and Hewson.

The committee has decided to establish a working group to carry out a scrutiny review which would focus Obesity and Smoking in the Borough which will consider what we as an authority can do to strengthen partnership working, improve coordination of services and what the authority, principally leisure and planning can do to influence and support partnership work. How can we support changes in behaviour and promote healthy lifestyles.

The first meeting of this working group took place on the 28th September when Anne Pridgeon, Senior Public Health Manager, Public Health - Nottinghamshire County presented data on the prevalence of and risk factors associated with excess weight. A draft scoping document was also

developed which will be available at the next Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- A copy of the Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/2016 is attached at **Appendix 3.**

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- consider and comment on the responses to the Transport Links, to and within the borough review recommendations and schedule a further update if required
- agree the rolling programme of Portfolio Holder attendance and determine areas they would like to examine in the Public Protection Portfolio
- consider and comment on the information provided regarding the Bonington Theatre and schedule further consideration of this if required
- consider and comment on the Cabinet response to the recommendation to record committee meetings
- note the information regarding the Planning Improvement Plan.
- agree the scrutiny work programme.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Transport Links to, and within Gedling Borough

Appendix 2: Bonington Theatre Report

Appendix 3: Scrutiny Work Programme

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Responses to Scrutiny Review Recommendations

Report to Overview Committee

Title of the review: Transport links to, and within Gedling Borough

Date review completed: April 2015

Date presented to Cabinet: 30th July 2015

Portfolio Holder: Jenny Hollingsworth

Chair of the review group: Councillor L Pearson

Officer supporting the review: Helen Lee

Response due to the Overview committee (28 days): 5 October 2015

Guidance

The final report and recommendations from the above review have been considered by Cabinet and a written response to the recommendations from the responsible Cabinet Member to the Overview Committee is required within twenty- eight days of the date the review was presented to Cabinet.

If you need any further assistance in completing this response please contact the officer who supported the review.

Recommendation 1

Gedling Borough Council alongside partner organisations continues to actively pursue the building of a Fourth Trent crossing.

Part 1 – to be completed after the report has been presented to Cabinet

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☒ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

Please give reason below:

Supported. The Council is currently working with partners to procure a second stage feasibility study which will look in more detail at location; costs and benefits of the crossing and how it might be funded. Nottinghamshire County Council is procuring the study which will be jointly funded by the County Council, Nottingham City Council and Rushcliffe and Gedling Borough Councils. Support is also being sought through the Joint Planning and Advisory Board (JPAB). It is expected that study will report by the end of 2015 and its findings will inform next steps.

Recommendation 2

Investigate the feasibility of introducing a park and ride facility in the north of the borough.

Part 1 – to be completed after the report has been presented to Cabinet

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☐ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐
Please give reason below:

Extract from the Nottinghamshire Integrated Passenger Transport Strategy 2015, the strategy will drive forward change and improvements to local transport services. This report was forwarded to the committee by **Notts. County Council**

High quality park and ride facilities associated with efficient public transport services have proven successful in attracting car users to use public transport for at least part of their journey. They improve accessibility to urban centres and contribute to reducing traffic on congested radial routes. Where appropriate, where there is local support and funding can be found, large park and ride sites will therefore be promoted, supported by prioritised passenger transport services and infrastructure. Bus priority, parking enforcement and traffic management will also be provided to compliment such schemes.

The County Council will consider the provision of park and ride sites by;

- Identifying corridors with journey time delays*
- Identifying appropriate locations for park and ride facilities on key corridors that will address identified journey time delay*
- Seeking to use the opportunity to developments to expand the availability of park and ride facilities*
- Monitoring the effectiveness of park and ride schemes with a view to further provision.*

Response received from the Commercial Manager, **Nottingham City Transport**
This is outside the scope of NCT. A park and ride site would need to be identified by the Local Authority and planning permission granted. At that stage NCT would be willing to consider whether the bus service could be provided commercially. If not, the provision of the service would need to be secured by Notts. County Council through the tendering process.

Recommendation 3

The potential for improved bus services linking the Arnold and Mapperley communities be investigated.

Part 1 – to be completed after the report has been presented to Cabinet

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☐ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept X

Please give reason below:

Notts. County Council response:

Arnold Town Centre is linked to the Mapperley shopping area through the NCT Service 25. The County Council has no plans to provide any additional services because there is no funding available.

