

5<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**Agenda Item: 9**

## **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR SOUTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND PUBLIC PROTECTION.**

### **COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES UPDATE**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To update the Community Safety Committee of the progress achieved from the Community Safety Initiatives budget for 2015/16.

#### **Information and Advice**

2. The County Council's overarching priorities have a strong emphasis on developing and supporting stronger, safer communities by protecting vulnerable people, maximizing safety, helping young people to live positive lives, and by helping diverse communities to feel secure. Community Safety consistently remains one of the top priorities the communities of Nottinghamshire wish the County Council to address.
3. The Initiatives Budget of the Community Safety Committee is utilised to initiate, support or develop specified work within the County. Progress on the work has been reported in previous update reports to the Committee. This report brings together all progress this year to date on relevant work streams.
4. Whenever possible, funding from this budget drives activity towards:
  - Demonstrating links to national, regional and local priorities;
  - Providing proportional interventions in response to emerging problems as early as possible; and
  - Promoting collaborative work, with additional funding provided from partner organisations.
5. Funding approved this year from the 'initiatives' budget, is summarised in the table overleaf:

<b>Total Community Safety “Initiatives” budget for 2015/16:</b>	<b>£262,380</b>
<b>Income from Police &amp; Crime Commissioner (PCC)*</b>	<b>£25,000</b>
<b>Total available for initiatives</b>	<b>£287,380</b>
<b>Commitments to date:</b>	
Contribution to the work of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board (SNB)	£140,000
Year 2 of the Best Bar None scheme	£15,000
Contribution to Police led Hate Crime campaign	£5,000
Gating Orders: Legal Advice	£2,000
Vehicle Nuisance: Junction 27 CCTV camera maintenance	£3,118
Virtual Justice project: Cybercrime	£12,500
Respect and Tolerance programme: Dragons Den 7	£7,000
Child Sexual Exploitation via social media	£10,000
Crime in Rural areas	£5,000
Mass marketing scams: further joint work with Nottinghamshire Police	(up to) £20,000
Vulnerable Person Panels: Mental Health representation	£20,000
Tackling Violence	(up to) £5,000
Integrated and cohesive communities	£10,000
Anne Frank Exhibition	£2,500
Vulnerable Person Panels: Social Worker Post	£12,000
<b>Remaining balance for other initiatives</b>	<b>£18,262</b>

(\*Additional income received for the contribution made by the Community Safety team in managing the PCC budget, including the administration of payments, and the production, monitoring and evaluation of costed delivery plans)

## Service Impact and Outcomes

- Contribution towards the work of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board – £140,000** - The Safer Nottinghamshire Board has targeted work as a priority in specified local areas. There are 18 areas across the County, known as Partnership Plus Areas identified based on careful data analysis.
- The 18 areas for 2015/16 are Sutton Central, Sutton East, Kirkby East, Sutton North, Hucknall, Carr Bank, Portland/Woodlands, Ladybrook, Oaktree, Worksop South, Worksop North West, Worksop South East, Castle, Bridge, Magnus, Eastwood, Trent Bridge, and, Netherfield and Colwick.

8. The Committee previously agreed to contribute £140,000 to this work, which has been supplemented by £300,000 from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) in recognition of the importance of the work and the effect of locality based actions. In addition, the OPCC contributed £57,000 to undertake work to tackle medium risk domestic violence in these locations.
9. This funding has enabled a broad menu of actions to take place in the Areas, which span the Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) across the County. Actions have been devised and driven by the CSP's, focused on work that has the most positive impact on local concerns and priorities, and which help to reduce crime and disorder, and anti-social behaviour, and the fear of crime.
10. A sample of the projects and activities taking place in the Partnership Plus Areas can be summarised under 7 broad headings, and include:-
  - 1. Securing premises, locations and property**
    - Target hardening of vulnerable properties and locations
    - Property logging and security marking
    - Bike security/logging
    - SAFE Scheme, targeting vulnerable locations
    - Improving and expanding CCTV
    - Use of capture vehicles
  - 2. Personal safety**
    - Street pastors
    - Taxi marshals
    - Increased reporting of DV medium risk
    - Work with door staff at licenced premises
  - 3. Expanding the reach of organised groups**
    - Shop watch
    - Pub watch
    - Neighbourhood watch
  - 4. Improving the landscape**
    - Environmental improvements, designing out crime opportunities
    - Work with street drinkers
    - Weeks of action
    - Nights of action
  - 5. Offering diversionary activities**
    - Youth diversionary activities to divert from crime and anti-social behaviour
  - 6. Awareness raising**
    - Safety awareness sessions for communities and crime prevention advice
    - Cultural awareness and community cohesion events
    - Impact of drug and alcohol misuse awareness sessions
    - Student safety

