

26<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Agenda Item: 7

## **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR SOUTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 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**

##### **“Take Five” Mindfulness project: Health Education England funding.**

2. In February 2015 the Community Safety Committee approved £3,850 funding for “Stepping Stones” (Take Five in the Community) which was phase 3 of a nationally ground breaking pilot using mindful resilience practice to build community capacity and confidence. Building on the success within North Nottinghamshire of the Home Office funded phase 1 “Take Five at School” and phase 2 “Take Five at Home” the “Take Five in the Community”/“Stepping Stones” project aimed to increase confidence and resilience via local recruitment to bespoke mindful resilience training.
3. The “Take Five” pilot project was delivered by a not for profit organisation called Each Amazing Breath working in collaboration with Nottinghamshire County Council and other partners. The pilot project has seen an estimated 2,000 children benefit from the scheme, across eight schools in Bassetlaw, with reductions in stress levels and an increase in calmness among pupils taking part.
4. As a result of the pilot project a bid for **£127,000** funding from Health Education England’s national Innovation Fund has been successful to help more Nottinghamshire children and their families to boost their resilience to life stresses. The scheme, to be delivered by Each Amazing Breath, with assistance from Nottinghamshire County Council, will support the national Future in Mind strategy to boost mental resilience among young people.
5. Up to 3,300 children based at 12 schools across Bassetlaw and Newark and Sherwood districts, and those whose families access children's centre services and the county council's Family Service will benefit from the scheme over the next year and the scheme will also involve local health partners and residents in local communities.

## **Best Bar None**

6. Another initiative supported by the Community Safety committee has received an award. Nottinghamshire's Best Bar None scheme, which recognises and rewards responsible licensed premises in the county, has come "highly commended" in the national awards for the scheme.
7. Nottinghamshire was shortlisted in two categories, Best New Scheme and Most Innovative Scheme. The winners were announced at a parliamentary reception at the House of Lords on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016, and Nottinghamshire was awarded "highly commended" in both categories.
8. There are currently around 80 schemes live around the UK. All were invited to submit entries for the four awards, which were Best Overall Scheme, Best New Scheme, Most Innovative Scheme and Outstanding Commitment to Best Bar None.

## **Preventing Violent Extremism: Training for County Council Members and Staff.**

9. 'Prevent' is the name of part of the government's Counter Terrorism Strategy which was launched in 2011 to prevent vulnerable people becoming either involved directly in terrorism and/or in supporting terrorism.
10. The Prevent Duty (which came into force in July 2015) means that legally the County Council has to make sure that colleagues:
  - a. Have a good understanding of Prevent
  - b. Are able to identify individuals who may be at risk and are aware of available programmes to deal with the issue
  - c. Know when to refer their concerns onto other agencies.
11. As previously reported, the Home Office has provided £10,000 funding to each Council to support the implementation of this new duty. This funding was pooled in the County and the Community Safety team have taken a lead role in co-ordinating and organising this Prevent training across the County. The Home Office accredited trainers Zebrared recently delivered an extensive free training programme for District and Borough council staff across Nottinghamshire. This has to date proved enormously popular and has been very well attended and evaluations completed after the training sessions have been universally positive.
12. Similar training for County Council Members and staff has now been organised by the Community Safety Team and is available as follows:
  - Gold level training sessions for Members and Senior managers (3 half day sessions in June)
  - Silver level half day training sessions in April/May for Group and Team Managers and Senior Practitioners where Prevent issues could apply directly to their role. A shorter bronze version is also available for colleagues who cannot be released from work for half a day
  - Employee Prevent Briefing / 'Tool Box Talk' for frontline workers working in schools including catering and cleaning colleagues who do not have PC access

- Prevent E-Learning, available from April/May for all employees with PC access

### **Preventing Violent Extremism: Safeguarding Children Board.**

13. A presentation was made by the Community Safety team at the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board on the 16<sup>th</sup> March on the Preventing Violent Extremism activity within the County.
14. This was an opportunity to strengthen linkages between the Safeguarding Children Board and the Safer Nottinghamshire Board, plus highlight work undertaken on Prevent by the Community Safety team, which has been commended by the Home Office.

