

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

**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**Classification:** For Information

**Subject:** Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group Update

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**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.

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## **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.
- 1.3 The role of Chair of the KCSP Working Group is currently vacant, following the recent departure of Mark Powell, Director of the Violence Reduction Unit. KCSP members are asked to consider putting forward a senior member from their organisation to take on the role of Chair. The role of KCSP WG Chair is supported by the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST).

## **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. 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 This financial year the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) on behalf of the KCSP received approval for nine projects following submission to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), totalling £39,505.

2.3 A summary about each of the projects was included in previous reports to KCSP members, the following are brief progress updates:

- **Expert level training in ASB Case Reviews and ASB legislation (£6,000)**  
*All in person training has now been delivered by ASB Help, a leading national charity. The sessions, arranged and coordinated by the KCST, will equip delegates with a thorough knowledge and understanding of best practice in ASB casework, the use of ASB powers, and the Case Review process.*
- **Neurodivergent Intimate Relationships Training for partners (£5,300)**  
*Licences have been purchased, and training is in progress. To date 30 delegates have fully completed the training and received their completion certificates.*
- **Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) training sessions (£2,400)**  
*All six training sessions have been delivered. The sessions, arranged and coordinated by the KCST, included 'Engaging men & boys in the work to reduce VAWG', 'Creating community interventions to reduce VAWG' and 'Victim blaming & rape myth'.*
- **Countering the Extreme Right-Wing Training (£4,578)**  
*All four sessions have been delivered. Delivered from a first person perspective the audiences appreciated being educated by someone who has lived a life impacted by extremism. Requests have been received for additional sessions.*
- **Hateful Extremism CPD Event (£3,500)**  
*The event took place on 26<sup>th</sup> February and was sold out for all in person tickets, with up to 150 delegates able to attend in person, and further guests attending online. A range of agencies were in attendance on the day, both as delegates and stallholders, including Kent Police, KCC, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, Medway Council, Charities, some community members and voluntary organisations.*
- **Child's Vision Volunteer Recruitment and Training (£2,000)**  
*A total of five volunteers have now been recruited. The volunteers are shadowing the Senior Support Worker and training has commenced.*
- **Crime Prevention Resources (£3,877)**  
*KCC Community Wardens have attended a variety of different events engaging with a range of people. Personal alarms and wrist bands in particular were identified as a potential helpful resource through discussions with residents and during personal safety talks.*
- **Teacher in your Pocket (doorstep crime) (£5,000)**  
*Promotion of the campaign continues with social media reach of over 20,000 and more than 57,000 online views. The campaign is being shared with staff within Adult Social Care, Kent Fire and Rescue service, Libraries and Kent Association of Local Councils, as well as carers, charities, and faith groups. Further organisations are to be contacted such as Women's Institute groups, Age UK and Neighbourhood Watch Members. Promotion of the "No Cold Caller Stickers" will commence when stickers have been received.*

- **Trauma Informed Kent - Ambassador Programme (£6,850)**  
*The programme is jointly funded with Public Health and has been adapted and developed to deliver the PCC's objectives. Applicants to the programme have all been assessed and spaces allocated to staff from a range of organisations.*

2.4 Project funding for 2024/25 is now closed and the small amount of remaining funding (£156) has been returned to the OPCC as an underspend.

### 3.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2025/26

3.1 The Kent PCC has confirmed the KCSP allocation of Crime Reduction Grant (CRG) funding for the new financial year will be £39,661. Two-thirds of the funding (£26,440) is available for upfront project spend and the deadline for business case submissions to the PCC is Friday 9th May 2025. The remaining third (£13,220) will be placed into a tactical pot to support the delivery of projects which address emerging needs and demands throughout the financial year. Access to the tactical pot funding will close at the end of December 2025.

3.2 The CRG funding is provided to Community Safety Partnerships to help deliver the priorities set out in the PCC's new Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029. In particular, the PCC has advised that CRG projects, services or interventions should align with one or more of the following areas:

- Working with residents, communities, and businesses to prevent and reduce public disorder, crime, and anti-social behaviour (ASB).
- Reducing violence against women and girls (VAWG).
- Safeguarding victims and providing support to help them cope and build resilience for the future.
- Protecting young people through education to keep them safe.
- Reducing violence and knife crime.
- Preventing road danger and supporting Vision Zero.
- Preventing Cybercrime and fraud through education and awareness.
- Preventing retail crime, vehicle crime, burglary, and robbery.
- Delivering prevention work to reduce rural crime.
- Tackling environmental crime.

3.3 Partner agencies have been contacted to request submission of project proposals for the initial business case for consideration by **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025** to allow sufficient time for these to be reviewed and circulated before the next KCSP working Group.

3.4 The project proposals will be discussed by the multi-agency KCSP Working Group at their next meeting on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025 and the group's recommendations will be presented to the KCSP Chair for approval prior to submission as a business case to the OPCC.

3.5 The KCST is working with partners to identify suitable projects for the forthcoming financial year. If any members of the KCSP 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](mailto:kentcommunitysafteyteam@kent.gov.uk)

## **4.0 Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) Updates**

- 4.1 In 2024/25, the KCST has delivered a total of nine Community Safety Information Sessions (CSIS) in the lunch time learning shorter format. Since the last report to the KCSP members in November, presentations at these events have included inputs from the Healthy Empowering Relationships Advisory (HERA) service and Child's Vision promoting their service around supporting children who have experienced Domestic Abuse with the complexities of adverse childhood experiences (ACES). All sessions have been well attended and received positive feedback. Planning for the new financial year is in progress.
- 4.2 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. Recent bulletins have included updates and information on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Tools and Powers and Case Review Training, Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Training, various partner updates covering news, training offers and upcoming training and information events and details about the Safer Communities Portal.
- 4.3 As previously reported, a total of five Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) have been published so far this year. Learning from published reviews is shared with partners through a range of methods including briefing documents and learning webinars. In 2024/25, the KCST has delivered three Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) learning webinars. The most recent event took place on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025 exploring 'Parental Conflict and Domestic Abuse' including the DHR case for Beth. Speakers included the Independent Chair of the DHR, Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership (KCSMP) and Safelives the UK wide charity dedicated to ending domestic abuse. 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.
- 4.4 Following another productive year for the Kent Community Safety Team, a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been developed and agreed by Kent Police and KCC for the next three years (April 2025 to March 2028).

## **5.0 Recommendations**

- 5.1 Members of the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) are asked to:
- a) Consider putting forward a senior member from their organisation to take on the role as Chair of the KCSP Working Group.
  - b) Note the progress and actions undertaken by the Working Group and the work of the KCST.
  - c) Contact the KCST ([kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk)) with any:
    - Project proposals for the Crime Reduction Grant funding.

- Suggestions for future speakers / topics that might be of interest for the Community Safety Information Sessions (CSIS).
- Key updates that might be appropriate to include in future editions of the KCST e-bulletin.

**For Further Information:**

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