- Youth safety awareness events
- Sexual health awareness

## 7. Improving confidence

- Targeted work with victims of retail crime
- Debt advice
- Take 5 (mindfulness scheme)
- Street champions
- Work with new and emerging communities

## 11. Whenever possible, work in the Partnership Plus Areas:-

- Is undertaken on an “early intervention” basis, tackling problems before they have a chance to escalate;
  - Adopts a multi-agency approach;
  - Takes account of the changing environment – e.g. emergence of New Psycho-active Substances, ageing population, etc.;
  - Reacts to the impact of changing social and economic factors – e.g. increasing diversity, emerging communities and asylum seekers; and
  - Reflects current and emerging trends – e.g. threats of radicalisation and terrorism.
12. Full evaluation of all Partnership Plus projects is scheduled for the end of the financial year, and will be reported to the Committee. Data from the independent Crime Survey of England and Wales does show a reduction in victim based crimes in Nottinghamshire of 51%, from approximately 300,000 in 2006/07, to less than 150,000 (projected) in 2015/16. This trend is forecast to continue. This reduction is attributed by partners in part to the impact of these individual projects within Partnership Plus areas.
13. **Year 2 activity of the county wide Best Bar None scheme - £15,000** - The Best Bar None scheme, which started in the County in 2014/15, targets areas experiencing alcohol related problems, helping to change and then promote those areas as safer and vibrant places to visit at night. The scheme is recognised by the Home Office as having a positive effect on the night time economy.
14. This national scheme accredits safe and well operated licensed premises, based on the achievement of essential, desired and bonus criteria. Businesses which meet all of the essential criteria are awarded the coveted Best Bar None status.
15. The scheme is designed to:
- Reduce alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour;
  - Build strong relationships between the licensed trade, police and local authorities;
  - Reduce the harmful effects of binge drinking;
  - Improve the knowledge and skills of enforcement agencies, licensees, and bar staff to help them responsibly manage licensed premises;
  - Set minimum standards;
  - Recognise responsible owners, and share good practice with others; and

- Highlight how operating more responsibly can improve the profitability of an individual business, and attractiveness of an area.
- 16. The scheme is a good example of an industry led initiative. Applications have now been received from 128 venues in the County, while 81 venues participated in the first year of this scheme.
- 17. The £15,000 allocation by the Committee for 2015/16 has attracted further match funding of £15,000 from the OPCC, plus commercial sponsorship from the drinks industry. The results achieved so far have included:
  - 72 venues passing, 5 of which initially failed but subsequently passed after being coached and supported to achieve compliance.
  - 6 of those venues achieved 'Distinction', while 28 achieved a 'Merit'.
- 18. Now a reasonable cohort of premises have joined, future evaluation will look at mapping levels of alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour over time in the localities surrounding the premises that are now members.
- 19. **Hate Crime, Community Cohesion and Discrimination** – A number of Committee decisions have supported on-going work to tackle bullying, hate crime, and discrimination, and building community cohesion. Clearly, this area of work continues to be extremely important in light of the atrocities in Paris, the ongoing war in Syria, and the mass migration of refugees.
- 20. Apart from the initiatives developed, additional funding for the work has been attracted from a variety of external sources, including:
  - £1,200,000 - Nottinghamshire Schools Forum;
  - £1,000,000 - Lottery funding (National Heritage Fund)
  - £10,000 - The Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood Partnership.
  - £10,000 – The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 21. **Hate Crime Campaign – £5,000** – the campaign was launched on the 17<sup>th</sup> May to coincide with the International Day against Homophobia. Although a detailed progress update is anticipated at the end of January 2016, which will be shared with the Committee, early indications suggest that as a direct result of the campaign, a higher level of engagement on social media has occurred around hate crime, with a number of positive online interactions as a result with agencies.
- 22. The contribution of £5,000 from the community safety initiatives budget, attracted additional contributions of £10,000 from the Safer Nottinghamshire Board, and various contributions from other partner organisations.
- 23. **The 'Virtual Justice' project (Cyber-crime) - £12,500** - Child sexual exploitation is unfortunately still a very high priority both nationally, and more locally. Within the county, specific concerns have been raised by schools and police within the Newark area.

