

28 January 2014**Agenda Item: 5****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING
POLICY, PLANNING AND CORPORATE SERVICES****“I PLEDGE TO KEEP ON TRACK” AND OTHER YOUTH CRIME INITIATIVES
UPDATE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update and provide an overview to the committee on the following community safety and youth crime prevention initiatives:
 - “I Pledge to Keep on Track” Youth Crime Prevention Programme
 - D-Vibe Online Substance Use Survey and Lifeskills-Education Programme
 - Dragon’s Den Style Project – Ashfield
 - Nottinghamshire Cyber Survey

Information and Advice**“I Pledge To Keep On Track” Youth Crime Prevention Programme**

2. The programme is funded in 2013/14 by Nottinghamshire County Council, working alongside Nottinghamshire Police and Experian, and is supported by a wide range of community safety providers. Approximately 3000 pupils from the Partnership Plus Areas across the County have attended the National Centre for Citizenship and the Law, Galleries of Justice and successfully participated in the youth crime prevention programme. The programme is also now being used with schools from three Nottingham City schools and schools across three boroughs of London.
3. Morven Park Primary, the winners of “I Pledge to Keep On Track” Youth Crime Prevention Programme 2013, will be holding a whole school celebration event to present their plan to re-design the area outside their school which has previously attracted anti-social behaviour.
4. The “I Pledge to Keep On Track”, Programme, which includes the new Keep On Track Safety Books series is nationally accredited via the Learning About Safety by Experiencing Risk (LASER) Alliance. A full evaluation of the 2013 programme is now available and has illustrated some very positive outcomes for the third year of delivery.

Headline results for “I Pledge to Keep On Track” Youth Crime Prevention Programme:

How much do you know about the law and how it affects people your age?

5. Before participating in the programme the majority 60% felt they knew ‘nothing’ or ‘a little about how the law affects people of their age. Only 2% felt they knew they knew ‘lots’. After the programme 70% felt they knew ‘lots’ about the law.

How much do you know about how committing a crime can affect your whole life?

6. Prior to visit two, 17% of participants felt they knew ‘lots’ about the effects committing a crime could have on their lives. After the second visit this increased to 61%, with only 2% feeling they knew ‘nothing’, suggesting that their understanding of the varied ways committing a crime can affect your life had increased significantly.

How much do you feel that you are able to help make where you live or your school a safer place?

7. The question was asked before and after both visits in order to chart the change in participants’ opinion to this over the duration of the programme:
 - Before taking part in the I Pledge project, 27% of participants felt they could do ‘lots’ to make their area a safer place. 38% of participants felt there was ‘nothing’ or ‘a little’ that they could do. After completing the project 99% of participants felt that there was something that they could do to help make their area a safer place with the majority 65% of participants feeling they could do ‘lots’.

Knowledge Retention Evaluation

8. All participants took part in the knowledge retention evaluation at the beginning of their second visit. Students were scored on how many of the questions, which related to information learnt on visit one, they got correct. All participants got 60% or more of the answers correct, showing that all participants retained a good level of knowledge from their first visit. The majority 43% of participants got between 85% and 89% of the answers correct. While almost a third of participants 29% answered 100% of the questions correctly.

9. Work with Nottinghamshire Police and Experian is ongoing as part of the On Track Partnership and work is currently underway to develop and expand the existing Life-skills Education web-site to host the “I Pledge to Keep On Track” lesson plans and programme evaluations. The Keep On Track Safety books are currently available to download for free from this web-site and have been disseminated in hard copy to Nottinghamshire Police, all county libraries and targeted youth support settings. Hard copies of the Keep On Track Safety books have also been made available to all schools participating in “I Pledge to keep on Track 2013-14.

10. As part of the LASER Alliance accreditation the full evaluation for 2013 has been disseminated, with a view to sharing nationally with all LASER and ROSPA members.

D-Vibe Online Substance Use Survey & Lifeskills Education Programme

11. Nottinghamshire County Council's Community Safety Team including the Strategic Analytical Unit (SAU) is working in partnership with Lifeskills Education and has just secured funding for D-Vibe online substance use survey and Lifeskills Education programmes. The funding has been made available as a result of a successful pilot. The pilot included two secondary schools, four primary schools and one special school from Mansfield. The D-Vibe survey and Lifeskills Education Programme is currently being rolled out to additional secondary schools across Mansfield and Ashfield priority areas.

12. The pilot evaluation provided some interesting and useful findings (see below headline summary). It is anticipated that the current roll out will result in a defined baseline and a clear understanding of the issues relating to young people and substance use for those priority areas and improved outcomes for those students participating in the Lifeskills Education programmes. Data will continue to be collated by the S.A.U and be fed back to inform the Safer Nottinghamshire Board.

