

29th September 2015**Agenda Item: 5****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**“Tackling the Threat of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)” Workshop event – 16th
October 2015.**

2. In response to the draft Psychoactive Substances Bill 2015/16, which aims to introduce a blanket ban and is likely to become law in early 2016, Trading Standards & Community Safety, Public Health, and Crimestoppers have joined forces to organise a half day workshop event for practitioners within the county.
3. The event aims to raise awareness of the dangers of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) and share good practice for tackling their use, distribution and the damage they cause.
4. Local knowledge gathered from partners at the event will assist in mapping out a targeted media campaign across the county. Practitioners will also discuss the draft legislative changes and learn how local authorities, police forces and other agencies can build on existing practice to work together to tackle the use and distribution of NPS.
5. This workshop event has generated a lot of interest amongst partners through various networks with invitations being sent to district councils, colleagues working in schools, children's and adult's social care, universities, Police, Fire, Prison, Health and the voluntary sector.

Anti-Social Behaviour: Gating Orders and Public Space Protections Orders.

6. Under previous Gating Orders legislation the Council as Highway Authority had the power to temporarily gate a public right of way where the problems of crime and anti-social behaviour could be shown to stem from that passageway, path etc. From 20th October 2014, with the

introduction of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, Gating Orders were replaced by Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs). PSPOs became the responsibility of District/ Borough Councils as part of their wider powers and responsibilities under that legislation.

7. Since that date, no new Gating Orders can be made, although Gating Orders already in existence continue to have effect until 19th October 2017, unless revoked by the County Council or replaced by the District / Borough Council in the meantime. After three years any remaining County Council Gating Orders will automatically become Public Space Protection Orders.
8. The Community Safety Team, with assistance from Legal colleagues, has liaised with District and Borough Councils to manage this transition by providing historical data in relation to the existing Gating Orders within the county.

Nottinghamshire Hate Crime Pledge and Policy

9. The Safer Nottinghamshire Board Hate Crime Steering Group (SNB HCSG) has agreed to a joint 'No to Hate!' organisational pledge. This pledge commits organisations to tackle hate crime both in communities and also within their own organisations by adopting effective policies and procedures. It obliges any organisation to set itself up to tackle prejudice, promote respect and ensure that both the public and its own staff feel safe and confident to challenge hate crime.
10. The pledge will be launched officially on 18 December 2015 at an event at the National Holocaust Centre at which the Chief Constable, Police and Crime Commissioner, amongst other community and civic leaders, will make the pledge on behalf of their organisations.
11. In tandem with the pledge the SNB HCSG has also recommended the adoption of a local authority Hate Crime Policy by both the County and District Councils adopted from a model in place in Ashfield.
12. This policy aims to improve how councils report, record and respond to hate crimes and incidents. It provides guidance to council employees on how to deal with hate incidents to ensure that they are dealt with promptly, appropriately and effectively. It particularly focuses on how staff should react when dealing with incidents on council premises, during the delivery of any service by (or on behalf of) the council and any hate crime within the community that a member of the public wishes to report.
13. The proposed Hate Crime Policy has the unanimous support of the County Council's Corporate Leadership Team and a report recommending its formal adoption by the County Council will come to the November Community Safety Committee ahead of approval by the Policy Committee in December.

Vulnerable Person Panel - Update

14. Each district has in place, under the umbrella of the Community Safety Partnership, multi-agency panel based arrangements for dealing with vulnerable people. These are generally known as Vulnerable Person Panels (VPP). The VPP consider individual cases involving

people identified as vulnerable to, for example, antisocial behaviour, hate crime or domestic violence, as determined by each VPP. The purpose of these meetings is to share relevant information about a case and then to ensure that appropriate interventions and problem solving plans are in place and being delivered.

15. Following a review of VPPs in 2014 there is now an agreed set of minimum standards for all VPPs in the county to ensure a consistent level of Service. These standards include the introduction of a common Terms of Reference, drawing on the key elements of the documents currently used in each district, which are soon to be consulted on. At the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Adult Board development day, held in May 2015, it became clear that there needs to be awareness raised of VPPs within the health sector. A shared Terms of Reference will be invaluable in doing this.
16. Membership remains the area of most concern within VPPs, in particular representation from Mental Health practitioners when so many VPP cases have a mental health dimension. A number of actions are now being progressed to address this situation. These include:
 - A commitment from Nottinghamshire County Council for there to be mental health representation from Adult Social Care at all VPPs.
 - To further strengthen the service offer in relation to mental health support, conversations have taken place with the Associate Director for Safeguarding and Social Care within the Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust to explore what relevant services they offer. Representatives from the Trust are intending to attend forthcoming VPPs as part of this exploration.
 - The mental health strategy for Nottinghamshire, “No Health without Mental Health”, is owned by the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board. To facilitate working on this shared agenda of mental health, a workshop is to be held involving key stakeholders working under the umbrella of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board (SNB) and the Health and Wellbeing Board. The aim of this workshop is to develop an agreed pathway for managing cases where there is a mental health dimension but the threshold for Adult Social Care is not met.
 - At a future Health and Wellbeing Board meeting an agenda item will be heard looking at how the work of the VPPs fit with the preventative strand of the mental health strategy. This will include sharing issues raised in relation to services available for some of the people who become known to the panels, the proposal of holding a joint event to explore how the needs of these people can be met and, where this highlights a gap in provision, the consideration of how this can be addressed through working in partnership with the voluntary sector.
17. In the interim, to support the management of cases with a mental health element whilst a pathway is being developed longer term, work is being progressed to introduce an additional service to the VPPs, based on a model of working used in Nottingham City. This involves the use of case workers who provide intensive support for vulnerable adults with complex needs. In Nottingham City such case workers are from a voluntary sector organisation that has received Police and Crime Commissioner funding to provide this service. As a result of this service there has been a reduction in calls to the police, visits to Accident and

Emergency and demand for Adult Social Care services from the individuals receiving support.