24. The £10,000 allocation made by the Committee, plus a match funding contribution of £10,000 contribution from the Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood Community Safety Partnership, helped year 10 school students to produce and communicate an awareness raising campaign for other young people aged 11-13 years.
25. The campaign was designed to communicate the dangers of on-line child sexual exploitation (including sexting). A further element raised awareness amongst parents and carers of social media platforms, and how to be more technologically aware to protect their children.
26. Learning resources have been provided for teachers and pupils to improve cyber-crime prevention, and to ensure e-safety becomes a shared agenda within schools. From January 2016, four secondary schools, will be participating in the Virtual Justice, and 960 young people, aged 11-14, from the priority Nottinghamshire areas will participate. Detailed evaluation will take place to establish the effectiveness of the programme in protecting those that have received the programme, when compared to those who have not.
27. **I am (previously the Respect and Tolerance programme) – Dragons Den and Take-Five - £7,000** - The aim of the programme is to engage children and young people to prevent hate crime, bullying, and youth violence, while promoting respect and tolerance.
28. The Committee contributed £7,000 in providing the opportunity for over 1,000 children and young people across the county to actively participate in various creative awareness raising and resilience techniques.
29. Progress achieved so far:
  - Developing publicity campaign materials, and market stall resources, that enabled 10 participating schools to take part in the Anti-Bullying Week, and the 'Make a Noise about Bullying' initiative; and
  - The Closing the Gap Conference, which included a Market Place, with stalls raising awareness on Domestic Abuse, Bullying, E-safety, Hate Crime, and Gypsy and Romany Traveller issues.
30. **Take Five** - has become a daily part of the school day since Worksop Priory decided to become part of the "Take Five" national pilot. This has been achieved with support from the Home Office Innovation Fund, which funds a range pilots to prevent demand in Nottinghamshire.
31. In terms of progress, St. Luke's, Prospect Hill Juniors, Redlands and Sir Edmund Hillary schools have also been trained in ripple two of Take Five. By Christmas, all schools will have had ripple three training, so by January 2016, 'Take Five' will be taking place fully in all four schools.
32. By January 2016, 1700 children (4-12 years) in eight schools will then be participating in 'Take Five', rising to 2000 young people by Easter 2016.

33. The Virtual Justice Project, Take Five at School, and Dragon's Den Style Project 7 are all being submitted to the 2015-2016 National Crimebeat Awards, on behalf of the current High Sheriff, Jas Bilkhu. All County submissions are co-ordinated on behalf of the High Sheriff by the Community Safety Team and the 'I am' steering group, co-ordinated by the Community Safety Team.
34. All of the 'I am' projects are now being carefully coordinated with the merged Health Hub and the Tackling Emerging Threats to Children Group within the Authority. They are now being included as part of the future universal offer for schools.
35. **Crime in Rural Areas - strategy and action plan - £5,000** - The development of the rural crime action plan for the County was approved in July 2015 to develop a rural crime action plan.
36. The Committee will recall that Nottinghamshire Police's Rural Crime lead attended a previous Committee Meeting to discuss and inform Members. Progress achieved so far:
  - Agreement reached with the OPCC regarding 3 key action areas, awareness raising, target hardening and focussed project work;
  - Discussions with representatives from the National Ramblers Association in promoting 'stay safe' tips whilst enjoying the countryside;
  - Links developed with the National Rural Crime Network, source of insight into the issues, and of good practice; and
  - Development of a partnership of a protocol on illegal grazing across the County.
37. Discussions are taking place with the Community Safety team and Nottinghamshire Police rural crime lead for a joint County and Police action plan, which is currently under development. The draft will be available late January 2016, and circulated amongst members and parish councils for comment.
38. **Mass marketing scams - further joint work with Nott's Police - £20,000** - The Committee agreed to allocate a further £20,000 in continuing the further secondment of a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) to work with Trading Standard Officers, in protecting vulnerable residents from losing their life savings to mass marketing scams.
39. As Members will be aware, Nottinghamshire Police have been undergoing a budget reduction programme, one strand of which was to reduce the number of PCSO's in the force. During this process, the Police felt unable to second another officer to the Authority. As such, the funds have not been spent as yet. Work continues to be undertaken with the Service, and Members will recall information given within the Trading Standards update reports.
40. **Vulnerable Persons Panels - Mental Health representation – Social Worker Post (£20,000 + £12,000)** - the Committee agreed funding to strengthen the county's Vulnerable Person Panels' (VPP's) capability to respond to cases and prevent escalation to a requirement for Adult Social Care services. This approved funding supplemented a £13,300 contribution from the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

