

**2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015****Agenda Item: 9****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR ACCESS AND PUBLIC  
PROTECTION****COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update the Community Safety Committee about key Community Safety matters.

**Information and Advice****Hate Crime Update**

2. The Safer Nottinghamshire Board Hate Crime Steering Group has agreed its Delivery Plan for 2015-16. The plan includes a range of projects funded by the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to reflect a wide ranging programme of activities including:
  - A roll out of the successful Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) training programme;
  - Support to the Worksop Out on Wednesdays (WOW) project for young LGBT people;
  - A research project by Nottingham Trent University into hate crime perpetrators;
  - A toolkit for young people to tackle extremism and radicalism in schools and a countywide media and marketing campaign to raise public awareness of hate crime.
3. The Delivery Plan will be coordinated by the Community Safety team at the County Council working closely in partnership with the new OPCC funded County Hate Crime Manager.
4. The Plan has also taken account of the recommendations and proposals from the Nottingham Citizens' commission and its subsequent report into hate crime. A key action within the Plan is a commitment for all partner organisations to sign up to a 'No place for hate' pledge in Nottinghamshire. This will be launched at a partnership event in September 2015 and will lead into a series of proposed joint training events around hate crime and vulnerability hosted by the Holocaust Centre over the coming year. A contribution of £10,000 to the cost of delivering this training was made from the Community Safety Initiatives budget 2014/15.

**Rural Crime Conference.**

5. A Community Safety Officer attended the Association of Chief Police Officers Rural Crime Conference on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2015. The Chief Constable for Dyfed-Powys, National Policing

Lead for Rural and Wildlife Crime opened the conference, introducing various speakers representing the National Farmers Union Mutual (NFU); Chair of the National Rural Crime Network, Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire; Rural Policing and Wildlife Crime Co-ordinator for Lancashire Constabulary and the Chairman of the Lancashire National Farmers Union.

6. Various presentations and workshops looked at how education, prevention, detection and prosecution contribute alongside the important role modern technology can play to assist in providing more efficient and effective service delivery.
7. Useful information learned from this conference to inform our work included:
  - The crime classifications most affecting rural communities are:
    - Theft of machinery/live stock
    - Illegal waste dumping
    - Burglary farms/houses
    - Drugs – Cannabis growth
    - Theft from churches/graveyards
    - Poaching/hare coursing
    - Slavery
  - The National Farmers Union produce an annual survey based on claims/losses, which is a useful intelligence source.
  - The National Vehicle Crime Intelligence Service (NAVVIS) produces a weekly intelligence bulletin which is circulated to over 1300 recipients within the world of policing with up to date intelligence to reduce vehicle and vehicle-enabled crime.
  - National Rural Crime Network (NRCN): In 2014 The Home Office committed two year funding of £40,000 to develop a network to act as a collaborative think tank to research and implement ways of reducing rural crime, which is supported by Police and Crime Commissioners across England and Wales. The website for NRCN will go live in May 2015.
8. The conference also provided details of national best practice which can be shared with local partners for potential further development in Nottinghamshire. These included efficiency savings from shared services within rural communities (Northamptonshire); an excellent website supporting rural communities (Warwickshire) and widespread use of the Neighbourhood Alert Network to share information with rural communities. The next steps will be to develop a rural crime action plan for the County and to explore potential funding streams to support similar initiatives within Nottinghamshire.

### **Dragons Den Style Project Update.**

9. Members will recall being informed at the April Committee meeting of the national recognition of the Dragons Den as runners up in the National Crimebeat Awards on March 11<sup>th</sup> 2015. Since April's committee meeting the Dragons Den project continues to evolve in developing the following areas:
  - **Dragons Den 5:** A website [www.stopair.co.uk](http://www.stopair.co.uk) has been successfully launched and is being used by practitioners and young people both in school and across targeted youth settings to raise awareness about Teenage Relationship Abuse.

