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To: Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) - 21st March 2023
Classification: For Information
Subject: Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group Update

Summary This report provides an update on the key activities and projects being managed on behalf of the Kent Community Safety Partnership by the Working Group.

1.0 Background / Introduction

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 gave statutory responsibility to local authorities, the police, and key partners to reduce crime and disorder in their communities. Under this legislation the responsible authorities were required to form multi-agency 'Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships' to undertake this activity. Subsequent revisions introduced additional responsibilities to tackle anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reduce reoffending, and the partnerships were renamed Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs).
- 1.2 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) operates at a county level, with the overarching purpose to manage the Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) on behalf of the responsible authorities in Kent and to deliver safer and stronger communities. The KCSP is supported by a multi-agency working group which has a particular remit to prepare and monitor the Community Safety Agreement, including the action plan and performance reports, as well as managing the Kent Community Safety fund on behalf of the governing group.

2.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2022/23

- 2.1 The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) granted the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) £39,661 from the Crime Reduction Grant for 2022/2023. The grant has been used to fund projects throughout Kent, focussing on the priorities identified in the Community Safety Agreement and the Police and Crime Plan. Similar funding was also provided by the PCC to all Community Safety Partnerships across Kent and Medway, to help deliver projects in support of local priorities.
- 2.2 Two thirds of the funding (£26,440) was made available for upfront project spending with the remaining third of the grant (£13,220) allocated to a tactical pot for spending in-year.

2.3 Initially five projects were submitted in a business case to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for the full amount available for upfront spending, with four of the five projects receiving approval totalling £21,440 (see information below).

- **Best Bar None** (£622.50) – Home Office backed accreditation scheme which supports several ongoing objectives including drink spiking, violence in the night-time economy, violence against women and girls (VAWG) etc. The funding has enabled the purchase of 400 stickers to support the Best Bar None project which is currently being rolled out by district partners. Assessments have been taking place, and once a licenced premises have been accredited the stickers can be placed in their windows to show customers that the venue is working hard to provide a safe and welcoming place.
- **Trauma Awareness Programme** (£13,000) - aims to enable young people and identified younger adults to increase awareness of the power of feeling strong emotion(s) and how to establish an internal 'sense check' and emotional repertoire. The funding has enabled the toolkit and training package to be reviewed and updated and for professionals that work with young people to be trained in the use and delivery of the package.
- **Community Safety Conference** (£5,980) –The focus of the conference is around Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). The conference will be delivered as a hybrid event on Tuesday 28th March. Those attending in person will be at the Detling Showground and those attending virtually will be able to access the event via Microsoft Teams. The funding enabled the hire of a venue and audio-visual support. A task and finish group has been established and work is ongoing to deliver the conference. (See further details below)
- **Promotional Materials for Awareness Weeks** (£1,837.50) – funding was secured to support the production of literature as needed on a variety of topics, in the form of posters, leaflets, etc to support awareness weeks and campaigns during the year. The funding has been used to support the production of safeguarding adult awareness cards and hate crime awareness literature and translations.

2.5 Following approval of the four initial projects, the KCSP was then given access to the tactical pot funding. Two further projects totalling £7,600 were submitted to the OPCC in November and received approval (see details below):

- **Gaming & Online Awareness of Hate and Extremism** (£4,600)
The Gaming and Extremism project (gaming bus) is a community engagement initiative to promote awareness of how hateful extremism and potential radicalisation is spread via gaming and how it can be countered. Events are taking place in February and March in conjunction with schools led by the Prevent Education Officers (PEO) working closely with local partners.
- **Hateful Extremism CPD Event** (£3,000)
The Kent and Medway Prevent Team and Kent Police organised and delivered the Hateful Extremism event on 28th February 2023. The CPD event was delivered as a hybrid event: in-person at the Mercure Maidstone Great Danes Hotel and virtually via Microsoft Teams. The funding enabled the hire of a venue and audio-visual to support its delivery. The event included a range of speakers

who provided an update to partners and professionals on the current situation, emerging issues, and to strengthen their knowledge on the subject.

- 2.8 The KCSP Working Group continued to work with partners to identify suitable potential projects. A further two proposals were submitted to the OPCC in January including support for a 'Cost of Living Warn & Inform Campaign' and the translation into British Sign Language of the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board (KMSAB) safeguarding leaflet. In addition, the OPCC was approached to consider extending the funding for the Preventing Extremist Hate event to cover additional venue and speaker costs. In total a further £6,300 of funding was requested. Unfortunately, the OPCC advised that the proposed projects did not meet some of the criteria set out in the grant funding guidance and the funding was not approved.
- 2.10 The OPCC notified all Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) that from 24th February 2023 access to the Tactical Pot was closed, and the KCSP is unable to submit any further proposals this year. As a result there is £10,621 left in the tactical pot of the Crime Reduction Grant that has not been spent and will be returned to the OPCC as an underspend.