Response received from the Commercial Manager, **Nottingham City Transport**
NCT provides service 25, linking Arnold town centre to Mapperley shops via Nottingham Road and Breck Hill Road. This service operates to a daytime frequency of every 20 minutes. In addition NCT provides service 46 linking Arnold town centre to Mapperley shops via Gedling Road and Plains Road on a basic hourly frequency. These services are provided commercially and NCT is of the view that there is insufficient demand to justify either greater frequency on services 25 and 46 or further routes providing a similar link.

Recommendation 4

Investigate the feasibility of Nottingham City Transport extending the boundary for the use of Kangaroo tickets.

Part 1 – to be completed after the report has been presented to Cabinet

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted X Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

Please give reason below:

Notts. County Council response:

The City Council manages and operates the Kangaroo scheme in partnership with the County Council and bus operators. The consortium is working on the possible introduction of a single integrated smartcard ticket within the kangaroo area. Within the discussions our aim is to try and extend the availability of the integrated ticket across the county if the initial scheme in the kangaroo area is successful.

Response received from the Commercial Manager, **Nottingham City Transport**
The Kangaroo card is administered by a joint board comprising of Nottingham City Council and the various bus companies. There is no appetite from some bus operators to extend the Kangaroo boundary beyond its' current area. NCT does offer 'easyrider plus' for our customers in Lambley, Woodborough and Calverton, giving access to the NCT City area bus network as well as Southwell and as far south as

Loughborough on service 1.

Response received from the Commercial Manager, **Trentbarton**

The kangaroo is not set by Nottingham City Transport but by Nottingham City Council with bus operators forming part of an operating group represented by Nottinghamshire County Council and as such all decisions on boundaries and fares etc. go through what is known as KOG (Kangaroo operators group)

Recommendation 5

Investigate the feasibility of increasing the age limit for concessionary fares to 19.

Part 1 – to be completed after the report has been presented to Cabinet

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☐ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept X

Please give reason below:

Notts. County Council response:

Bus operators provide discounted fares for young people under 16. In addition both NCT and Trent Barton have introduced significantly discounted termly season tickets for students 16 – 18. Full details can be found on the operators web-sites and applications should be made directly to the operators.

The age limit for statutory concessionary fare schemes is embedded in legislation and would require the Government to introduce changes

Response received from the Commercial Manager, **Nottingham City Transport**

NCT participates in the concessionary fares scheme for Nottinghamshire. Concessionary fares apply to OAP's and registered disabled people, and free concessionary journeys are paid by the local authority. Bus operators receive a sum of money equivalent to the average fare minus a 'generation factor.'

Reduced children's fares are offered by NCT as a fares initiative at its' own expense. These fares are available to all school children in full-time education. In addition we offer an academic year pass for just £219.00 which offers unlimited city bus travel on all days including weekends and school holidays.

Recommendation 6

Consider the use of a ticketing system that enabled a ticket for a specified number of journeys to be made available.

Part 1 – to be completed after the report has been presented to Cabinet

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☐ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

Please give reason below:

Notts. County Council response:

Both NCT and Trent Barton offer tickets enabling specified a number of trips.

Response received from the Commercial Manager, **Nottingham City Transport**
NCT offers two types of pre-paid travel card. 'Easyrider everyday' is valid for a set period of time e.g., one week, two weeks, one month and is valid for consecutive days travel. 'Easyrider Anyday' is a card that is topped up with a number of days of travel in a carnet style. A day's value is only deducted on each day that you travel. For example ten days travel is valid for ten non-consecutive days.

Recommendation 7

A marketing campaign, incorporating ideas from young people, is undertaken to target and encourage more use of bus services by young people.

Part 1 – to be completed after the report has been presented to Cabinet

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☐ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

Please give reason below:

Both Nottingham City Transport and Trentbarton provide good quality passenger transport information to encourage more people to use passenger transport by improving people's ability to plan journeys and travel with confidence. Passengers are provided with information through a variety of media including printed information such as timetables, area guides, roadside information, on board information and publicity. Electronic information such as journey planners, enquiry terminals, GPS informed real time information and e marketing in addition to face to face and telephone information for more complex enquiries. Both Nottingham City Transport and Trentbarton have marketing campaigns targeted at young people, examples attached at the end of this document..