- **Dragons Den 6:** Holgate Academy came up with the innovative idea of having their campaign messages to prevent alcohol misuse displayed on the clutches to go round hot drinks. Officers are currently exploring the possibility of rolling out this idea within the County Council and at other refreshment outlets in the County.
- **Dragons Den 7 (DD7):** Officers are currently exploring collaborating with a number of other cutting edge projects to focus this year's theme on Respect and Tolerance. This includes:
  - § The Emotions Project a therapeutic dance project from Merseyside, which has developed a partnership with the National Kids Company Charity to work with vulnerable young people and their families;
  - § Real Education, an initiative supporting young people excluded from Nottinghamshire schools;
  - § Take Five, a project in Bassetlaw, which uses body based trauma informed mindfulness practice;
  - § Expert input from the County Council's Equality and Diversity Team relating to the DD7 theme Respect and Tolerance;
  - § County Youth Arts

10. An initial meeting took place at County Hall with the Emotions Project visiting from Merseyside to talk about their project and to hear presentations from the above Nottinghamshire projects and to meet officers from the Dragons Den Style Project Steering Group and other leads from Youth Justice and Supporting Families. Emotions Project will be hosting a showcase event at the Empire Theatre Liverpool in September 2015 and they have agreed to make tickets freely available so that existing Dragons Den Style Project students can attend for free. This event will be used to launch the DD7 focus on Respect and Tolerance. The joint project will be promoted via the National Crimebeat Awards 2015-16.

## **Gypsy & Traveller Liaison Update**

11. **Domestic Abuse Seminar:** Evidence from the Equality and Human Rights Commission indicates that there is higher prevalence of domestic abuse within the Gypsy and Traveller community than within the wider community. The County Council's Gypsy Travelling Liaison Officer (GTLO) organised and facilitated a domestic abuse seminar in partnership with Newark and Sherwood District Council. The seminar, aimed at frontline practitioners, provided an opportunity for practitioners to explore experiences of dealing with domestic abuse within the travelling communities, barriers victims may face and identify best practice for service delivery.
12. The seminar was attended by a number of different organisations such as Women's Integrated Service, Women's Aid, Ashfield District Council, Mansfield District Council, NHS and Nottinghamshire County Council. A summary of the evaluations show the participants found the seminar useful and informative and will be sharing back into their organisations as appropriate to inform and improve service delivery in this area.
13. **Illegal Money Lending:** The National Trading Standards Team has identified that members of the Gypsy and Traveller community are vulnerable to loan sharks set up within the community and have therefore prioritised the work with this group. The LIAISE Officer (Lead in Awareness, Intelligence, Support & Education) from England Illegal Money Lending Team

met with the Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer to discuss the best way forward to engage the travelling communities in the campaign.

14. **'Looking after Mandi'**: In 2014 the Gypsy Travelling Liaison Officer and members of the Gypsy and Traveller community in Newark came together to produce a DVD aimed at travelling men. Male health concerns identified by members of the community are: diabetes, depression and mental health. It is well documented that travelling men experience many barriers to healthcare not least knowledge of signs and symptoms of major conditions and what to do about them.
15. The 'Looking after Mandi' DVD was launched in February 2015 and now has been distributed nationally via the Carers' Federation website. The Travellers' Times have agreed to incorporate it into their resources page on their website.

### **Substance Misuse: Mutual Aid in Nottinghamshire**

16. The Community Safety Team is working with the Director of Public Health and the countywide Substance Misuse Strategy Group to increase substance misuse mutual aid across the County. Mutual aid can be described as support, guidance, advice and information to individuals seeking recovery from people who have "travelled the journey", and who have experienced the same issues. Possibly the most well-known group utilising this type of approach (for alcohol) is Alcoholics Anonymous.
17. In Nottinghamshire this type of support for people seeking to recover from substance misuse has been extremely limited. In recognition of this, the Community Safety Partnership covering Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood operated a pilot project to introduce this service in their area. They worked with the group "Recovery Now" for 12 months to set up mutual aid groups, access to these groups and the associated support mechanisms. This work has been overseen by the Substance Misuse Strategy Group, and initial evaluation has shown that the introduction of substance misuse mutual aid is a key addition to the options available to individuals seeking recovery.
18. This pilot project will now be rolled out to the rest of the County for a two year period (one year in Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood). The Substance Misuse Strategy Group will provide approximately £300,000 for this work. Each Community Safety Partnership, working with the Substance Misuse Strategy Group, will decide how best to introduce substance misuse mutual aid into their area to ensure maximum impact and value.
19. The Community Safety Team will ensure key linkages to the agendas of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour, since it is well known that substance misuse can have a disproportionate effect on these areas.

