

<p>CABINET MEETING – 10 MARCH 2010</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I</p>	
<p>Title of Report:</p> <p>Sunderland City Council and SAFC Foundation Strategic Partnership Agreement</p>	
<p>Author(s):</p> <p>Joint report of the Executive Director of Children’s Services and the Executive Director of City Services</p>	
<p>Purpose of Report:</p> <p>To present Cabinet Members with a proposal to enter into a Strategic Partnership Agreement with SAFC Foundation.</p>	
<p>Description of Decision:</p> <p>To seek approval in principle from Cabinet to progress the Partnership proposal and to receive a further report including the detail of the agreement by July 2010 with the aim of the Agreement being operational from September 2010 if approved.</p>	
<p>Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes</p>	
<p>If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework</p>	
<p>Suggested reason(s) for Decision:</p> <p>The entering into a Strategic Partnership Agreement will recognise the respective roles of both the City Council and the SAFC Foundation in jointly delivering programmes, will improve outcomes across the City and deliver shared priorities</p>	
<p>Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:</p> <p>Existing commissioning arrangements could continue however this would fail to build upon the excellent and unique opportunity to further our objectives. Current arrangements do not reflect the enhancement that the SAFC Foundation bring to the programmes.</p>	
<p>Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution? Yes</p>	<p>Relevant Scrutiny Committee:</p> <p>Children and Learning Scrutiny Committee</p>
<p>Is it included in the Forward Plan? No</p>	

SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL AND SUNDERLAND ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB FOUNDATION STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

JOINT REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES

1. Purpose of the Report

To present Cabinet Members with a proposal to enter into a Strategic Partnership Agreement with Sunderland Athletic Football Club (SAFC) Foundation

2. Description of Decision (Recommendations)

To seek approval in principle from Cabinet to progress the Partnership proposal and to receive a further report including the detail of the agreement by July 2010 with the aim of the Agreement being operational from September 2010 if approved.

3. Introduction/Background

- 3.1 SAFC Foundation is the registered charity of Sunderland Football Club and was established in 2001. The Foundation uses the power of football to educate and motivate young people from Sunderland and the surrounding areas through innovative projects, advancing literacy and numeracy and improving confidence and aspirations as well as raising awareness of citizenship issues and improving employment skills.
- 3.2 It is recognised that there are opportunities afforded by SAFC Foundation's unique brand and appeal in the City. The Foundation has expertise, capacity, ability and commitment in supporting the Council in developing strategies and delivery infrastructure, methods and programmes to achieve key priorities and outcomes, particularly around children and families, health, sport and learning.
- 3.2 Directorates across the Council currently work with SAFC Foundation to deliver programmes in support of Council Priorities. Additionally, the Council and SAFC Foundation work in partnership to support their priorities, such as the anti-racism campaign in 2008/2009.
- 3.3 Whilst many of the current programmes are council-led, SAFC Foundation can be in a position to access additional funding to enhance these programmes and it is acknowledged that there are further opportunities in this regard.

- 3.4 Significant resources are deployed in securing these arrangements
Which tend to be delivered on a piecemeal basis.

4. Current Position

- 4.1 Some of the programmes SAFC Foundation is currently engaged in delivering are described below. Programmes include:

- PITSTOP – education provision and behaviour support for pupils excluded from schools
- Tackle It – Youth Offending prevention programme tackling bullying and substance misuse
- Healthy Bus Initiative – On behalf of the Active Sunderland Board delivering health MOTs across the City
- Kickz Programme – delivers positive activities in areas where anti-social behaviour is an issue
- Sports Coaching – commissioned by individual schools
- Family Learning – developing skills and relationships within the family unit

Total Council funding commissioned to provide services in 2009/2010 is in excess of £250,000. Additional funding exceeding £250,000 to enhance these programmes is secured through the Foundation.

- 4.2 A formal strategic partnership with agreed objectives will be an effective governance vehicle to allow better management and co-ordination of existing and any future contracts which may be awarded to the Foundation, the submission of joint funding applications and where appropriate the provision to the Partnership of grant funding opportunities to pursue the objectives of the Partnership. Officers are currently considering the Terms of a Partnership Agreement. This includes consideration of the Partnership Objectives, governance arrangements and funding.

- 4.3 The proposed objectives of the Partnership are:

To increase and broaden the impact of culture and sport to enrich individual lives, strengthen communities and improve the places where people live, now and in future generations.

- To develop and promote innovative/creative programmes within a sporting/leisure focus that will enhance young people's personal skills, inspire them to achieve and, enable them to progress in the learning environment.
- To develop and promote schemes that tackle racism in the community.
- To develop innovative programmes that are both of an educational and sporting nature that will enable young people and families to:

- explore and evaluate their own motivation, skills, confidences, self esteem and behaviour and, to enrich their lives;
- undertake practical learning that will enrich the curriculum and motivate learning particularly in the areas of literacy, numeracy and ICT;
- engage young people to establish realistic targets and goals that will impact on skills such as teamwork, confidence, motivation, communication, rules and responsibilities;
- achieve national and locally accredited awards; and
- access programmes within their own communities with appropriately trained staff.

4.4 It will be appreciated that the activities undertaken by the SAFC Foundation which are not grant assisted, are subject to the Council's procurement procedure rules.

5. Reasons for the Decision

The entering into a Strategic Partnership Agreement will recognise the respective roles of both the City Council and the SAFC Foundation in jointly delivering programmes which improve outcomes across the City and deliver shared priorities. A formal strategic partnership with agreed objectives will be an effective vehicle to allow better management and co-ordination of existing and future contracts, the submission of joint funding applications and provision to the Partnership of grant funding to pursue the objectives of the Partnership.

6. Alternative Options

Existing arrangements could continue however this would fail to build upon the excellent and unique opportunity to further our objectives and would not reflect the enhancement that the SAFC Foundation bring to the programmes.

7. Relevant Considerations/Consultations

Discussions have taken place with officers from Children's Services, City Services and SAFC Foundation, supported by legal and finance colleagues, to consider an agreement in principle. These considerations will continue should approval in principle be agreed.

8. Background Papers

Sunderland City Council Code of Practice for Partnerships
SAFC Foundation website (<http://www.safc.com/page/Foundation>)