Response received from the Commercial Manager, **Nottingham City Transport**
NCT offers various marketing campaigns and would be happy to work with our younger customers in this respect.

Recommendation 8

Support the continuation of the TravelRight scheme.

Part 1 – to be completed after the report has been presented to Cabinet

Response from the Cabinet Member to Overview

Date

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☐ Partly Accepted ☒ Do not accept ☐

Please give reason below:

The TravelRight programme was a fixed term externally funded initiative, funding for which expired in March 2015. Attempts have been made to extend the project through applications for further external funding but these have to date been unsuccessful. The Council is likely to support any funding bids put forward but financial support, if required, should come from the County Council as the transport authority.

Recommendation 9

Transport officers from both the Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council should be involved at an early stage in planning applications to ensure that opportunities for Section 106/CIL contributions are identified.

Part 1 – to be completed after the report has been presented to Cabinet

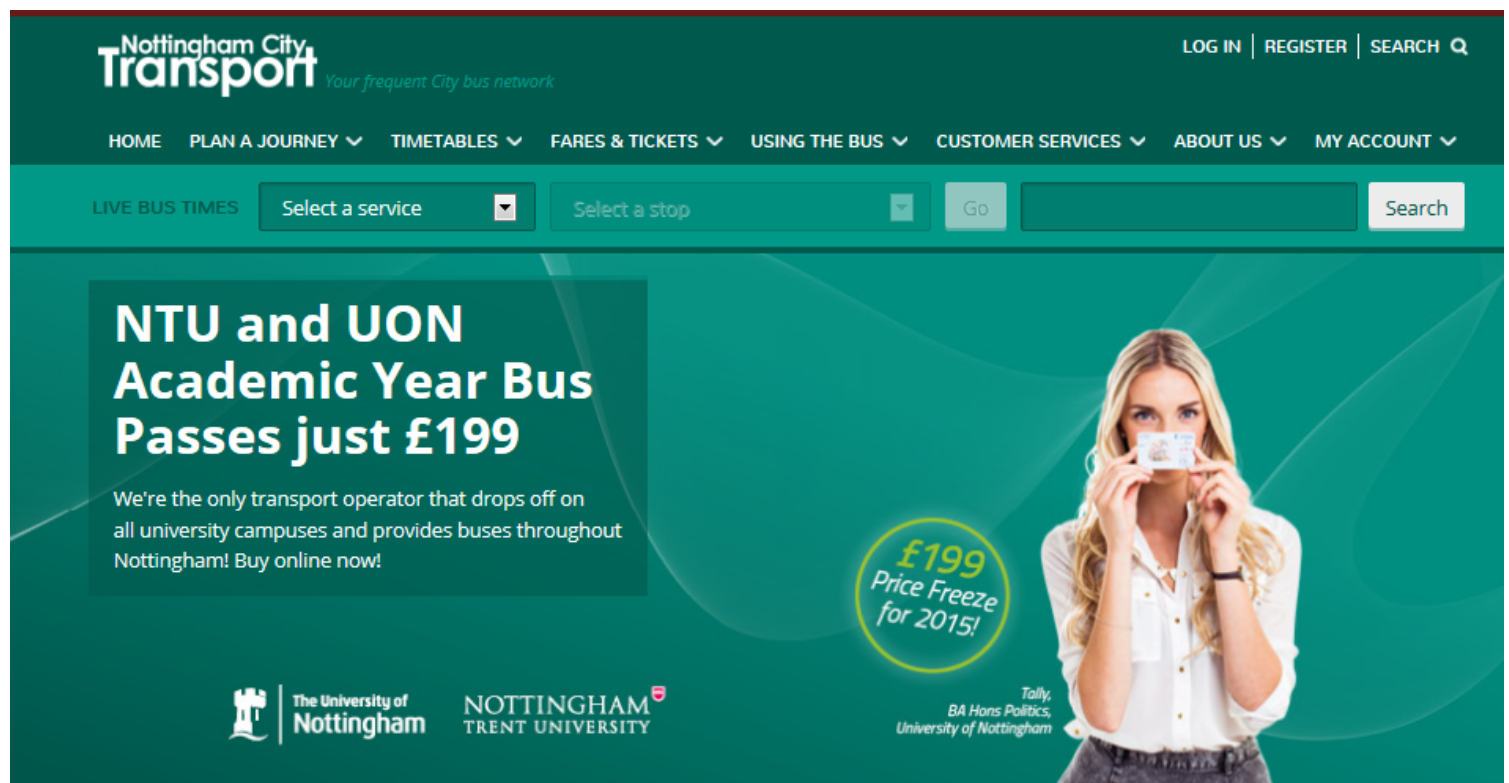
Response from the Cabinet Member to Overview