18. The Police and Crime Commissioner has made £13,329 available to the SNB Vulnerable Person Champion, Paul McKay, to support work with vulnerable people in the county which, jointly with £20,000 Community Safety Initiatives funding approved at the July Community Safety Committee, will be used to support this service.
19. In relation to this longer term work there are ongoing conversations with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to look for opportunities to weave together the VPP work with the re-commissioning of the victim services they are currently undertaking.
20. The importance of ensuring that the VPPs are further strengthened is increasingly apparent as they are to be utilised more consistently for existing and new agendas. This includes the intention later this year to refer all Hate Crime cases reported to Nottinghamshire Police to the VPPs and also the inclusion in the Multi-Agency Hoarding Framework of the VPPs as a possible arena in which such cases could be managed.
21. Nottinghamshire Police are leading work on a new initiative, funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner, to utilise a shared case management system for the VPPs. This system, which is called "E-CINS", has been used successfully in Ashfield District Council and Nottingham City for some time now but the efforts going forward are to make this multi-agency and countywide.

Connecting Communities (C2) - Update

22. As previously reported the Clinical Commissioning Groups operating in Daybrook, Hucknall and the New Cross area of Sutton in Ashfield are funding the implementation of an evidence based approach to working with communities that seeks to reconnect those living and working in focus neighbourhoods. This programme is called Connecting Communities, which is abbreviated to C2.
23. Work in Daybrook has been longest established with residents and service providers delivering actions to target the issues of most concern to local people, as opposed to the issues that are highlighted through performance information, such as crime statistics. New Cross is at the earlier stages of implementation but action groups are now forming to develop plans, again based around the issues that are of importance to residents.
24. One of the key principles agreed by the Safer Nottinghamshire Board, around which community safety partnerships will be shaping their ways of working going forward, includes 'Involving the community'. This is further defined as:
 - We will create resident-led partnerships which enable communities to play a significant role in identifying and responding to the issues that most affect them.
 - No decisions will be taken by partners without the involvement of local people, including young people, who live in a neighbourhood.
 - Identify and nurture community strengths and assets rather than focussing on problems and deficits.

25. Within Ashfield, where two of the C2 sites are, representatives from C2 are supporting the efforts of the community safety partnership covering this area to develop a new model of working that further operationalises this principle across all the Partnership Plus areas within the District. This involves challenging existing practices and checking partner's receptiveness to really handing over control to residents. It also necessitates reconsidering current performance management and evaluation approaches which traditionally are built around statistics, such as crime, rather than quality of life indicators.
26. There also needs to be a willingness to commit to a long term way of working. The underlying causes of crime and inequalities have been established and embedded over a significant number of years. To redress this will also take a number of years if real sustainable change is to be achieved. There should be, however, indicators that neighbourhoods are travelling in the right direction along the way though to support a continued commitment to this work. These conversations are currently taking place in Ashfield with a view to developing an action plan that will outline how the partnership will work going forward.

Take Five National Pilot - Update

27. In July children from Worksop Priory Primary School who have been taking part in the Take Five programme, a new national pilot which helps them feel calmer, more focused and more in control, got a chance to showcase their skills during a high-profile visit from VIPs including Dr Jas Bilkhu, High Sherriff of Nottinghamshire and Councillor Glynn Gilfoyle.
28. Take Five has become a daily part of the school day since Worksop Priory decided to become part of the "Take Five" national pilot, with support from the Home Office Innovation Fund, which is funding a range pilots aimed at preventing demand in Nottinghamshire.
29. Take Five is a skill set, delivered by community interest company, Each Amazing Breath. It uses breathing, grounding and awareness techniques that can be used in very short periods of time, from between 30 seconds and five minutes. The techniques help students in a variety of ways including helping the young people feel more confident, more resilient, better able to concentrate and better able to get on with each other. The practices are used at least twice a day for a couple of minutes, often first thing in the morning, when the children arrive in school, and again after the lunch break.
30. The children said it helped clear their brain from problems. The class felt quieter afterwards and it got them ready for the next lesson. Teachers report that the children self-apply the techniques when they are feeling tense or upset in the playground and that they are also sharing them with their families
31. More information about Take Five and how this national pilot has been rooted and developed in Worksop can be found at: www.eachamazingbreath.org.uk.

Other Options Considered

32. None

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

33. This 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

34. 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.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 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

As this report is for noting only, no constitutional comments are required.

Financial Implications (KAS – 11/9/15)

There are no financial implications contained within this report

Background Papers and Published Documents

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All