

23 July 2013**Agenda Item: 4****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR,
POLICY, PLANNING AND CORPORATE SERVICES****I PLEDGE TO KEEP ON TRACK: YOUTH CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMME****Purpose of the Report**

1. The programme has been successfully delivered and evaluated meeting all its targets over a 3 yr period and further funding is now required from the 2013/14 Community Safety budget in order to ensure delivery continues from Sept 2013 onwards.

Information and Advice

2. "I Pledge to Keep On Track" Youth Crime Prevention Programme was successfully delivered to 40 primary schools in priority areas across the county over a three year period. Approximately 2000 pupils in their last years of primary have benefited from participating in the programme. Parents and carers have also accompanied many of the visits. Working alongside the National Centre for Citizenship & the Law, Galleries of Justice, Nottinghamshire County Council has also been supported by a wide range of partners including; Experian, Shine Media, Nottinghamshire Police, Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue and Nottinghamshire Neighbourhood Watch. In 2013 The Programme and accompanying resources has recently been recognised as a model of best practice by LASER Alliance, National Youth Crime Beat Initiative and by the Museum and Heritage Awards.
3. King Edward Primary School the winners of the " I Pledge to Keep On Track" community pledge 2012 participated in the programme and received a positive appraisal for this area of work in their recent Ofsted report 2012. They also then went on to present a short performance to other schools across the county, on their cyber-bullying and e-safety project to an audience at the Mansfield Palace Theatre on Monday 19th Nov 2012 as part of National Anti-Bullying Showcase Week.
4. The National Centre for Citizenship & the Law have now established links with Northampton and three boroughs of London and have begun to deliver the programme and Keep On Track Safety Book and other related resources developed for "I Pledge" to these areas.
5. The Keep On Track Safety story books which accompany the programme are being actively used as part of the programme and in other targeted young people settings as well as schools across the county. Locally the books are being used as part of the nationally accredited Safety Zone as part of the emergency phone set. The books are also being

taken into schools by neighbourhood watch officers for reading sessions. These books are available online to download for free.

6. The strategic Assessment published by the Safer Nottinghamshire Board in January 2013 identified 15 areas in the County, which would be prioritised by all agencies in the local partnerships. As a part of this process, it is proposed that schools within the 15 areas are given the opportunity to participate in another “I Pledge” programme in 2013/14. A total of £25,000 funding for this programme from the Community Safety, budget, with other contributions currently to be finalised from the private sector and local community Safety Partnership, would enable the programme to run for another year.

Other Options Considered

7. Without further funding the programme will end in Sept 2013.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

8. The Inspiring Learning for All (ILFA) framework was used to analyse the evaluation results. Evidence exists that learning occurred in four out of five Generic Learning Outcomes (GLO) categories: Knowledge and Understanding; Attitudes and Values; Activity, Behaviour and Progression.
9. Evidence also exists that the project met all three of the Generic Social Outcome Categories: Stronger and Safer Communities; Strengthening Public Life, Health and Well-being.
10. In 2013 the programme has been recognised nationally as a high quality educational initiative meeting the 10 principles for best practice safety education and awarded National Accreditation via the LASER Alliance. The programme received a commendation in the National Youth Crime Beat Awards 2013 **“for their outstanding contribution to helping reduce crime and creating a safer community”**. The Programme was also awarded Joint Winner for Best Educational Initiative in the National Museum and Heritage awards 2013.
11. For example to quote from the King Edward Ofsted Report 2012:
“Pupils imaginative writing is sometimes held back by the limited opportunities they have to discuss their ideas. In the best lessons, these opportunities abound, and combine with strong promotion of pupils’ spiritual, social and moral development. Year 6 pupils much enjoyed re-enacting a courtroom scene. Questions were posed by a group of pupil ‘reporters’, and this led to plenty of discussion, prior to starting a writing task, about the feelings of the different characters, and how the jury might be persuaded to convict or acquit the defendant.”
12. “I Pledge” Youth Crime Prevention programme has had a demonstrated impact on those pupils participating in the programme at a crucial age in their life just prior to moving up to secondary school. Nationally it has been recognised as a model of best practice. It is therefore recommended that “I Pledge” be continued to be funded from Sept 2013 onwards.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13 This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

14. Implications for Service Users

Pupils have clearly benefited from the interactive style of the programme and this is demonstrated across several generic learning outcome categories: Knowledge and Understanding; Attitudes and Values; Activity, Behaviour and Progression and more specifically relating to the outcomes categories: Stronger and Safer Communities; Strengthening Public Life, Health and Well-being. The programme has been designed to coincide with the pupil's final years of primary school to provide a solid knowledge base and enhancing resistance skills to prevent crime and sound transission to Secondary school.

Parents/carers who have attended the programme alongside their child have increased confidence to discuss the issues raised by the programme back in the home setting, again reinforcing the key learning outcomes.

Teaching staff are enabling to draw on the programme to enrich the curriculum, whilst still meeting key targets relating to literacy.

Other partners including Police Community Safety Officers and Youth Liaison Officers have been given the opportunity to work alongside teaching staff and pupils to follow up issues back in the school setting and add further value to the programme.

15. Financial Implications

"I Pledge" received funding for 2012-13 to the sum of £25,000 this was utilised to deliver the programme to 10 targeted primary schools across priority areas of the county between Jan 2012 and June 2012. The £25,000 funding for the 2013/14 programme would be from the existing Community Safety budget.

16. Equalities Implications

The programme currently targets primary schools in priority areas of those areas of most deprivation. There is no reason other than funding that would prevent the programme being offered to all primary schools across the county.

17. Crime and Disorder Implications

The Evaluation Report demonstrated the following outcomes:

- **Increased knowledge of the criminal justice system.**

Knowledge and understanding of how the Law affects participants increased by 52% overall. Knowledge of the roles of people who work in courts increased by 55% overall. Knowledge of the differences between Youth Court and a Crown Court increased by 71% overall. Knowledge and understanding of punishments the Youth

Court can impose increased by 62%. This knowledge was tested by a knowledge retention test. No participant got less than 70% in the knowledge retention test with the majority gaining between 80-95%

- **Improved understanding of the consequences of their actions as citizens.**
Participants' understanding of how committing a crime can affect their whole life increased from 17% to 85%.
- **Improved understanding of their roles as active citizens in their communities.**
Results show that the number of participants who feel that they can do "Lots" to make where they live or their school a safer place increased from 21% to 91%

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) It is recommended that the County Council, with its partners, continues the programme to build on the successful outcomes already achieved.
- 2) It is recommended that the County Council agrees to fund the "I Pledge" Programme to the sum of £25,000 from the Community Safety budget 2013/14 for delivery to targeted primary schools and year 5 & 6 pupils in Partnership Priority Areas across the county.

Martin Done, Service Director Communications and Marketing

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:
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Constitutional Comments (NAB 09.07.13)

18. The Community Safety Committee has authority to approve the recommendations set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference subject to there being sufficient resources in the community safety budget.

Financial Comments (SM/12/12)

19. The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers

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.

"I Pledge to Keep on Track" Evaluation Reports.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.