### **New Psychoactive Substances: Second Workshop**

15. Community Safety & Trading Standards officers are collaborating with Public Health, Nottinghamshire Police and Crimestoppers to organise a second New Psychoactive Substances workshop in June 2016. The workshop, aimed at front line officers from a wide range of partner organisations across the county, will replicate the format, aims and outcomes of the previous successful workshop event in October 2015 which was very well received.
16. A major topic of discussion at the event will be the Psychoactive Substances Act, which the Home Office now expect to commence later in the spring. The Act will bring in a blanket ban on the production, distribution, sale and supply of New Psychoactive Substances.
17. Outcomes from the workshop are expected to include:
  - Raised awareness of NPS and the problems they cause
  - Improved information and intelligence sharing amongst partners – increased local knowledge about the extent, nature and impact of NPS usage in the county
  - Sharing information about the new legislation and promoting a co-ordinated enforcement response.
  - Using local knowledge and new expected Home Office guidance to inform a county wide NPS media campaign.

### **Memorandum of Understanding: NCC and Notts Watch**

18. A formal agreement has been written between Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottinghamshire Neighbourhood Watch (“Notts Watch”). Although not legally binding, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a huge step forward in showing a willingness and commitment between NCC and Notts Watch to work towards shared objectives and principles of collaboration.
19. The MOU has been signed by the Service Director, South Nottinghamshire and Public Protection on behalf of NCC and countersigned by the Chair of Notts Watch. Notts Watch has been long supported by this Committee.

## **Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (NOPCC): Community Safety Fund 2016/17**

- 20.** The NOPCC Community Safety Fund totalling **£250,000** provides financial support to third sector organisations whose remit is to turn people away from a life of offending and support those who find themselves a victim. Organisations were able to apply for funding of up to £25,000 per project. A Community Safety Officer assisted NOPCC colleagues with the selection process to decide the 24 successful crime reduction schemes which included:
- 21. Nottinghamshire Neighbourhood Watch (“Notts Watch”): £5,000** to work with partners to assist residents to create new NHW schemes and information hubs (particularly in high-impact areas), and continue to advise and support existing coordinators as required.
- 22.** This funding supplements the previous contribution of £10,500 made from the County Council’s 2014/2015 Community Safety Initiatives Budget to support the growth, development and promotion of Neighbourhood Watch across the County.
- 23. National Centre for Citizenship and the Law (NCCL) “Virtual Justice”: £5,000.** The “Virtual Justice” project is a targeted early intervention awareness raising project which aims to safeguard and prevent young people from becoming involved in cybercrime and other cyber related issues.
- 24.** This funding enables the continuation of the pilot “Virtual Justice” project which received £12,500 Community Safety Initiatives funding from the County Council in July 2015 to work with secondary school students from the priority areas of Nottinghamshire to tackle cyber bullying, e-safety and child sexual exploitation.
- 25.** The NOPCC funding will be supplemented by funds from the NCCL’s annual fund raising dinner to enable the whole of year 8 from Outwood Academy Valley (Worksop) to participate in the project (285 pupils in total) between April and July 2016.
- 26.** Further information about the 24 successful projects can be found at: <http://www.nottinghamshire.pcc.police.uk/Our-Money/Grants-and-Funding/Community-Safety-Fund-2016-17.aspx>

## **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 in this report.
- 29.** The 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.** This report contains no additional financial implications, with activity reported or that proposed, being contained within the existing service budget.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1) It is recommended that the Community Safety Committee notes the various developments in the areas of work contained within this report.

**PAUL MCKAY**

**Service Director, South Nottinghamshire & 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 (EP 04/04/2016)**

This report is for noting only.

## **Financial Comments (KAS 05/04/16)**

There are no financial implications contained within this report

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

- 1) Home Office 'Prevent Action Plan'
- 2) Police and Crime Plan 2016 - 2018

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

All