Date

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☒ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

Please give reason below:

This is already an established feature in the progression of planning applications. County officers also engage fully in the identification of potential sites through the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) process and engage more formally in consultation at each stage of the Local Plan's development. County transport officers are also fully engaged in discussions on larger sites – they are, for example, active members of the Steering Group currently refreshing the Top Wighay Farm Development Brief. Engagement with City officers happens on and as and when required basis, in particular in relation to issues of cross-boundary significance such as the potential Fourth Trent Crossing.



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Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Subject: Bonington Theatre

Date: 5 October 2015

Author: Service Manager, Leisure

1. Purpose of Report

To provide basic information regarding the Bonington Theatre to enable Members to determine if they would like to examine this issue in greater detail.

2. Information

How well it is used?

What is the Bonington Theatre?

The Bonington Theatre is part of Arnold Leisure Centre and is a fully functional small scale theatre with an auditorium, stage and backstage, dressing rooms and front of house services (bar and box office) The Theatre compliments existing provision in Nottingham, providing a well-equipped, fit for purpose, adaptable theatre space for small scale amateur and professional presentation.

The theatre opened as part of Arnold Leisure Centre in 1982. The building was refurbished in 2001 and in 2013, the Council invested in a number of capital upgrades and in the appointment of a Theatre Manager.

The Bonington Theatre, which has 178 seats, can be hired along with its well-appointed bar (accommodating up to 60 people).

The theatre currently promotes over 150 shows each year including over 30 productions by local community groups plus a comprehensive film programme.

The Theatre Manager is the only full-time member of staff at the theatre. Qualified self-employed technicians are engaged on a show-by-show basis; part time bar staff are also similarly employed. Other support is provided by leisure centre staff eg administrative support, box office services.

The theatre presents a varied programme of high quality arts events, both amateur and professional, for all ages, bringing the best live music and theatre to your doorstep.

The Theatre relies on a number of regular users.

1. Two “resident” amateur theatre companies – the Bonington Players and Prospect Players, each produce three productions a year (booking three full weeks, performing 4 nights each week) and continue to command reasonable audiences
2. Jazzsteps promoted by East Midlands Jazz are the most regular user who present an average of 22 professional jazz concerts on Thursdays from August to June. Attendances vary between 50 and 100.
3. Nottingham Organ Society host professional organists in the Theatre on the first Monday of every month (except bank holidays) as well as regular supplementary, informal concerts in the bar. Audiences tend to average about 100 per show.
4. New Youth Theatre present three productions a year, three full weeks with 8 or 9 shows each week, at 90% capacity.
5. The Theatre is regularly used by a number of theatre and dance schools and youth groups including Flying High, Big Box, Inspire Academy, Tom Gribby Dance etc.

The attendance figures

Types of events; Where do people come from? What we're aiming for

	2016/17	2015/16	2015/16	2015/16	2014/15	2013/14	2012/13	2011/12	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09
	Target	5 mths to 31 Aug	5 mths Target	Full Year Target	Actual	7 mths Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
Theatre Events											
Theatre Hires	136	49	63	130	113	64					
Theatre shows	60	7	8	40	18	7					
Films	105	19	15	71	28	5					
Theatre Events	301	75	86	241	159	76	0	135	122	115	129
Non theatrical: Main Hall & Bar											
Meetings, training etc	12	15	5	12	46	11					
Library Activities	105	110	85	140	120	0					
Non Theatrical Use	117	125	90	152	166	11		107	95	110	107
Total Number Of Events	418	200	176	393	325	87	0	242	217	225	236

