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(Deputy Chair of KCSP Working Group)

To: Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 23rd July 2025

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.
- 1.3 The position of Chair for the KCSP Working Group is currently vacant, following the departure of Mark Powell, Director of the Violence Reduction Unit. This vacancy was noted at the last KCSP meeting. There are ongoing discussions with the Working Group members and an agenda item has been tabled for the next meeting of the KCSP Working Group on 15th July 2025.

2.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2025/26

- 2.1 The funding allocation to the KCSP for 2025/26 by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), remains the same as in previous years (£39,661). As previously, a third of the funding (£13,221) has been allocated to a Tactical Pot for in-year spending, with the remaining two-thirds (£26,440) available for upfront project spend. The tactical pot will be accessible once all the upfront business case projects have been approved.

- 2.2 The Crime Reduction Grant is provided to Community Safety Partnerships across Kent and Medway by the PCC to help deliver the priorities as set out in the new Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029, which was launched on 1st April 2025. The key priorities of the new plan are:
- Protecting People
 - Protecting Places
 - Protecting Property
 - Productive Partnerships
- 2.3 To support these priorities the Crime Reduction Grant Projects/services or interventions must align to 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.
- 2.4 In addition to delivering against the PCC's priorities, potential projects will also need to contribute to the delivery of the Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) priorities.
- 2.5 Six project proposals were received from partners for consideration by the KCSP Working Group at their meeting on 28th April 2025. The project leads were invited to attend the meeting to give an overview of their proposal and to respond to any questions raised by the multi-agency members to clarify any areas of uncertainty. All six projects received a consensus of support (see below) and were recommended for funding to the Vice Chair of the KCSP (in the absence of a Chair for the KCSP) and subsequently submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for approval.
Details can be found in Appendix 1.
- Hateful Extremism Learning Event (£4,000)
 - Countering the Extreme Right-Wing Training (£4,182)
 - Kent Community Domestic Abuse Champions – Branding & Resources (£3,703)
 - Teacher in Your Pocket (TEPO) – Scams Module (£5,223)
 - Responsible Authority Training on the Licensing Act 2003 (£5,000)
 - Workshop – Involving men and boys in Violence Against Women and Girls (£2,000)
- 2.6 All projects have now received approval from the PCC, and project leads have been informed accordingly. To date, £24,108.20 of the upfront funding has been utilised.

The remaining unallocated amount stands at £15,553.26 which will be held in the tactical pot and is available for in-year projects.

- 2.7 The KCSP Working Group are liaising with partners to explore potential projects for funding through the tactical pot. The lead agency for any project proposals received have been asked to present the proposal at the next KCSP Working Group scheduled for 15th July 2025.
- 2.8 Partners are welcome to submit any projects or other suggestions for funding opportunities, training and/or collaborative working to the KCST:
kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk

3.0 Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) Update

- 3.1 The KCST delivers Community Safety Information Sessions (CSIS) covering a broad range of topics. In 2024/2025 the KCST delivered nine CSIS sessions as an hour long drop-in lunch time learning event. All sessions were well attended and received positive feedback. In 2025/26, the KCST has delivered three CSIS sessions so far covering topics including the Kent and Medway Resilience Forum and their community workstreams, Stalking in the workplace, Neurodivergent and suicide awareness, and a dementia input around the Herbert Protocol. The latest session on 24th June included inputs from Kent Police on ASB, covering off-road bike nuisance, retail crime, case reviews, and ASB Awareness Week.
- 3.2 The KCSP commission 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. So far one DHR has have been published this financial year [DHR RITA](#).
- 3.3 The KCST shares learning from published reviews with partners through briefing documents and webinars. Two Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) learning webinars have been delivered in 2025. The first, held on 11 February and covered in the March update, received excellent feedback - 95% of 81 attendees rated it excellent or very good, rising to 100% when including 'good' ratings. The second event, held on 29 April, focused on the issue of counter-allegations examining how they appear in Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs), or now known as Domestic Abuse-Related Death Reviews (DARDRs), and broader domestic abuse data across Kent and Medway. The session featured a presentation from SafeLives, who shared findings from their recent work and introduced practical guidance for professionals responding to such cases. A total of 154 frontline professionals attended, with 91% of the 56 respondents rating the event as excellent or very good. When including those who rated it as 'good', overall satisfaction reached 100%, reflecting strong engagement and relevance of the topic.

- 3.4 The recordings of the events are available on the Safer Communities Portal. Further webinars are being prepared in line with cases that are going to be published over the rest of the financial year.
- 3.5 As part of KCST's commitment to promoting good practice and supporting partnership working, the team produces monthly E-Bulletins featuring the latest community safety updates, relevant news, publications, and legislative changes. The most recent edition included information on the latest DHR learning event, access to recordings of past training sessions, and updates from the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board on the new Multi-Agency Risk Management (MARM) framework. It also highlighted the Protection Against Stalking conference, a guide for parents on incel culture, 'Teacher in Your Pocket' stop smoking resources, the single-use vapes ban, the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's report on victims as individuals in their own right, and a range of other partner updates.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 Members of the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) are asked to:
- a) Note the progress and actions undertaken by the Working Group and the work of the KCST.
 - b) Contact the KCST 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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Appendix 1:

CRG Business Case(s) – Proposed Projects

- **Hateful Extremism Learning Event**
A CPD event to be held in February 2026 with a range of relevant and high-profile speakers sharing their expertise and knowledge with the aim to assist attendees with their understanding, being able to spot the signs, to intervene early, to deter individuals, and to increase referrals.
- **Countering the Extreme Right-Wing Training**
Project to deliver adult awareness training (in person and virtually) to better understand the Extreme Right Wing and suggest ways to challenge it.
- **Kent Community Domestic Abuse Champions – Branding & Resources**
The KCC Domestic Abuse Projects & Partnerships Team have developed a half day of training to upskill our community, covering topics like power & control, signs of abuse, empathy and tackling victim blaming, responding to disclosure, risk, trauma responses and where to direct people for support. In order to have reach, visibility and recognition the new Champions programme needs funding for the design and printing of resources/promotional materials alongside the ability to post resource packs to Champions.
- **Teacher in Your Pocket (TEPO) – Scams Module**
Teacher in Your Pocket (TEPO) enables users to share essential messages and information with digitally excluded individuals via a mobile phone. Users can show short videos and share information with loved ones, community members, or clients to help them stay safe at home. Project to produce 3 short videos covering specific module on scams.
- **Responsible Authority Training on the Licensing Act 2003**
Project to deliver a two-day training event aimed at educating responsible authorities on the Licensing Act 2003. This initiative is designed to enhance the involvement and effectiveness of responsible authorities in the licensing process.
- **Workshop – Involving men and boys in Violence Against Women and Girls**
Project to hold two workshops for attendance by local authorities and partners to discuss, and share ideas, on how to engage men and boys going forward around VAWG.