

## FOR PUBLICATION

## AGENDA ITEM

### **JOINT BOARD COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES**

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MEETING:	JOINT BOARD
DATE:	4 NOVEMBER 2013
REPORT BY:	COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING MANAGER (CHESTERFIELD BC)

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#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider and approve a draft of the next edition of the 'Working Together' newsletter.
- 1.2 To provide an update on changes to the councils' communications teams.
- 1.3 To consider whether further editions of the Working Together newsletter should be produced.

#### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Communications support is rotated around the partners annually. CBC took on the role from September 2013.
- 2.2 Activity is focusing on external communication (mainly news releases) and internal communication (the 'Working Together' newsletter, distributed to staff and members of the three authorities).

## **2.3 LATEST PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITY**

2.4 Recent promotional activity has included the following press releases:

- Small businesses urged to apply for government funding (see appendix 1)

- Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Sports awards – joint release between NEDDC and CBC (see appendix 2).

2.5 The next edition of the Working Together newsletter will be distributed during November 2013. A draft of the newsletter is at Appendix 3, and comments / approval is sought from the Joint Board.

## **3 COMMUNICATION STAFFING CHANGES**

3.1 CBC: No changes.

3.2 NEDDC and BDC: Following the departure of the NEDDC communications officer in October 2013 communications staff across both councils are to work together in an interim structure.

3.3 The communications officer at BDC has been seconded to work with colleagues at NEDDC for two days a week and will manage the communications team, excluding design and print. He will do this in addition to his existing duties at BDC.

3.4 The NEDDC internal communications officer will work 22.5 hours a week instead of 18.5 hours to help cover some of the external communication work.

3.5 The move is part of joint working arrangements between the two councils.

3.6 Updated contact details can be found at Appendix 4.

## 4 FUTURE OF WORKING TOGETHER NEWSLETTER

- 4.1 The Working Together newsletter was set up to inform staff and members in the three councils about joint working taking place.
- 4.2 However, for some time the task of producing the newsletter has become very difficult and time consuming because of a lack of information to put in it.
- 4.3 This is also resulting in the use of stories that do not really merit being in a newsletter and communications officers spending considerable amounts of time trying to find stories to fill the gaps on the pages.
- 4.4 Following the changes to communications staffing levels highlighted above this task is going to get harder still in the future.
- 4.5 At the same time the relationship of joint working has changed over time. For example, CBC no longer does its procurement through joint working arrangements.
- 4.6 BDC and NEDDC are now in a strategic alliance which means they are doing more joint working than ever before. However, staff are reluctant to put stories about this in the Working Together newsletter because it wouldn't be relevant to CBC staff or members.
- 4.7 As a result it is recommended that the Joint Board considers whether the newsletter should continue to be produced.
- 4.8 Staff could instead be kept informed on joint working initiatives through individual council staff newsletters and intranets. This would make any stories relevant to the audience and improve efficiency.
- 4.9 It is proposed that the three council communication teams will continue to work together on promotional campaigns and press releases as these would continue to provide opportunities for joint working and efficiencies.





**Small businesses urged to apply for government funding**

**Wednesday 25 September 2013**

Business leaders in North Derbyshire are being urged not to miss the deadline to apply to a new round of funding designed to help small businesses grow.

Council leaders in Bolsover, Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire are reminding businesses that they have until the end of October to express an interest in the Regional Growth Fund (RGF) money, which is being made available through the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

It signals a new phase in the LEP's 'Unlocking Business Investment' business programme – with it now earmarking £2.5m of its RGF fund for smaller grants starting from £25,000. A further £7.5m is being made available for grants of over £100,000.

Applications should be made to the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership – of which the three authorities are members – and must come from businesses which can demonstrate 'robust plans for growth.'

Bolsover District Council Leader, Cllr Eion Watts, said: "Millions of pounds of funding continue to be made available to businesses across the Sheffield City Region – now including smaller grants for smaller firms. This represents a huge investment into the local economy and we urge businesses from North Derbyshire to apply for their share."

Cllr John Burrows, Chesterfield Borough Council Leader, added: "We have many thriving businesses in our area and this is a fantastic opportunity for them to continue to achieve their growth plans, despite the difficult financial climate, while contributing to job creation."

Projects will be assessed on a competitive basis – and the criteria for assessment will be:

- The number of new sustainable, private sector jobs created
- The level of private sector investment
- 'Additionality' – potential for business growth and not displacement
- Eligibility for RGF support – including issues such as State Aid compliance
- Deliverability – and ability to have an immediate impact

- Value for public money

Cllr Graham Baxter MBE, North East Derbyshire Leader, added: “We would urge firms to get in touch with their local Economic Development Team to discuss the opportunity and find out more about how they could be eligible for funding.”

For an informal discussion about the programme businesses are asked to contact their local Economic Development Team:

- Bolsover District Council – contact Sonia Coleman on (01246) 242413 or [sonia.coleman@bolsover.gov.uk](mailto:sonia.coleman@bolsover.gov.uk)

- Chesterfield Borough Council – contact Matt Southgate, Senior Economic Development Officer on 01246 345272 or [matthew.southgate@chesterfield.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.southgate@chesterfield.gov.uk)

- North East Derbyshire – contact Bryan Harrison on (01246) 217204 or [bryan.harrison@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:bryan.harrison@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk)

For more general information visit the Sheffield City Region LEP website at [www.sheffieldcityregion.org.uk/RGF](http://www.sheffieldcityregion.org.uk/RGF)

Applications open on Friday 27 September and the deadline is 31 October 2013.