Attendances											
Theatre											
Theatre Hires	13465	5093	5100	12870	11364	6489					
Theatre shows	5100	368	520	2600	861	357					
Films	8400	483	600	4030	868	73					
Theatre Audiences	26965	5944	6220	19500	13093	6919	19940	8688	7946	8877	9079
Non theatrical: Main Hall & Bar											
Meetings, training etc	1500	294	600	1500	1345	270					
Library Activities	2625	2528	2040	3500	2305						
Non Theatrical Use	4125	2822	2640	5000	3650						
Attendees							5946				
Total Attendances	31090	8766	8860	24500	16743	6919	25886	8688	7946	8877	9079
Leisure Classes								354	487	487	487

Closed due to refurbishment

Figures under investigation

Are we making the best use of the facility

The corporate objective

Gedling Borough Council Plan 2015-16

People

Develop the Bonington Theatre as a flagship arts venue that the local community value and use regularly.

To meet this strategic priority we will:

- Implement online booking facilities via a new, independent website for the theatre.
- Continue to develop the professional theatre and film programme.
- Introduce live broadcasts (alternative content) into the programme, to help develop the theatre audience.
- Work with the Communications Team within GBC to develop an effective mix of marketing initiatives promoting the theatre and its activities.
- Continue to offer a first class service alongside the facilities of the theatre, at a competitive, value-for-money rate, to local arts groups and promoters.
- Establish a team of volunteers to work as stewards at the theatre and act as ambassadors in the community.
- Consult regularly with stakeholders to gain support in delivering the Vision and addressing issues together.

How do we measure “flagship” effect

The theatre already has strong community links with its regular bookings from hirers like Bonington Players and New Youth Theatre. However there is no doubt that its profile is very limited – too many people are still saying that they never knew there was theatre in Arnold! Therefore raising and measuring that profile is the fundamental aim over the next few years.

Clearly the theatre exists for the people of Gedling Borough and attracting their custom is key. The theatre’s visibility, its programme, its accessibility and the quality of its services are all factors in developing audiences.

The professional programme needs to include a wide range of well known, well loved, new and innovative work – including award winners. It needs to attract positive reactions from audiences and critics alike – and, of course, press coverage that reflects the support provided by Gedling Borough Council.

The community needs to be offered the right quantity of events with a good balance of artforms, at the right price. We should be attracting an ever-increasing number of first time bookers, reaching target groups that may not have been to the theatre before, by being accessible on every level.

The Bonington Theatre brand needs to be established quickly informing people about our quality, expectations and value for money. We need to present a coherent

identity – smiling staff, welcoming atmosphere, clean toilets. We also need to remember that selling is about helping people to buy. We need to make it easy for customers to spend their money – in person at the box office, by phone, by fax, by email, online.

Space utilisation is key and the demands on the theatrical space are ever increasing. Not only does the theatre need to be used as much as possible, it must also have the ability to be able to quickly change from one type of use to another. The theatre is designed to be flexible and combines retractable (bleacher) seating (which takes about 15 minutes to remove or install) with a flat floor space.

The theatre is regularly used for non-theatrical purposes during the daytime: there are three yoga classes, three line dancing classes as well as a Zumba class, every week.

What new initiatives are being taken to increase use?

The Refurbishment – what was done, what was not done

As part of the refurbishment of the leisure centre, the theatre benefitted from having new flooring, an electrical rewiring, new ceiling and lighting equipment and new seating.

The refurbishment resulted in the theatre being closed for over six months during 2013/14 and a temporary entrance was required for a further 8 months – having a significant impact on activity and audiences.

There was no investment in cinema, sound or stage equipment although there was an expectation that these facilities would be upgraded and in keeping with the new look venue.

Since then, we have invested in the sound equipment by installing an in-house PA system and a cinema screen

The Role of the Theatre Manager

The Theatre Manager came into post in September 2013, just as the theatre reopened. His role is to programme a range of professional events to complement existing activities and to develop audiences and activities.

Although he has extensive programming, marketing and management expertise, the day-to-day activities of the theatre take up a significant proportion of his time.

Apprenticeship/intern support is being sought as well as looking to develop the support of volunteers.

The Computerised Box Office System

A new leisure centre computer system was installed in July 2014. ClarityLive also included a theatre module which has replaced the previous system, Theatreflex, offering state of the art ticketing facilities.

Appropriate ticketing and attendance data is currently inadequate for marketing and analysis purposes, consequently much of the programme and audience data has to be produced by the Theatre Manager from hard copy documentation.