### **Taxi Driver Licencing Policy**

20. A review has started on behalf of the Chief Executives of Nottinghamshire and District/Borough Councils to examine current arrangements for the granting of taxi licences. The review is being undertaken by Rushcliffe Borough Council in the light of concerns nationally, focussing recently on the areas of Rotherham, Rochdale and Bradford. Taxi

drivers operate from a position of trust and it is seen as crucial that councils are confident that they are safeguarding members of the public who use taxis.

21. The review will clarify an agreed minimum standard for granting licences (e.g. what offences should bar individuals from being granted a licence, and how long after such an offence would the bar remain operational), effective data sharing, and a consistent approach. This is a key piece of work to make Nottinghamshire a safer County. The Community Safety Team will ensure that findings from the review are implemented within the Council and Community Safety Partnerships.

### **Hoarding Workshop**

22. In April Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service facilitated a workshop bringing together partners who have current involvement in working with hoarding cases. This included representatives from Environmental Health, housing providers, mental health services, Clinical Commissioning Groups and the County Council's Trading Standards & Community Safety and Adult Social Care services. The Service Director for Access and Public Protection gave a presentation on the Care Act as well as providing clarity to attendees on issues relating to mental capacity and the role of Adult Social Care.
23. At this event partners discussed their experiences of trying to engage with people who hoard, their understanding of what might have led to such behaviour, how to support the individual who is hoarding as well as the issues related to clearing the property and sustaining the impact of any interventions.
24. A Senior Environmental Health Officer from Ashfield District Council talked about a pilot in Ashfield which involved bringing partners together to better identify properties and individuals where hoarding is an issue, then working with these people to provide support before, during and after house clearance takes place to provide a longer term, problem solving response to this issue. The Hoarding Panel that regularly meets in Ashfield includes amongst its membership Environmental Health, housing providers, Community Nurses and Adult Social Care. This work started after there was a fire death in Ashfield in the New Cross area. It was suggested that the Vulnerable Person Panels, which operate in each district, could incorporate this work.
25. The findings from the workshop will now be developed into a Hoarding Protocol that partners will be invited to sign up to in the coming weeks with the finalised document being launched at an event on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Consultation with partners around the development of this protocol will continue over the coming weeks leading up to the launch. This work will also be taken to the Safer Nottinghamshire Board by the Deputy Chief Fire Officer.

### **Safeguarding Vulnerable People: MASH**

26. With the increasing emphasis on cases being referred to Vulnerable Person Panels a Community Safety Officer will shortly be spending a few days each month in the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to assist in signposting appropriate cases to these panels where they do not meet the threshold for Adult Social Care. This follows the success of the involvement of a Trading Standards Officer in the MASH.

## **Other Options Considered**

27. None.

## **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

28. It is recommended that the Community Safety Committee notes the various developments in the areas of work contained within this report.
29. This report is a regular update to the Community Safety Committee to keep them abreast of local and national developments and our community safety work.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

30. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Financial Implications**

31. None

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

32. That the Community Safety Committee notes the various developments in the areas of work contained within this report.

**PAUL MCKAY**

**Service Director, Access & Public Protection**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Sarah Houlton, Team Manager Trading Standards & Community Safety x 72460 or Yvette Armstrong, Community Safety Officer, Trading Standards & Community Safety x 73058.**

## **Constitutional Comments**

As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

## **Financial Comments (KAS 11/05/15)**

There are no financial implications contained within this report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All