

14th July 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 a total of **£89,500** funding from the Community Safety Initiatives Budget for 2015/16 to:
 - a) Fund the “Virtual Justice” pilot project to work with secondary school students from the priority areas of Nottinghamshire to tackle cyber bullying, e-safety and child sexual exploitation (**£12,500**).
 - b) Contribute to the funding of a county wide co-ordinated “Respect and Tolerance” programme of children and young people participation to combat low level hate crime and bullying and to promote emotional well-being and academic resilience (**£7,000**).
 - c) Contribute to the funding of a project to work with young people in Newark, Sherwood and Bassetlaw to raise awareness of and tackle child sexual exploitation and its link to social media (**£10,000**).
 - d) Contribute to funding the development and launch of a “Crime in Rural Areas” strategy and associated partnership action plan for the County (**up to £5,000**).
 - e) To fund further joint work with Nottinghamshire Police to protect vulnerable Nottinghamshire residents from becoming repeat victims of mass marketing scams (**up to £20,000**).
 - f) Contribute to the funding of work to strengthen the county’s Vulnerable Person Panels’ capability in responding to cases involving a mental health dimension. (**£20,000**).
 - g) To fund a public awareness campaign to reduce the fear of crime associated with violent incidents across the County, promoting Nottinghamshire as a safe and vibrant location that will not tolerate violence (**up to £5,000**).
 - h) To support a range of projects and activities specifically designed to promote integrated and cohesive communities in Nottinghamshire, recognising diversity and focusing on strong, positive relationships between people from different backgrounds,

empowering local people to take an active role in the development of their local area.
(£10,000)

Information and Advice

Community Safety Budget.

- 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 and confidence 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.
- Funding proposals approved to date from the “initiatives” element of the Community Safety Budget for 2015-16 are summarised in the following table:

Total Community Safety “Initiatives” budget for 2015/16:	£262,380
Income from Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC)*	£25,000
Total budget available for initiatives	£287,380
Total committed so far:	
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
Remaining balance for other initiatives	£122,262

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

“Virtual Justice” project: Cyber-crime (£12,500).

- Cyber-crime is on the increase particularly for many young people who frequently access social media sites. £12,500 funding is sought for this project to raise awareness of the dangers of cyber-crime such as cyber-bullying and online child sexual exploitation (Including sexting) and to teach students and their parents about e-safety to protect themselves.
- The “Virtual Justice” project is based on the nationally recognised National Centre for Citizenship and Law’s (NCCL) and Nottinghamshire County Council’s “I Pledge to Keep on Track” Youth Crime Prevention programme, which has been previously funded by this committee. The programme will be delivered directly to over 960 young people aged 11-14 from the priority areas of Nottinghamshire. The related learning resources for teachers and pupils and lesson plans will also be shared more widely with other schools across the county at the conclusion of the pilot project.

6. The NCCL will produce an end of project evaluation report to provide quantitative and qualitative data to evidence the change in awareness, understanding and attitudes by the pupils involved about the consequences and dangers of cybercrime.

“Respect and Tolerance” programme: Dragons Den 7 (£7,000)

7. The aim of the “Respect and Tolerance” programme is to engage children and young people through creative and active participation to raise awareness and build resilience to prevent hate crime, bullying, youth violence and to promote respect and tolerance. More information about the programme is given in the Community Safety Update report (14th July 2015).
8. One project within this programme is the Dragon’s Den Style 7 project being delivered within schools within the Ashfield partnership plus areas, which is funded by the Mansfield and Ashfield community safety partnership. The project invites year 10 students to design a creative campaign to challenge prejudice and promote respect and tolerance amongst their peer group. They in turn share their knowledge and understanding around prejudice, respect and tolerance with year 5 & 6 students in their local primary schools. The project also raises the confidence levels and knowledge base of teaching staff to address issues around all forms of prejudice.
9. A contribution of £7,000 from the Community Safety initiatives budget is requested to fund further work using the Dragons Den Style 7 model to deliver respect and tolerance awareness raising and resilience building to benefit a further 1000+ pupils across the County. This work would link in with other related youth crime prevention work within the County.