Discussions are taking place to improve on this situation. We are aiming to obtain detailed post code analysis of customers, targeted mailing lists based on booking histories and improved email marketing resources.

Cinema and Live Broadcasting

The Bonington Theatre includes cinema screenings in its current offer, having increased the number of screenings from 10 per annum in recent years to 30 for 2014/15.

Following a capital bid a year ago, approval was given to install a digital cinema at the start of the year. The theatre will soon be fitted with a comprehensive audio visual (AV) system with a high power projector, a 7 metre screen and a Dolby sound system.

The live events at the theatre take priority and, in the main, prevent the development of a 3 or 4 day a week film programme – which would usually constitute a part-time cinema.

However, there is scope to develop the film programme further – currently offering one screening per week (or less), by extending this to fill every “empty theatre” night, to include school holidays and include alternative content (live broadcasts) to complement the live programme.

The film programme and alternative content will significantly increase the utilisation of the theatre space, providing an important financial contribution and considerable support towards the development of audiences for live shows.

Marketing Initiatives

The Brochure

The theatre has traditionally produced a full colour brochure to help promote its events – a “free” service for hirers of the venue ostensibly included in the hire fee.

The brochure was only ever distributed to libraries, other venues and tourist information centres up until September 2014 when it was posted out to 2,700 patrons identified from the old Theatreflex database.

This was repeated in January 2015. In August 2015 the brochure was mailed out to a new selection from the ClarityLive database, just under 1,000 patrons.

Mailing out the brochure to active bookers is the most effective way to promote ticket sales and the impact was acknowledged by all hirers of the theatre.

New Website and Online Booking Facility

The Marketing Plan, developed during the Summer of 2014, is now in need of updating to reflect the availability of the new website, online booking and the new emarketing scheme, govdelivery.co.uk, being used by the Communications team.

Youth Theatre

Starting on 8th September, a new partnership began between Flying High Youth Theatre, Nottingham County Council Youth Arts and the Bonington Theatre.

With plans to develop this further, the new weekly class – from 5pm to 9pm - will take place every Tuesday in the theatre. Twenty three students attended on Tuesday 15th September.

Initial costs (ie theatre rental) will be covered by small grants from two Councillors. We are currently looking to expand this from April 2016, with future costs being covered by an NCC Youth Arts grant.

Signage

The new entrance and layout of the reception have required new signage and improvements to attract custom.

The new illuminated signs on the three sides of the building have been complemented by the canopy at the front. Plans are now being considered to illuminate the canopy and install a “Swimming Pool & Theatre” sign on the front.

1982 – 2000 (approx)



2000 - 2014



2014 to date



Signs inside the building are also being installed to highlight the new Box Office, the way to the theatre and bar as well as back stage.

A new poster display mechanism is to be installed in two of the front windows specifically for theatre events.

Any other areas that might be relevant/interesting?

The Building

Some issues were not adequately addressed during the refurbishment for various reasons – cost being a significant factor.

Roof replacement

Being an expansive, flat roof with a finite life, it is clear that expenditure to replace it will be high. This is currently being considered. (The roof itself offers an opportunity to install solar panels, similar to those installed on the new library roof next door.)

Air conditioning

The leisure centre has air handling plant which includes the theatre. We received numerous complaints during the brief hot spell in the Summer highlighting the fact that it is inadequate and doesn't chill the air sufficiently for the comfort of patrons. Again, replacing the existing equipment would be costly.

Possible Future Developments On Stage

Motorised Flying

A motorised flying system would allow for lighting equipment, curtains and scenery to be safely raised and lowered as required, without the need for hemp lines that have to manually hauled and tied.

In modern theatres, the flying system is controlled from a computerised touch screen control system which not only allows cues to be programmed as part of the show, but also features overload and slack load detection, so if a bar should snag, it will automatically stop.

LED Stage Lighting

As the space is often used for long periods of time LED stage lighting would be ideal. This uses less electricity, generates less heat, doesn't need expensive lamp replacement and doesn't require colour filters to be inserted to project a different coloured light, colour is selected from the lighting console. The Bonington Theatre currently has six of these lamps.