3.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2023/24

- 3.1 The Kent PCC has yet to confirm the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) allocation of funding for the new financial year spend 2023/2024. However, based on previous years' experience notification is likely to be received in mid-March with quick turnaround for submission of a business case for expected spend. The Kent Community Safety Team are working with partners to identify suitable projects for the forthcoming financial year. If any of the KCSP partners are interested in putting forward a project to address any of the priorities identified in the Community Safety Agreement and the Police and Crime Plan please contact the kentcommunitysafteyteam@kent.gov.uk

4.0 Kent Community Safety Conference

- 4.1 At the last meeting of the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) on 17th November 2022 partners made the decision to focus the conference on one topic around Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). The conference will be delivered as a hybrid event. on Tuesday 28th March. Those attending in person will be at the Detling Showground and those attending virtually will be able to access the event via Microsoft Teams.
- 4.2 Planning for the conference has been structured around the four pillars of the National VAWG Strategy - Pursing Perpetrators, Prioritising Prevention, Supporting Victims, and a Stronger System. The Conference will include input from speakers on a range of topics including the trauma effect of VAWG, Incels (involuntary celibates), stalking, cultural issues, bystander programme, case studies on safer communities, support services, etc.

- 4.3 Those attending in person will have access to marketplace stall holders and networking opportunities, and all attendees will be able to interact during the event through either Question-and-Answer panels and/or survey/workshop feedback.

5.0 Review of the Kent Community Safety Team

- 5.1 As mentioned at previous KCSP meetings a review of the Kent Community Safety Team has been taking place to provide recommendations for the future of the team based on the findings. As a result of the review it has been agreed that a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be produced to cover the next two-years. The MOU will include an amended vision for the team (to be agreed), new working arrangements following the closing of the KCST office, staffing structures etc and a detailed action plan of what the KCST will deliver to meet the statutory duties of the three agencies and the KCSP. The constituent partners have agreed that all three partners will be full participants in the joint team in terms of both input and outcomes.

6.0 Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) Update

- 6.1 The KCST has delivered two Community Safety Information Sessions in this financial year for the benefit of partners, which took place on 17th May & 14th September 2022. A Broad range of topics were covered spanning Anti-Social Behaviour, Domestic Abuse, Suicide Prevention, Serious Violence, Hate Crime and Counter Terrorism and many others. For the forthcoming financial year, the KCST partners are considering trialling an alternative format for the Community Safety Information Sessions, making them shorter sessions and delivering them more frequently. The KCST will look to devise a schedule around upcoming awareness weeks/topics as well as incorporating new and emerging issues in-year.
- 6.2 The KCST delivered an online Data Workshop on 5th December 2022 for district/borough community safety colleagues to help with the annual strategic assessment process and inform the priority setting for CSP Community Safety plans. The biggest input on the day came from the Kent Police Central Analytical Team who provided an update on crime trends, hotspots, emerging issues etc. Other topics/speakers included: Domestic Abuse, Substance Misuse, Contextual Safeguarding, Counter terrorism, etc. The workshop gave data providers an opportunity to give some context to the data they have provided, whilst enabling those completing the assessments to ask questions.
- 6.3 As mentioned in the report presented to the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) in November, the KCST has been delivering Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) learning webinars throughout 2022, in total five sessions have been delivered. The most recent webinar took place on the 24th of November during the National Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week and focussed on harmful practices and cultural competence. Over 160 people attended with 96% of respondents rating it as excellent, very good or good.
- 6.4 As part of the KCST's role in sharing good practice and facilitating joint working, the team produces regular e-bulletins aimed at providing frequent but brief updates on

emerging community safety issues to practitioners across Kent, such as legislative changes, newly published documents, data releases, links to media articles, funding opportunities.

- 6.5 The KCST also manages and maintains the public facing [Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Support Services](#) website which provides information on DA services for Kent residents. If anyone is interested in any posters or cards to promote the DA Support Services website or needs any pull-up banners for any future events, please contact the kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk.
- 6.6 The KCSP Working Group would like to encourage partners to contact the KCST if they have any suggested topics for the information sessions, brief updates for the bulletins, or any other suggestions for funding opportunities, training and/or collaborative working. In addition, if you would like to be added to the distribution list for the bulletins, please email the KCST: kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 The KCSP is asked to note the progress and actions undertaken by the Working Group and the work of the KCST.

For Further Information:

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