

**10<sup>th</sup> November 2015****Agenda Item: 8****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****Crime in Rural Areas – Policing Issues**

2. At the last meeting of this committee, Members received a report detailing the findings of the National Rural Crime Survey and a progress report on the development of a Crime in Rural Areas Strategy and associated action plan for Nottinghamshire. This strategy will be developed in partnership with other agencies and organisations operating within the County. A key partner in this work will be Notts Police, who will be key to ensuring that the strategy and action plan enables, as far as possible:
  - Crimes in rural areas are minimised
  - Fear of crime is reduced
  - Rural communities are resilient to crime
  - Local communities and partners acknowledge and adopt their roles in providing the solution
3. At the last meeting of this committee, Members expressed their concerns around some community safety issues within rural areas including, the level of engagement and empowerment of local communities together with the challenges of enforcement and security. Members were concerned about the impact of these issues on rural crime, not only on a personal level for individuals and communities but also in terms of the cost to businesses, agencies and organisations and the detrimental effect this can have on the development of vibrant, successful rural areas within the County.
4. In response to these concerns and questions Chief Superintendent Mark Holland, Divisional Commander, County Division, for Nottinghamshire is in attendance at this committee. Chief Superintendent Holland will give a short presentation outlining the views of Notts Police in this area, and will take questions and comments from Members.

## **Victim Support Services review**

5. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has commissioned a piece of work to review current services for victims and make recommendations for a new delivery model for victim support services. The PCC will then be procuring new victim services in 2016 and wants a targeted, effective and efficient service providing tailored outcome focused support for victims that need it most. Outcomes of the Victim Support Service review will be reported to this committee when known.

## **UK Syrian settlement**

6. The Community Safety Team is part of the County's multi-agency team looking at UK Syrian settlement. The Chair of the Community Safety Committee accompanied by the Group Manager, Emergency Planning and Registration represented the County Council at a multi-agency meeting hosted by Gedling Borough Council regarding the "Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme and support to Asylum Seekers." As a very rough initial estimate it is thought that Nottingham and Nottinghamshire will be able to commit to taking 400 of the 20,000 refugees the Government has said will come to the UK. Most of these will go to the City conurbation, including Gedling, Broxtowe and Rushcliffe.
7. The Community Safety Team is currently advising colleagues in Emergency Planning and Registration of potential implications of Community Safety arising from this commitment including impacts on hate crime and community cohesion.
8. The following recommendations have been put forward in developing various responses that cover:
  - Myth busting information on refugees and asylum seekers explaining the role they play in the life of the county.
  - Establishing links with appropriate health services and local workers in addressing social exclusion associated with displacement.
  - Continuing various projects jointly undertaken by the Community Safety Team in shifting people's attitudes towards those who are perceived as different to themselves including cultural differences and conciliation/mediation services to reduce levels of hate crime and promote cohesion.

## **Youth Crime Prevention Advisory Group**

9. As reported to this committee earlier this year, the Youth Crime Prevention Advisory Group (YCPAG) works to promote stronger and safer communities, to strengthen public life and to promote health and wellbeing.
10. The YCPAG adopts a focus on early interventions and universal education work with schools and other youth settings, young people and their families and the practitioners supporting them to build resilience with individuals, groups and the wider community.

11. At its heart, the “I AM” project focus of the YCPAG is about strengthening individual resilience and building individual and group capacity to prevent:
- Violent crime
  - Domestic and sexual abuse
  - Child sexual exploitation
  - Anti-social behaviour
  - Drugs and alcohol misuse
  - Bullying
  - Hate crime
  - Violent extremism
12. The Youth Crime Prevention Advisory Group, “I AM”, project was launched at the “Closing the Gap” conference held at Eastwood Hall on 29th September 2015.
13. “Closing the Gap” is a national initiative to improve attainment and achievement and to close the gap on educational achievement. Within Nottinghamshire, this initiative has been piloted within Newark and Sherwood and Bassetlaw and is currently under consideration for implementation countywide.
14. At the launch, an impressive range of key N.C.C service areas co-ordinated by the Community Safety Team, including the Achievement and Equalities Team, Anti-Bullying and Targeted Support, worked alongside Real Education and Each Amazing Breath, a Community Interest Company, showcasing a range of universal interventions for children, young people and families including Hate Crime prevention, Relationship Abuse Prevention, Anti Bullying, under the collective “I AM” project. The event was attended by Head Teachers and other senior leads.
15. Other “I AM” events being planned in November include - The Anne Frank Exhibition (launching on 9 November) and Anti-Bullying Week (starting 16 November). The Community Safety Team can provide more detailed information to individual members as required. These events will use the “I AM” project to promote the following key areas of activity and messages:-
- #nottsnotsilent campaign and promote “I AM”
  - “I AM” young, safe and willing to speak out and
  - “I AM” young, safe and making a noise about bullying.
16. The Community Safety Team has a critical lead role in the co-ordination of the “I AM” project group and are ensuring established links with the local Community Safety Partnerships are well integrated. Working closely with the Strategic Tackling Emerging Threats Children and Families and the newly merged Health Hub at a senior leadership level the Community Safety Team will ensure maximum impact from the future development and commissioning of the universal prevention offer for schools and other youth settings: facilitating a special focus on community safety issues.

## **Other Options Considered**

17. None

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

18. This report is a regular update to the Community Safety Committee to keep them abreast of local and national developments and the work of the Community Safety Team.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

19. 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**

20. There are no financial implications contained within this report

## **Recommendations**

1. That the Community Safety Committee notes the various developments in the areas of work contained in 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**

As this report is for noting only, Constitutional Comments are not required.

## **Financial Comments (KAS 19/10/15)**

The financial implications are contained within paragraph 20 of the report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

None

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

All