

Ex-security chief in vow to help Notts crime campaign

Dame Stella, who grew up in the area, was guest of honour at a formal launch ceremony for the trust.

More than 100 business leaders attended the event at the Council House last night.

The meeting represented a re-

turn to her roots for Dame Rimington.

Born in London, she moved to Ilkeston in 1948 aged 12 after her father started a new job at the old Stanton Ironworks.

She also lived in Sandiacre, and spent six years studying at

Nottingham High School for Girls.

She said: "National security and crime prevention locally are very closely linked."

"This trust is helping to make the city and county safer for all."

City mum loses adoption fight

A NOTTINGHAM mother's plea that she was denied a fair hearing before her disabled daughter was put up for adoption has been thrown out by judges.

The mother argued she had been let down by Nottingham City Council and the adoption of her two-year-old daughter was a violation of her human rights.

But Appeal Court judges yesterday said the disabled toddler's adoption had been "inevitable".

Since her premature birth, the little girl - identified as "K" - has been living with foster parents. Her mother was only just 21 when she was born and her father, in his 60s, played no part in the court case.

Convinced that neither the mother, nor any member of her family, were capable of looking after K, the council believed she should be adopted.

And, in August last year, Judge Butler QC, sitting at Nottingham County Court, made a care order, opening the way for her adoption.

Birmingham MP John Hemming, who chairs Justice for Families, put some of the mother's arguments before the appeal judges but Lord Justice Wall said the court had acted in K's best interests.

£2,000 raised to help Scouts

MORE than £2,000 was collected for the 2nd East Leake Scouts at the group's annual May Day celebrations.

The money will go towards a new outdoor area near to the scout's hut.



YOUR VIEWS

Are you one of the 'respectable' skaters approaching middle age? Tell us about it at thisisnottingham.co.uk

SKATE EXPECTATIONS: Benno Taylor (left) and Marc Swarbrick with other boarders who would like a skate park at The Forest. C086508MAY1-2 PIC BY MATT ALEXANDER

Skateboard plea at park

By TANYA HOLDEN
SKATEBOARD fans want their own facility as part of the planned £5m revamp of The Forest recreation ground.

A petition with 300 signatures has been handed into the city council by skaters, BMXers and rollerbladers.

Skateboarder Simon Bernacki, 27, from Arnold, said: "We want to prove there is the support for a skate park in Nottingham."

"We are in a strange position in that we are one of the seven biggest cities in the country but we lack a place to go and skate."

"We want to work with the city council to develop these plans - we have people from 12 up to 44 involved in skating, which is a really good cross-section from across the city."

We'll put city on fans' map

The Forest revamp proposals went on display at the Djanogly City Academy in Forest Fields.

They include refurbishing the derelict pavilion and lodge, providing new sports pitches, footpaths, cafe, play area, creche, nursery, outdoor shelter and public toilets.

The plans have been developed by Nottingham City Council, the Partnership Council, the Neighbourhood Development Company and Friends of the Forest and will be submitted to the National Lottery this summer. It is hoped the Lottery will provide up to £3m.

Skateboarder Michael Wright, 36, from Sneinton, said a skate park would reflect wide interest in the activity. "This is a perfect opportunity for Nottingham to put itself on the map and join the likes of many town and cities across the Midlands who have provided great facilities," he said.

Nottingham City Council's head of parks and opens spaces, Eddie Curry, said: "One of the key aspects of The Forest restoration project is ensuring we get the facilities for young people right."

"If there is demonstrated demand for a skate park there is a real likelihood of this becoming a reality."

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"A skate park has got my wholehearted support."

Thinking space

FOLLOWING a public consultation event on April 26,

these emerged as the top five things people want to see on The Forest:

1. More activities for teenagers

2. Enhanced play

areas for all ages, including a performance space and seating

3. Improved lighting and CCTV added to reduce the fear of crime

4. A refurbished pavilion with a

better cafe, toilets and sports changing rooms

5. A partnership approach to tackling problems on The Forest, involving Forest wardens, the police and local people.

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