

21st April 2015**Agenda Item: 6****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR ACCESS AND PUBLIC
PROTECTION****COMMUNITY SAFETY BUDGET UPDATE – REQUEST FOR FUNDING****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for committing funding from the Community Safety Initiatives Budget for 2015/2016 to:
 - a) Contribute to the work of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board (£140,000);
 - b) Support year 2 of the county wide Best Bar None scheme (£15,000);
 - c) Contribute to a Nottinghamshire Police led Hate Crime campaign (£5,000).

Information and Advice**Community Safety Budget**

2. Each year, a proportion of the Community Safety Budget is allocated to initiatives across the County that are designed to reduce crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour, reduce the fear of crime, and increase levels of community safety within our communities. Initiatives are targeted at vulnerable communities, and are designed to tackle the issues that are causing the most harm to communities and individuals.
3. The total funding available within the Community Safety “initiatives” budget for 2015/2016 is **£262,380**.

Contribution to the work of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board (£140,000 from 2015/2016)

4. The work programme of the of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board is a mix of locality based actions in the 18 Partnership Plus Areas (PPAs) of the County and a range of thematic county-wide projects, covering such issues as hate crime, domestic abuse, substance misuse, youth issues and anti-social behaviour. To fund this work in 2015/2016 the Police and Crime Commissioner has pledged approx. £1.2 million. It is proposed that a contribution from the Council of £140,000 is made to support this work.
5. Locality work is currently the subject of a major review commissioned by the Safer Nottinghamshire Board. This review is due for completion later in 2015 and will make recommendations for introducing and improving effective locality working within the resource constraints now faced by all agencies. Until the findings of the review have been finalised it

is intended that the current 18 PPAs remain in operation until 30th September 2015, at which time they will be reviewed.

6. The proposal is that £70,000 of the £140,000 will be shared amongst the current 18 Partnership Plus Areas to support their work up until 30th September 2015. The remaining £70,000 would then be allocated to support locality working for the second half of the year in line with the recommendations of the review.

Best Bar None Project (£15,000)

7. Best Bar None is a national award scheme promoting responsible management and operation of alcohol licenced premises. The scheme is an excellent example of an industry-led campaign, reducing drunkenness, and in particular, reducing drunken violence. The scheme promotes targeted action by pubs and clubs as this is a proven method of effectively curbing irresponsible drinking.
8. This three year scheme, which started in 2014/15 runs across the county, targeted at those areas experiencing alcohol related issues. Implementation costs are approximately £30,000 per annum to provide co-ordinated support, provision of promotional events, website and marketing materials and travelling and training costs.
9. To enable this scheme to be introduced, the County Council contributed £15,000 from the Community Safety Budget (2013/2014), which was agreed at the Community Safety Committee meeting on 29th April 2014, with £15,000 match funding from the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner.
10. The scheme has reached its first year of implementation achieving a range of successes during 2014/15, a few of which are highlighted below:
 - 30 Best Bar None assessors have been trained and allocated venues to assess to support licenced premises which have applied to take part in the scheme to meet an agreed set of operational standards. Once these standards are met by the licensee, they become a Best Bar None accredited venue, receiving posters and window stickers advertising this;
 - Each year all accredited venues have the chance to win awards. Some of the winners are decided by a public vote and the rest are chosen by a panel of expert judges. A County-wide awards ceremony is likely to take place in July 2015 with local borough award ceremonies due to take place towards the end of May 2015.
 - A variety of sponsorship support has been agreed, including a number of commercial sponsors from the drinks industry, a local solicitors firm and the Beeston Business Improvement District.
 - A website for the scheme has been produced and is available at www.nottinghamshirebbn.com.
11. The proposal is for a further £15,000 contribution to the running of the scheme for 2015/2016, with £15,000 match funding expected from the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner.

Contribution to Nottinghamshire Police led Hate Crime Campaign (£5,000)

12. Nottinghamshire Police statistics show there has been an increase in monitored hate crimes and incidents in Nottinghamshire. Between April 2013 and March 2014 there were 1,396 incidents and crimes, an increase of 14% on the previous year. During this period:
 - Disability hate crime increased 73.9% (17 more crimes)
 - Sexual Orientation hate crime increased 30.6% (15 more crimes)
 - Race hate crime increased 12.3% (63 more crimes)
 - Religion hate crime increased 88.2% (15 more crimes)
13. The campaign aims to raise awareness amongst the general public to highlight the impact hate crime has, demonstrate that it is not tolerated, and to encourage victims to report it. The campaign is informed by police research, focussed observation and discussion with the public and other organisations. The campaign will be piloted in Nottinghamshire and has the potential to be rolled out nationally through the Association of Chief Police Officers.
14. As the target audience is at different levels of understanding the campaign adopts a three pronged approach:
 - Improve the public's understanding and perception of what constitutes a hate crime by raising awareness and educating the wider public.
 - Highlight the fact that hate crime affects everyone and can be a problem anywhere
 - Encourage people to confidently report hate crimes and incidents
15. The campaign will focus on "hot spot" areas with elevated levels of hate crime and incidents, or where community tensions have been identified. Within these areas the night time economy sees the highest level of hate incidents and under reporting, and the focus will be on ensuring the campaign materials are prevalent through the transport network and in outlets such as taxis, off licences and takeaways, as well as education, entertainment, and sports grounds.
16. The campaign visuals have been developed in partnership with community organisations, service providers, and groups to ensure that they give a voice to the day to day experience of communities experiencing hate crime. The campaign will firmly support the "No Bystanders" Campaign and the message of the citizens survey 'No place for hate'. The visuals are only part of what will be a wider social and media campaign that will feature the effects of what may be deemed 'less serious' incidents such as verbal abuse and the effects on quality of life, and feelings of safety. The campaign will also publicise and promote positive actions and outcomes for victims and communities.
17. The proposal is for a £5,000 contribution to the campaign which will supplement a £10,000 contribution from the Safer Nottinghamshire Board and contributions from other partner organisations. It is anticipated that the community campaign will launch on May 17th to coincide with the International Day against Homophobia. The campaign will also celebrate other key dates throughout the calendar year including: Disability Awareness Day, Black History Month, World Mental Health Day, and Anti-Bullying Week.

Other Options Considered

18. There will be other options for use of the community safety initiatives budget and proposed spends of the remaining £102,380 balance will be the subject of future reports to the Community Safety Committee.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

19. Community Safety remains one of the key concerns for the residents of Nottinghamshire. The recommendations contained within this report will enable funding to action a range of targeted projects specifically designed to combat the issues of, crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour, whilst at the same time combatting the fear of crime. Any reductions in these issues encourages the development of strong, healthy and vibrant communities, reducing the risks to those deemed as vulnerable within those communities

Statutory and Policy Implications

20. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, 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

21. The requests totalling £160,000 can all be met from within the Community Safety initiatives budget.

RECOMMENDATION/S

22. That the following contributions be made from the Community Safety Initiatives Budget for 2015/16:
- i. Safer Nottinghamshire Board (£140,000)
 - ii. Best Bar None Project (£15,000)
 - iii. Hate Crime Campaign (£5,000)

PAUL MCKAY

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (SLB 02/04/2015)

Community Safety Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments (KAS 02/04/15)

The financial implications are contained within paragraph 20 of 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.

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected: All.