## APPENDIX 2

**4 October 2013**

### **Local sporting talent receives top awards**

Local athletes, sports coaches and volunteers celebrated success across a variety of categories at the Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Sports Awards 2013.

The awards, which are jointly organised by Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council, are a way of recognising and celebrating the sporting successes of athletes and those involved in sport at all levels.

This year's winners were presented with their awards at a ceremony which was held at Chesterfield Town Hall on Wednesday, 2 October.

Cllr Amanda Serjeant, Executive Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism at Chesterfield Borough Council, said: "One of the council's top priorities is to increase participation in sport and recreation. If we can interest people in sport at any early age then they are more likely to carry on taking part in activities as they get older. We may also unearth the stars of the future."

Cllr Graham Baxter MBE, Leader of North East Derbyshire District Council, said: "It's great to be able to reward the hard work and dedication of the exceptional sportsmen and women across the district at these awards. I wish them all the very best with their future sporting careers."

Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Sports Awards 2013 winners:

#### **Young Sports Leader/Coach of the Year**

Carielle Saunders (Inkersall)

#### **Young Sports Leader/Coach of the Year**

Emily Froggat (Dronfield)

#### **Junior Sportsman of the Year**

Aaron Cobley (Staveley)

#### **Junior Sportsman of the Year**

Adam Morewood (Dronfield)

#### **Junior Sportswoman of the Year**

Alicia Barrett (Brimington)

#### **Community Coach of the Year**

Dave Cartawick (Newbold)

#### **Performance Coach of the Year**

Gary Bradshaw (Morton)

#### **Performance Coach of the Year**

Daniel Duke (Brimington)

#### **Sportsperson of the Year**

Kimberley Bradshaw (Stonebroom)

The winners from the Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Awards will be judged for the Derbyshire Sports Awards to be held at the Roundhouse, Derby on 14 November.

The winners of the individual performer categories will receive a free annual membership to a Chesterfield Borough Council or North East Derbyshire District Council leisure facility, to aid the performers training programme.

## NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Information about the winners is below:

### **Young Sports Leader/Coach of the Year - Carielle Saunders**

Carielle, from Inkerall, is a Year 11 student at Springwell Community College. She was nominated for her commitment to school sport, in netball and sports ambassador roles at the school. Carielle is part of the County Netball Satellite and Academy Squads, and attended trials for the East Midlands Regional Netball squad.

### **Young Sports Leader/Coach of the Year - Emily Froggat**

Emily, from Dronfield, is a Year 6 student at Henry Fanshawe School. She was nominated for her involvement in the school's Change4Life club.

### **Junior Sportsman of the Year - Aaron Cobley**

Aaron Cobley (14), from Staveley, is 14 years old. He was nominated for his skills in Taekwon-do and Kickboxing. He is to be assessed end of year by team GB to see his potential for the 2020 games.

### **Junior Sportsman of the Year - Adam Morewood**

Adam (11), from Dronfield, excels in his chosen sport, Bikerials. Adam is European Cup Champion in his age group (10-12 years).

### **Junior Sportswoman of the Year - Alicia Barrett**

Alicia (15), from Brimington, has enjoyed much local, regional, national and international success in athletics. Alicia is ranked number one in the UK this year at under-17 60m Hurdles (indoors) and has been the country's best young female sprint hurdler for the past four years having topped the rankings in the under-13, under-15 and under-17 categories.

### **Community Coach of the Year - Dave Cartawick**

Dave (48), from Newbold is the club coach and owner of the (BKKA) British Karate & Kickboxing Association. Dave has been a sports coach for over 20 years, has been involved in martial arts for almost 40 years and has been the coach to 41 world champions.

### **Performance Coach of the Year - Gary Bradshaw**

Gary (52), from Morton, is fully qualified international Taekwondo instructor, referee and grading examiner. He teaches students with a wide variety of learning difficulties, and has trained 29 world champions.

### **Performance Coach of the Year - Daniel Duke**

Daniel (41), from Brimington, is a coach at Chesterfield & District Athletics Club and has trained young athletes to local, regional and national success.

### **Sportsperson of the Year - Kimberley Bradshaw**

Kimberly (24), from Stonebroom, has won over 250 medals in Taekwon-do, and is two times Individual World Champion, and three times Team World Champion.



**APPENDIX 3 (circulated as a separate attachment): Draft November 2013 'Working Together' newsletter**

**APPENDIX 4 – Communication contacts**

BDC	Scott Chambers, Communications Officer	(01246) 242323 <a href="mailto:scott.chambers@bolsover.gov.uk">scott.chambers@bolsover.gov.uk</a>
CBC	John Fern, Communications and Marketing Manager  James Taylor, Public Relations Officer	(01246) 345245 <a href="mailto:John.fern@chesterfield.gov.uk">John.fern@chesterfield.gov.uk</a>  (01246) 345250 <a href="mailto:james.taylor@chesterfield.gov.uk">james.taylor@chesterfield.gov.uk</a>
NEDDC	Nicola Smith  Internal communications Officer	(01246) 217692 <a href="mailto:nicola.smith@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk">nicola.smith@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk</a>