



Policy and Resources Committee – 8 December 2014

Financial Contributions to External Organisations and Partnership Bodies

Purpose of report

To ask members to approve the financial contributions this council provides to external organisations and partnership bodies.

Attachment(s)

Appendix 1 – Equalities Impact Assessment (Initial Screen)

1.0 Background

- 1.1 East Northamptonshire Council has supported a number of external organisations and partnership bodies with financial contributions for several years. These contributions have been aligned to the achievement of outcomes as set out in the individual Service Level Agreements and Grants Agreements with each organisation.
- 1.2 Since the original decisions were taken to support such organisations, there have been changes in a number of key areas. Policy and Resources Committee considered the current arrangements with these organisations at its meeting 11 February 2013 (minute 394). Members noted that each organisation provided value for money and gave approval to continue with funding support.

2.0 Current arrangements

- 2.1 This report concerns the financial contributions made to the following organisations and partnership bodies for 2014/15 and the remaining financial years relevant to their current Service Level Agreements:-

Organisation	Agreement status	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	2016/17 £
Northamptonshire Sport (NSport)	Service Level Agreement covers the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2017.	7,500	7,500	7,500
Northamptonshire Children & Young People's Partnership	Section 10 Agreement covers the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2016	6,920	6,920	-
Rockingham Forest Trust	Management Fee: Twywell Hills and Dales and Stanwick Lakes.	10,000	10,000	10,000

- 2.2 Members will be aware that approval was given for a 3-year funding arrangement for Groundwork Northamptonshire at the previous meeting of this Committee (minute 229 10 November 2014).

3.0 Background – Northamptonshire Sport

- 3.1 Northamptonshire Sport (NSport) is the county sports partnership for Northamptonshire. The aim of the partnership is to provide opportunities for people to participate in sport, physical activity and recreation in Northamptonshire. Membership comprises all of the district and borough councils in the county, youth clubs, sports governing bodies, police, health and universities and colleges.
- 3.2 Its governance structure consists of a Partnership Group and Executive Board with a series of thematic groups focusing on specific areas of the strategy. Councillor Steven North is this council's representative on the NSport Partnership and chairs its Partnership Group. NSport's core team co-ordinates the delivery of the strategy and provides the support to the partnership. It is hosted by Northamptonshire County Council.
- 3.3 The focus of the partnership's work is the Northamptonshire Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2010-15 (the strategy). Policy and Resources Committee adopted the strategy (6 December 2010 minute 305). NSport has provided information in its annual report that indicates a £ for £ leverage of around £19.00 in 2013/14 for East Northamptonshire.

4.0 Background - Northamptonshire Children and Young People's Partnership (Pooled Fund)

- 4.1 Northamptonshire Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP) was formed under the Children Act 2004. Part of its statutory role is to oversee and manage an agreement (the agreement) under section 10 of the act. The current agreement expires 31 March 2016.
- 4.2 The agreement has a 'pooled fund' associated with it, which is made up of financial contributions from 12 partners including the district and borough councils. Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) administers the fund on behalf of the CYPP. Policy and Resources Committee formally adopted the section 10 agreement at its meeting on 9 November 2009 (minute 227) with annual financial contributions of £6,920.
- 4.4 The range of services covered under section 10 is linked to the priority areas of activity agreed by the Northamptonshire Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP) Board. This council's representative on the Board is the Head of Customer and Community Services.

5.0 Background - Rockingham Forest Trust

- 5.1 Rockingham Forest Trust (RFT) is an environmental charity and this council was involved in its start up in 1993. RFT manages two nature reserves in ENC's ownership: Stanwick Lakes and Twywell Hills and Dales.
- 5.2 RFT's main areas of work are: environmental conservation and greenspace creation, heritage, education and health and wellbeing and supporting the disadvantaged. It utilises the two sites above and other areas to fulfil this.
- 5.3 Stanwick Lakes has also received capital funding from this council as per the terms of the lease agreements. Both trustees of RFT and members from ENC make up Stanwick Lakes Management Board.

6.0 Monitoring of performance

- 6.1 Officers are satisfied that all of the organisations have delivered fully on their individual agreements in place over the periods they have received funding from us.

7.0 Equality and diversity implications

- 7.1 Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) have been prepared to support Members' previous decisions on funding matters relating to these organisations.
- 7.2 Members are asked to note the EIA attached at Appendix 1 relating to funding issues with these organisations.

8.0 Legal implications

- 8.1 There is no statutory requirement on this council to provide financial contributions to NSport or RFT.
- 8.2 There is a statutory requirement for this council to be a partner of the Children and Young People's Partnership Board by virtue of the Children Act 2004. Linked to this requirement is the partners' pooled fund to support the delivery of CYPP's outcomes.

9.0 Risk management

- 9.1 Members are asked to keep in mind that withdrawing or reducing funding to these organisations and partnership bodies could result in services in East Northamptonshire being withdrawn. This could impact on the achievement of our corporate outcomes, particularly around a good quality of life for our local communities. This in turn could give rise to negative publicity and reputational issues.
- 9.2 The organisations and partnership bodies are aware that future funding support is being considered. It needs to be kept in mind that their funding is linked to the employment of people and there may be implications for the organisations concerned if funding is withdrawn or reduced.

10.0 Financial implications

- 10.1 Provision exists in the 2014/15 budget for making the financial contributions to each of the organisations and partnership bodies as set out in table 2.1 above.
- 10.2 Provision for the contributions required in 2015/16 has been included in the base budget preparations and will be made for 2016/17 where applicable. It should be noted that these budget are indicative and are subject to approval by Council each financial year.