- There is a real worry about parental use of drugs and alcohol
- Nearly 80% of pupils have never been drunk
- Nearly 70% of non-smokers indicate that they are not likely to smoke
- Nearly 18% drink alcohol at home with their family
- Nearly 50% of pupils' families smoke around them either 'sometimes' or 'all of the time'
- The greatest worry is for pupils to either be mugged or attacked
- 17% of pupils think the information and advice on smoking needs to be better, although 44% believe it is 'good enough'
- Drug use is very low, although given the low number in the secondary cohort, this is to be expected, as drug use is associated with increased age, and most of the respondents were aged 10 or 11 years old.
- Only 2.3% of pupils indicated that they had been drunk in the last 4 weeks. This is well below the England average of 12% in 2011, although given getting drunk is associated with age, ethnicity and other risky behaviours (smoking, drug taking and truancy), the results are to be expected due to low cohort size of secondary pupils. Nationally 11% of 11 year olds have ever had an alcoholic drink, compared with 74% of 15 year olds.

13. The D-Vibe Survey and Lifeskills Education programmes are accessible online to all participating schools via the Lifeskills Education web-site at www.lifeskills-education.co.uk Each school is also supported by a fully trained worker, who is able to offer pre and post survey information, advice and support.

Dragons' Den Style Project – Ashfield

14. Year 10 students from all the Ashfield Secondary schools are invited each year to channel their entrepreneurial skills to participate in a Dragons' Den-style competition. The teams of students are tasked to tackle a local community safety or crime prevention issue, which is causing problems and identified locally using a problem-solving approach. In previous years this has included projects to tackle alcohol and anti-social behaviour. Dragons' Den 5 has worked with young people to raise awareness of domestic violence and teenage relationship abuse and to promote healthy relationships. It has won the Police and Crime Commissioner's 2013 award for problem solving and has successfully secured a further £5,000 funding.
15. The project has been funded by Ashfield Community Safety Partnership and Mansfield Partnership Against Crime Joint Executive Group. The project is co-ordinated by the steering group and includes; Mansfield and Ashfield District Council, Nottinghamshire Police and is chaired by Nottinghamshire Community Safety Team. The project steering group significantly benefits from the inclusion of curriculum leads from the following schools; Ashfield Academy, Kirkby College; Quarrydale, Sutton and Selston Community College.
16. For Dragons' Den 5, additional curriculum support and one-to-one follow up support has been secured from the domestic abuse services providers – Equation, Women's Aid Integrated Services (WAIS), Nottinghamshire Women's Aid and North Nottinghamshire Independent Domestic Abuse Service (NIDAS). The project is also supported by the National LASER Alliance.

Nottinghamshire Cyber Survey

17. As part of Nottinghamshire's support for Safer Internet Day, a survey of the young people from the county was supported through our local schools. This was a free online survey which would give both the local authority and individual schools a clearer insight into what young people are doing online, the extent to which they are being bullied, subjected to inappropriate language including homophobic insults and the effectiveness of the methods used to educate them.
18. Over 5000 young people 10 years and over took part from 30 secondary schools, 40 primary and 3 special. 6 out of the 7 Dragons' Den project participating schools took part as a result of the publicity this initiative provided. This data is being reviewed by the County Anti-Bullying Coordinator and is expected to influence curriculum planning and targeting of resources in future. This should contain an explanation of why the recommendation has been chosen ahead of other options available.

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 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.

Equalities Implications

20. All the above programmes currently target children and young people in priority areas of those areas of most deprivation. There is no reason other than funding that would prevent the programmes being offered to all primary and secondary schools across the county. All resources that are developed by any of the above projects will be made available for all County schools to download for free via the www.lifeskills-education web-site.

Implications for Service Users

21. Pupils have clearly benefited from the interactive style of all the programmes listed above 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. Creating opportunities for participants to feedback to their peers via whole school assemblies and more directly via tutor time allows the positive learner from the programmes to cascade to a wider audience. The programmes having been designed to coincide with the pupil's final year of primary school and at key stages during their secondary education, provide a solid knowledge base, enhancing and strengthening resistance and independence skills to prevent crime and sound transition from primary and ongoing throughout their secondary education and transition into adult life.
22. Teaching staff are enabled to draw on the programmes to enrich the curriculum, whilst still meeting key targets relating to literacy.
23. 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 all the programmes.

Crime and Disorder Implications

24. Full evaluations of the above programmes and the "Scanning Analyse Response Assessment" (SARA) award report for Dragons' Den 5 are available as Background papers.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) It is recommended that Members note the success of the projects outlined in the report.

**Martin Done, Service Director Communications and Marketing
Policy, Planning and Corporate Services**

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Constitutional Comments (NAB 16/01/14)

25. The Community Safety Committee has authority to consider the matters in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SEM 15/01/14)

26. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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.

- The full evaluation report for each programme
- The “Scanning Analyse Response Assessment” (S.A.R.A) award report for Dragons’ Den 5

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All