

Agenda Item: 6

One Nottingham Board

Title of Paper: Women in Notts Network

Date: 10 March 2017

1. Purpose

1.1 This report updates ON Board on the first year's activity of the Women in Notts network, which is supported by One Nottingham and contributes to the Aspiration and Fairness priorities of the Nottingham Plan.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Board is asked to:

- i. Note and comment on the contents of the report.
- ii. Note the date of the next Women in Notts event on 23 March 2017.

3. Background

3.1 The Women in Notts network was relaunched in March 2016, and has so far held 3 meetings with a range of speakers and guests. It follows on from the successful Women in Nottingham network, which was established by ON Chair Jane Todd, when she was Chief Executive of Nottingham City Council, at a time when women held a number of key positions in the city.

3.2 The relaunched Women in Notts network is aimed at influential and senior women, and aspiring women leaders in the city and county, across the business, voluntary and public sectors. They include women who are key decision makers, have important roles, or who have made their mark in their chosen field, and women who are emerging as potential future leaders.

3.3 The network is informal with no hierarchy and no one in charge. It is organised by a small steering group of representatives from One Nottingham, the Creative Quarter, Cartwright Communications and RizkMcCay, and Jane Todd is the patron. All ON Board and ONCOG women members are invited to meetings.

3.4 A database of membership has now been established, together with new branding and a relaunched website www.womeninnotts.co.uk. The network holds 3 meetings a year, which aim to:

- Share ideas, experience and good practise
- Update on current issues affecting the city and county, and discuss ways of influencing direction and policy
- Encourage and support future leaders, inspire and raise expectations
- Bring women together and provide an opportunity to network in a more social

	<p>setting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrate successes of women already with a profile in the city and region and create positive role models for girls, and young women • Make positive links with organisations that can help facilitate the messages of women doing great things for the city and region.
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4. Activity to Date

4.1	<p>In 2016 Women in Notts held three meetings, with speakers including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sue Fish - former Nottinghamshire Police Chief Constable • Judy Naake - High Sherriff of Nottinghamshire and former UK distributor of St Tropez • Kirsty Spickett - Marketing Director Blenheim Chalcot • Heather Mayfield - Chief Executive Nottingham Castle Trust • Cathy Bramley – Local Author and Marketing Expert • Sarah Walker-Smith - Chief Operating Officer Browne Jacobson
4.2	<p>There are now over 200 women on the network database; including members of the cross partner Future Leaders Programme which is supported by One Nottingham.</p>

5. Emerging Themes

5.1	<p>The events so far have been lively, positive and warm discussions on a range of issues including how can we support aspiring future women leaders, and contribute more to making the city and county a better place to live and work.</p>
5.2	<p>In particular the desire to work with girls and young women still in education to aspire them about their future roles has been a key concern, and links have been made with some of the projects that link businesses with schools such as the Aspire Education Business Partnership.</p>
5.3	<p>The lack of current women in senior roles across the city and county has also been raised and was echoed in a recent interview in the Nottingham Post with Jane Todd.</p>
5.4	<p>The first meeting of Women in Notts for 2017 is due to take place on 23 March 2017, at the St James Hotel, Rutland Street, Nottingham, NG1 6EB from 6.00 until 8.00 pm.</p>

6. Contact Details

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