11.0 Corporate outcomes

- 11.1 The work and activities have been monitored through the individual agreements with each organisation or partnership body. Overall this work and activities has been found to contribute to our corporate outcomes as follows:-

A good quality of life: the activities provided by each of the organisations and partnership bodies contribute to a good quality of life in East Northamptonshire, particularly around sustainable development and increased participation in active recreation.

Effective partnership working: working in partnership with each of the organisations and partnership bodies gives increased opportunities for the local communities and visitors of East Northamptonshire to enjoy better facilities and a good quality of life.

12.0 Recommendations

- 12.1 Members are recommended to:-

1. Note and consider the Equalities Impact Assessment at Appendix 1.
2. Approve the financial contributions for 2014/15, and note indicative allocations for 2015/16 and 2016/17 which will be subject to approval by Council through the budget process each year, as set out in 2.1 above.

Reason: To decide on future financial support to external organisations and partnership bodies.

Legal	Power: Localism Act 2011 Children Act 2004				
	Other considerations: None				
Background Papers: Northamptonshire Sport – Annual Review 2013/14 (held by Community Partnerships Manager)					
Person Originating Report: Mike Greenway (Community Partnerships Manager) ☎ 01832 742244 ✉ mgreenway@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk					
Date: 20 November 2014					
CFO 27/11/14		MO		CX	



EIA Initial Screening Form – Committee Decision

Financial contributions to external organisations and partnership bodies

Name and Job title/role of person completing Initial Screening	Mike Greenway – Community Partnerships Manager
What is the main purpose of the policy decision under discussion?	<p>The Council has made financial contributions to external organisations and partnership bodies for several years. The council's Policy and Resources Committee is being asked to approve financial contributions for financial years: 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17. The organisations and partnership bodies are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Northamptonshire Sport (NSport)• Northamptonshire Children & Young People's Partnership (NCYPP)• Rockingham Forest Trust (RFT)
List the main activities of the Service or Policy under discussion	The funding supports each organisation or partnership body with funding to achieve the outcomes as set out in the relevant agreements with the organisation.
Who are the main beneficiaries of the Service or Policy under discussion?	<p>Residents, community groups and town and parish councils within East Northamptonshire.</p> <p>Specifically for the Northamptonshire Children & Young People's Partnership – children and their families resident in East Northamptonshire.</p>
How is the success of the Service or Policy under discussion measured?	Through the individual agreements with each organisation or partnership body.
Are equality monitoring systems for the Service or Policy under discussion in place?	No

Using the table below please indicate where the decision is likely to have a positive, negative or neutral impact on any of the groups listed below and provide reasons.

	NSport	NCYPP	RFT
Gender	Neutral impact <i>Services are provided regardless of gender and there is no evidence to suggest that any particular gender would be disproportionately affected by the decision</i>		
Sexual Orientation	Neutral impact <i>Services are provided regardless of sexual orientation and there is no evidence to suggest that any particular group would be disproportionately affected by the decision</i>		
Race/Ethnicity	Neutral impact <i>Services are provided regardless of race and ethnicity and there is no evidence to suggest that any particular group would be disproportionately affected by the decision</i>		
Disability	Negative impact Services are provided for all; however elements of the services provided are for Disability Sports. Reducing or ceasing funding may impact on this area of work.	Neutral impact <i>Services are provided regardless of disability and there is no evidence to suggest that any particular individual would be disproportionately affected by the decision</i>	
Age	Neutral impact <i>Services are provided regardless of age and there is no evidence to suggest that any particular individual would be disproportionately affected by the decision</i>	Negative impact The services provided are specific to children and young people. It is likely that services could continue without a financial contribution by ENC but the funding available overall to NCYPP would be reduced.	Neutral impact <i>Services are provided regardless of age and there is no evidence to suggest that any particular individual would be disproportionately affected by the decision</i>

Religion/Belief	Neutral impact		
	<i>Services are provided regardless of religion and belief and there is no evidence to suggest that any particular group would be disproportionately affected by the decision</i>		
Rural Isolation – People who live in rural areas e.g. isolated geographically, lack of internet access	Negative impact NSport is in a position to support active recreation in the rural areas of East Northants. Reducing or ceasing funding could impact on this area of work.	Neutral impact <i>Services are provided across East Northants. There is no evidence to suggest that people from isolated rural communities will be disproportionately affected by the decision.</i>	Neutral impact <i>Services are accessible for people across East Northants. There is no evidence to suggest that people from isolated rural communities will be disproportionately affected by the decision.</i>
Socio-economic Exclusion – e.g. people who are on benefits, have low educational attainment, single parents, people living in poor quality housing, people who have poor access to services, the unemployed or any combination of these and the other protected strands.	Neutral impact <i>Services are provided across the whole district and not specifically targeting any of the socio-economic disadvantaged groups</i>	Negative impact Although not specific to this area, beneficiaries of the service could be disproportionately from this group. However the services under section 10 are for all groups of children and young people	Neutral impact <i>Services are provided across the whole district and not specifically targeting any of the socio-economic disadvantaged groups</i>
If you have indicated that there is a negative impact on any group:			
a) Is that impact against legislation?	No		
b) What is the level of impact?	Low		
Could you minimise or remove any negative impact that is of low significance?	If the decision is made to reduce rather than remove funding this could minimise negative impact where applicable.		
Could you improve a positive impact of the decision?	N/A		

If there is no evidence that the decision promotes equality of opportunity or improved relations, could it be adapted so that it does?	N/A
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If you have indicated that there is a negative impact on any protected group you must complete a Full EIA Assessment

Head of Service	Lisa Hyde
Date of initial screening	20 November 2014