Child Sexual Exploitation via Social Media (Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood) (£10,000)

10. Child sexual exploitation is high on the national agenda and within the county the issue has been raised as a matter of concern by schools and police within the Newark area.
11. A contribution of £10,000 funding is requested for a Dragons Den Style 6 project to work with year 10 students (4 schools in Bassetlaw and up to 4 schools in Newark & Sherwood) to raise awareness of child sexual exploitation and its links to social media. A further £10,000 match funding will be provided from the Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood Community Safety partnership.
12. Year 10 students will be invited to produce and communicate an awareness raising campaign for other young people aged 11-13 years old about the risks involved with child sexual exploitation and its links to social media. The campaign will also promote healthy relationships with a view to the campaign being adopted, promoted and disseminated by providers of domestic abuse services across the county.
13. Part of the project will also be work to encourage parents to be more aware of social media and how it can be used and to advise parents how they can become more technologically aware to protect their children. The resources produced by the young people will be shared locally via school networks and via the national Lifeskills education web-site.

Crime in Rural Areas strategy and action plan (up to £5,000)

14. Survey work undertaken by the Office of the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner has highlighted the need to tackle crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in rural areas, with a recognised challenge for partner organisations to narrow the gap in knowledge and understanding of crime taking place in rural areas. The National Farmers Union Rural Crime Survey (2014) indicated that as high as 60% of all rural crimes are not currently reported. The Annual Satisfaction Survey indicates that the more isolated locations present a heightened risk of crime and the fear of crime.
15. Nottinghamshire does not currently have a strategy or action plan for tackling crime and anti-social behaviour that takes place in rural locations in the county. This proposal is to support the development and launch of a strategy and associated partnership action plan to reduce crime, disorder and ASB in rural areas. The proposal involves an initial scoping exercise to explore priority issues and actions needed to address them. Subject to the outcome of the scoping exercise, this work could include awareness raising, target hardening and focussed project work.
16. A contribution of £5,000 is requested from the Community Safety initiatives budget to support this work. Further contributions could also be sought from other partner organisations with an interest in reducing crime in rural communities.

Mass Marketing Scams: Further joint work with Nottinghamshire Police (up to £20,000)

17. Nationally Mass marketing scams cause around £3.5 billion of detriment annually to consumers. Vulnerable and disadvantaged residents are deliberately and repeatedly targeted causing significant harm to their health, well-being and independence. As previously reported, as part of our joint working with the National Scams Hub, we regularly receive lists of Nottinghamshire residents whose names are on scam mailing lists seized during raids on mailing houses. The lists are shared with the relevant local authorities so that officers can make contact with the vulnerable residents on the list to assess their detriment to date and the level of intervention needed to protect them from future scams.
18. At the Community Safety Committee meeting on 30th September 2014 £20,000 funding was agreed to fund the secondment of a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) (salary and related costs) to work jointly with Trading Standards Officers to tackle this problem. During the 6 month secondment (December 2014-May 2015) the PCSO carried out the initial visits to vulnerable residents and then worked with Trading Standards Officers to prevent future victimisation. A presentation at the 2nd June 2015 Community Safety Committee highlighted the progress to date with this work. At that date 236 cases had been investigated.
19. A further £20,000 from the community safety initiatives budget is requested to fund a second 6 months PCSO secondment to continue this work with Trading Standards Officers to protect vulnerable residents from losing their life savings to mass marketing scams and suffering financially and emotionally as a result.

Vulnerable Person Panels: Mental Health representation (£20,000)

20. For some years now each district has had 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.
21. A contribution of £20,000 from the Community Safety initiatives budget is requested to strengthen the county's Vulnerable Person Panels' capability in responding to cases involving a mental health dimension. This will supplement a contribution of £13,300 from the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner. Match funding will also be sought from other partner organisations. This work will include ensuring that there are representatives at these multi-agency meetings with the appropriate skills and experience to identify where a mental health issue is evident and support work with the individual to reduce their risk from, for example, antisocial behaviour.
22. To achieve this outcome joint working will be initiated with the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board, which own the 'No Health without Mental Health, Nottinghamshire's Mental Health Framework for Action, 2014-17'. In support of the delivery of this strategy services are being commissioned by the Clinical Commissioning Groups across the county which include prevention and community development elements relevant to the work not just of the Vulnerable Person Panels but the wider Community Safety Partnerships.
23. The intended outputs of this work are the development of a Pathway to Provision document which will complement that already in existence through the Adult Safeguarding Board. However the new document will explore the pathways below the threshold for Adult Social Care. This work will be supported by a programme of training for practitioners in using the new document and working with mental health and wellbeing in relation to individuals and communities.

