

By: Mark Powell – Violence Reduction Unit Director for Kent and Medway (Chair of KCSP Working Group)

Shafick Peerbux - Head of Community Safety, KCC
(Deputy Chair of KCSP Working Group)

To: Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 21st November 2024

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 2024/25

- 2.1 The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) allocated £39,661 grant funding to the Kent Community Safety Partnership to fund projects in 2024/25, focussing on the priorities identified in the Community Safety Agreement and the PCC’s Making Kent Safer plan. As part of the terms and conditions a third of the funding was placed in a tactical pot for in-year spending. 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 In late April 2024, the KCSP Working Group reviewed a range of projects suggested by partners as possible options to receive funding in 2024/25. Of those recommended for funding the PCC approved upfront spending of £21,778 on the following five projects. A short summary about each of the projects was included in the last report to KCSP members in July 2024, the following are brief progress updates:

- **Expert level training in ASB Case Reviews and ASB legislation (£6,000)**
Training has been arranged for ASB Help to deliver five sessions in early 2025. These sessions will be carried out in-person and include case reviews and ASB powers. One online session on ASB powers is being scheduled for staff who are unable to attend the in-person sessions.
- **Neurodivergent intimate relationships Training for partners (£5,300)**
Training uploaded onto training portal and is currently being tested ready to share with partners in early November. Expressions of interest opened mid-October 2024 and targeted places are being promoted and agreed with relevant team managers.
- **Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) training sessions (£2,400)**
Training sessions have commenced with two sessions already delivered. Both presentations had over 80+ people attend and feedback received so far has been positive. A total of six sessions will take place before the end of March 2025.
- **Countering the Extreme Right-Wing Training (£4,578)**
One virtual session has been delivered with 65 people in attendance who gave exceptional feedback. Face to Face sessions planned out across all areas.
- **Hateful Extremism CPD Event (£3,500)**
The event date set for 26th February 2025 at the Mercure Hotel Maidstone. Several speakers confirmed. Eventbrite booking now open and many tickets have been booked for both in-person and virtual attendance.

2.3 The remainder of the funding (£17,883) was placed in the tactical pot for in-year use. Project proposals from partners were discussed at the KCSP Working Group and the following projects were subsequently supported by the KCSP Chair and approved by the PCC. (See Appendix 1 for full details of projects)

- **Child's Vision Volunteer Recruitment and Training (£2,000)**
Recruitment and training for volunteers to support young people who have adverse childhood experiences (ACES) as a result of domestic abuse or violence in the home by delivering the children's freedom programme.
- **Crime Prevention Resources (£3,877)**
Providing Community Wardens with crime prevention resources such as purse chains, personal alarms, shed alarms etc. to support people to feel safer in the community and in their homes.
- **Teacher in your Pocket (doorstep crime) (£5,000)**
Online videos to provide enhanced awareness for vulnerable and digitally excluded individuals by hosting a one stop shop of explainer videos and advice that is shared by their trusted community carers, friends, family, volunteers on a mobile phone.

- **Trauma Informed Kent - Ambassador Programme (£6,850)**
Ambassador programme for up to 20 colleagues to increase awareness and knowledge of trauma, how to avoid retraumatising victims and improving services and systems and general workforce understanding of trauma. The programme takes approx. 100 days and includes three full days of in-person workshops plus access to 1-2-1 or small group support and supervision, online sessions and practice communities, plus resources and links.

2.4 The majority of funding has now been allocated to partnership projects with just £156 remaining in the tactical pot for in-year spending on any additional small projects.

3.0 Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) Updates

- 3.1 In 2024/25, the KCST has delivered a total of six Community Safety Information Sessions (CSIS) in the lunch time learning shorter format. Since the last report to the KCSP members in July, presentations at these events have included Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS) input on lithium-Ion battery risks; Protection Against Stalking (PAS); Serious and Organised Crime and Gangs ISVA service from Family matters; Look Ahead MIDAAS service (Male Domestic Abuse Advocacy Service) and Cyber Crime from Kent Police. The next scheduled sessions are due to take place on 20th November and 16th January. The November session will cover the Healthy Empowering Relationships Advisory (HERA) service. Followed in January with Kent Police covering potential dangerous dogs; and Child's Vision promoting their service around supporting children who have experienced Domestic Abuse with the complexities of adverse childhood experiences (ACES).
- 3.2 The KCSP commission Domestic Abuse Related Death Reviews (DARDRs) [formerly known as Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)] on behalf of the district/borough Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) across Kent and Medway, with the KCST managing the process. Published DHRs are available on the [KCC](#) and [Medway Council](#) Websites. Five DHRs have been published this calendar year DHR [Louise 2020](#), [Beth 2018](#), [George 2019](#) [Angela 2021](#) and [Salome 2021](#).
- 3.3 The KCST has delivered two Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) learning webinars so far this financial year. Since the last report to the KCSP members in July, a jointly delivered DHR/Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) learning webinar was delivered with the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board (KMSAB) exploring 'Co-Occurring Conditions and DA' including the DHR case for Louise and SAR Case of Stuart. This also including an audio of Louise's mother telling Louise's story. The recordings of the event are available on the Safer Communities Portal. Further webinars are being prepared in line with cases that are going to be published over the next few months.
- 3.4 As part of the KCST's role in sharing good practice and facilitating joint working, the team produces and circulates monthly E-Bulletins with the latest community safety updates and any relevant news, publications, and legislation. The most recent bulletins included updates and information on the CSIS sessions (mentioned above), Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Training, Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) and Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) joint webinar, DHR publications, partner

consultations, training offers, upcoming events, partner newsletters, and awareness events (*including safeguarding adults awareness week, 16 days of action against domestic abuse and ASB awareness week*).

- 3.5 The KCST is currently working with partners in the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board (KMSAB) on the annual [Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week](#) (SAAW) campaign (18th-24th November). The KCST has engaged with colleagues within the Kent Community Warden service and at a local district level regarding events/activities which are taking place during the week as well as sharing details about the resources and social media plan.
- 3.6 In addition, the team are working with colleagues to support and promote the [16 days of Action Against Domestic Abuse](#) which runs between 25th November to 10th December 2024 and will be sharing information with colleagues across Kent and Medway about the webinars that are taking place and available resources.
- 3.7 The KCST is also developing a new Memorandum of Understanding for Kent Police and KCC Community Safety following the formal withdrawal of KFRS from the multi-agency team. Kent Police and KCC remain committed to the joint working within the KCST, and have arranged an in-person workshop at the end of November to scope future delivery and needs.
- 3.8 The KCST would like to encourage partners to contact the team if they would like to subscribe to the e-bulletin, have any suggested topics/speakers for the information sessions (CSIS), brief updates for the e-bulletins or anything else. Please email the KCST: kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk

4.0 Recommendations

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

For Further Information:

Mark Powell
KCC Violence Reduction Unit, Director for
Kent and Medway
Mark.powell@kent.gov.uk

Shafick Peerbux
KCC, Head of Community Safety
shafick.peerbux@kent.gov.uk