Motorised Masking

Motorised masking for the cinema screen – as in most cinemas – would significantly improve the quality of presentation

What a Successful Cinema Could Mean

The potential exists to become an out-of-town Broadway Cinema, with a wide ranging programme films and live broadcasts.

At this juncture, we would need to commit to presenting about twenty evenings up to a year in advance to take advantage of being able to broadcast live premieres (first nights). This may have an impact on the diaries of the amateur companies that hire the theatre.

Furthermore, the current film programme includes single night screenings. This will immediately expand to become two or three nights. However, the prospect of being able to screen the new Bond film over Christmas is a real possibility. This could put pressure on all the other activities that take place in the theatre and will require careful programming.

Does it break even?

Should it? Does it- No! Will it? – highly unlikely!

If not why not? What would need to change to make it profitable?

A question for Overview and Scrutiny!

Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme 2015/16

Date	Item	Performance Reports	Current Reviews 2015/6	Pending Reviews 2015/16	Reviews 2014/2015
20 th July 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recording of meetings 	Quarter 4 data. Identify areas within each portfolio for consideration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smoking and Obesity Commenced 28.09 15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highways GP waiting times Care of the elderly 	Final Report and Recommendations Transport in the Borough review. Response Reducing Unemployment
5 October 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime and Disorder Information PCSOs Recording of meetings update Planning Advisory report Bonington Theatre Select issues for P H attendance on 7 December 	Quarter 1 data			Cabinet response to Transport in the Borough
7 December 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Portfolio Holding to account – Cllr D Ellis. Highways information 	Quarter 2 data			6 month response to Homelessness and Hardship
22 February 2016	Portfolio Holding to account Councillor J Clarke & Cllr M Payne	Quarter 3 data			6 month response to Reducing unemployment in the Borough
25 April 2016	Portfolio Holding to account Cllr H Wheeler				6 month response to Transport in the Borough
16 May 2016	Portfolio Holding to account Cllr Jenny Hollingsworth				



Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Subject: Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships.

Date: 5 October 2015

Author: Members' Services Officer

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To inform Members about the requirement of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to scrutinise the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

2. BACKGROUND

Under the Police and Justice Act 2006, local authorities are required to have a Crime and Disorder Committee to scrutinise how the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP), is tackling crime and disorder for the benefit of the local community; looking at the work of the partnership as a whole rather than on the work of individual organisations represented on the partnership. These requirements were enacted by the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 which came into force for local authorities in England on 30 April 2009.

Under the Act the Committee can:

- Review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder function
- Make reports or recommendations to the local authority with respect to the discharge of these functions
- Request information from the responsible authorities
- Require attendance of officer or employees or responsible authorities to answer questions or to provide information.

Responsible authorities are

- The local authority
- The police force
- The police authority
- The fire and rescue authority
- The clinical commissioning group

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee serves as the Crime and Disorder Committee and meets on an annual basis to scrutinise the CDRP. Scrutiny of the CRDP will take place at the 7 December meeting. Councillor David Ellis, Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Crime Reduction and Community Safety, and Dave Wakelin, Corporate Director who has responsibility for Community Safety will attend this meeting to discuss the work of the partnership.

To assist Members with this scrutiny Dave Wakelin and Councillor Ellis are attending this meeting to provide Members with essential background information about how the partnership works and what they do.

Members are asked to consider any specific areas they would like to be addressed at the December meeting.

3. RECOMMENDATION

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- consider the information provided
- discuss and agree the specific issues they would like to examine at the next meeting of the committee.



Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Subject: Police Community Support Officer Reductions

Date: 5 October 2015

Author: Elections and Members' Services Officer

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To introduce a briefing by Paddy Tipping, Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner, on the effect the proposed reduction in police community support officers (PCSOs) could have on the safety of the residents of Gedling.

2. BACKGROUND

Nottinghamshire Police, following consultation, has decided it will be reducing the number of PCSOs from 331 to 251. During the consultation period some PCSOs left voluntarily resulting in the need to make 41 PCSOs redundant. The decision was taken due to the financial pressure that Force is facing and the need to cut budgets, resulting in the introduction of different ways of working to provide an effective service to the public. The review of PCSOs was part of the force's change programme which included a comprehensive review to take account of the changing face of crime and policing.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- considers and comments on the information provided
- schedules further consideration if necessary.

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