Alliance Against Violence campaign (up to £5,000)

24. The number of violent crimes recorded in Nottinghamshire (and across the U.K.) is predicted to rise over the next few months. Whilst it is not anticipated that there will be any significant change in the actual number of violent incidents, the predicted increase will be in part due to a change in recording practices, where less serious incidents that may not in the past have been recorded as a violent crime now will be. Whilst the County Council welcomes any improvement in recording, since this will assist partners in assessing and improving their responses to violence, it is important that our communities remain reassured and confident about their local area. This is essential not only to ensure that the fear of crime amongst our residents remains proportionate, but also that the County is viewed and promoted as a safe and vibrant destination for both visitors and businesses.
25. This work will promote Nottinghamshire as a County with zero tolerance for violence. There will be a high profile information and awareness campaign targeted at priority, "hot-spot" areas of the County, giving reassurance messages and information on where and

how to report crime. There will also be a focus of this work with vulnerable people. Elected members will be asked to pledge/refresh their support to the Nottinghamshire Alliance Against Violence initiative. Work will also be undertaken to ensure that work with young people is undertaken in locations or situations where they are at risk of experiencing violence.

Community Cohesion (£10,000)

26. Nottinghamshire has a strong and proud history of recognising and valuing diversity. The demographics of our communities are constantly changing, and this proposal seeks to work with new and emerging communities in relevant areas to create a common shared vision, and shared sense of belonging. New and emerging communities often suffer a disproportional level of crime and anti-social behaviour. It builds on the projects delivered in 2014/15, detailed below.
27. This work will seek to ensure that people from different backgrounds have similar life opportunities, understand and know their rights and responsibilities, and encourage the local involvement of people from all backgrounds in a sustainable development of their area and community.
28. At its April meeting, the Committee noted that a key contributor to community cohesion is integration, which is key to enabling new and existing residents to adjust to one another, and secure equal participation in wider society. The Council's role in fostering integration is an important element of a cohesive community, which is a priority.
29. £7,000 was ring-fenced from the 2014/15 budget to support such activities across the County. The Community & Voluntary Sector Team worked closely with communities to develop projects and activities encouraging residents to take a positive stance towards integration within their own communities. It is proposed a similar approach is taken this year.
30. The activities and projects promoted integrated and cohesive communities, to enable people from different backgrounds to have similar life opportunities, to know and understand their rights and responsibilities, as well as trusting one another and trusting local institutions to act fairly. The activities and projects promoted: A shared future vision and sense of belonging; a focus on what new and existing communities have in common, alongside a recognition of the value of diversity, and the promotion of strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds.
31. The projects delivered included:
 - an Eastern European / British intergeneration celebration;
 - a programme of sessions, linking with 'Mind the Gap', which enables parents to read with children in primary schools about different backgrounds and getting to know and understand different cultures;
 - a Gypsy and Traveller event to celebrate GRT history through a variety of events during Gypsy, Roma Traveller History Month; and
 - a Photo Booth Project to bring together students from Alderman White School and young adults who have Learning Disabilities, with members of the Age UK 'Men in

Sheds' project, to build a Photo Booth to be used to interview people to capture get their thoughts on activities and events attended.

Other Options Considered

32. There will be other options for use of the community safety initiatives budget, and the proposed spends of the remaining **£32,762** balance will be the subject of future reports to the Community Safety Committee.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

33. 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 issues of crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime. Any reductions in these issues will encourage the development of strong, healthy and vibrant communities thus reducing risks to those deemed as vulnerable within those communities.

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.

Financial Implications

35. The requests totalling £89,500 can all be met from within the Community Safety Initiatives budget.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the following contributions (totalling £89,500) be made from the Community Safety Initiatives Budget for 2015/16:
 - a) "Virtual Justice" pilot project: **£12,500**.
 - b) "Respect and Tolerance" programme: **£7,000**.
 - c) Newark, Sherwood and Bassetlaw project: child sexual exploitation and its link to social media: **£10,000**.
 - d) "Crime in Rural Areas" strategy and associated partnership action plan: **up to £5,000**.
 - e) Joint work with Nottinghamshire Police: mass marketing scams: **up to £20,000**.
 - f) Vulnerable Person Panels: mental health dimension. **£20,000**

g) Alliance Against Violence campaign: **up to £5,000.**

h) Community Cohesion: **£10,000**

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For any enquiries about this report please contact: Sarah Houlton, Team Manager Trading Standards & Community Safety x 72460 or Tony Shardlow, Community Safety Officer, Trading Standards & Community Safety x 73846.

Constitutional Comments (LM 25/06/15)

The Community Safety Committee has delegated authority within the Constitution to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial Comments (KAS 25/06/15)

The financial implications are contained within paragraph 35 of the 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.

- 'None'

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s)

- All