41. In November, a recruitment process was undertaken to select an experienced Social Worker to the role of Social Worker (Community Safety) who it is intended will attend each of the seven VPP's that take place in the districts across the county. Negotiations are currently underway to secure the release of the successful candidate to the temporary role.
42. There are currently a number of cases at VPP's that require support, but do not meet eligibility criteria for many partners, so there is no clear 'pathway' for dealing with the case. Many of these cases have a mental health dimension.
43. Holding a small number of such cases, of high complexity, the Social Worker Community Safety will work with partners and stakeholders to use the information gained from these cases and the panel meetings, to develop a pathway, identify service gaps and make recommendations as to how support could be best provided in the future. Detailed evaluation will take place once the post has been operational for an appropriate period.
44. **Tackling Violence - Preventing Violent Extremism - £5,000** - Recent events worldwide have reinforced the need for agencies to work together to Prevent Violent Extremism, to promote strong and cohesive communities, and to strengthen the sense of safety amongst groups and individuals.
45. The Community Safety Team has the lead in developing a Preventing Violent Extremism Plan for Nottinghamshire, working closely with the City and each of the District and Borough Councils. This work has attracted £80,000 in funding from the Home Office to facilitate it across the County. The Team is working with Districts and Boroughs to implement a programme of staff training and awareness as the first priority area of work.
46. From the £5,000 agreed by this Committee to "tackle violence", £3,500 will contribute to this work, targeting County Council staff who need this training and awareness as a matter of urgency. These include staff within schools, front line staff, and staff working with vulnerable people. The training will take place early in 2016, and will be offered to Elected Members.
47. **Youth Violence** - A key tenet of Dragon's Den work is tackling violence affecting young people, dissuading them from becoming perpetrators and preventing them from becoming victims. £1,500 will contribute to the Dragons Den judging event, where the learning achievements and contributions of young people are recognised. The remainder of the funding required for this event (£8,000) has been provided by Ashfield and Mansfield District Councils. The event is planned to take place in March 2016. Members of this committee will receive invitations to attend
48. **Integrated and Cohesive Communities – £10,000** - the Committee will recall approving this figure to support initiatives to promote integrated and cohesive communities. The demographics of our communities are constantly changing, and this proposal sought to work with new and emerging communities to create a common shared vision, and sense of belonging. These communities often suffer a disproportional level of crime and anti-social behaviour.



49. This work is being delivered by colleagues in the Community & Voluntary Sector Team, building on work undertaken in 2014/15, which delivered a number of successful initiatives, including Eastern European/British intergeneration celebrations, the 'Mind the Gap' programme, enabling parents to read with children to understand different cultures, a Gypsy and Traveller event to celebrate Gypsy and Romany Traveller history, and a project bringing young adults with learning disabilities together with members of the 'Men in Sheds' project.
50. A detailed update report is included in the Update on the work of the Community and Voluntary Sector Team being presented to the Committee on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016. The appendix to that report details five initiatives that have, or are about to take place.
51. **Anne Frank Exhibition – £2500** - The Committee agreed to contribute towards the cost of the exhibition. From the 6-26 November, the Council hosted the "Anne Frank + You" Exhibition as part of on-going anti-bullying, hate crime, community cohesion and anti-discrimination work. The main exhibition was hosted in Mansfield Central Library, with a smaller satellite exhibition at the DH Lawrence Heritage Centre in Eastwood. The exhibitions were open to schools, youth groups, and the general public, and were launched to coincide with the anniversary of 'Kristallnacht - The Night of Broken Glass'.
52. Organising the exhibitions brought together School Improvement, Community Safety, Anti-bullying, Youth Arts and the Youth Service, alongside the Library Service, the voluntary sector, the police and several district councils. The focus was "learning lessons from history to find solutions to contemporary issues".
53. The formal evaluation is now being compiled, and will be available in January. Anecdotal feedback though has been very good – for example, feedback from year 6 Sutton Primary school students and teachers was very positive, stating they all had learnt a lot about the historical context of Anne Frank, and how it directly relates to contemporary issues of racism, discrimination and hate crime.

## Other Options Considered

54. None

## Reason/s for Recommendation/s

55. This is an information report.

## Statutory and Policy Implications

56. 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**

57. This report contains no additional financial implications, with activity reported or that proposed being contained within existing committed service budget.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

58. It is recommended that the Community Safety Committee notes the updates on the various developments in the areas of work contained in the report.

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## **Constitutional Comments**

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

## **Financial Comments (CT 22.12.15)**

The financial implications are contained within paragraph 5 and 57 of the report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

- Home Office 'Prevent Action Plan'
- The Police and Crime Plan 2015 – 2018

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

- All