

By: Martin Adams (KFRS) – Acting Chair KCSP Working Group
To: Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 16th March 2016
Classification: For Information
Subject: KCSP Working Group Update

Summary This report provides an update on a selection of 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 Partnerships' to undertake this activity. Subsequent revisions introduced additional responsibilities to tackle 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 their 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 Anti-Social Behaviour – Case Management System and ASB Notices

- 2.1 As previously reported the case management system known as 'Themis', which is a joint Kent Police and KCC IT project, is currently in use by both Kent Police and the Kent Community Warden Service with the majority of districts/boroughs also having access. Phase 3 of the project is to bring on board Housing Associations, this is currently in the development stage with a small three month pilot taking place in early 2016.
- 2.2 The three month pilot project working with East Kent Housing Association is currently in progress to assess whether it will be possible for all Housing Associations to access the Themis system to manage ASB cases. In the meantime discussions will be undertaken with other district/borough housing teams and housing associations to determine the potential for rolling out access across the county, subject to a successful trial.
- 2.3 As mentioned in previous reports, the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 overhauled the previous powers and tools that were available to deal with anti-social behaviour (ASB). Two of the new powers of greatest significance for district / borough authorities are Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) and Community Protection Notices (CPNs). A number of local authorities are utilising these new tools and powers to tackle offences within the ASB Act and Kent Police are in the early stages of actively progressing ASB Civil Injunctions.

3.0 E-safety Workshops

- 3.1 Following the Kent and Medway Community Safety Conference on 'E' safety which was commissioned and funded by members of the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) and Medway CSP, it was agreed that any excess funding would be used to run additional e-safety workshops for partners.
- 3.2 As of 3rd February 6 awareness raising workshops have been delivered by KCC's Education Safeguarding Adviser (Online Protection) with over 300 staff attending from across a variety of partner agencies. In addition, two 'train the trainer' workshops have taken place with 50 staff attending providing them with the knowledge and tools to be able to cascade the learning to colleagues within their own agencies. Feedback from all the training sessions to date has been very positive, two further awareness sessions are planned for March with the potential for future training in 2016/17 being considered.
- 3.3 In addition to these sessions funded by the KCSP, Kent Police have worked with KCC Education to deliver a workshop to a number of school children across the County to become e-safety ambassadors within their schools. This is being undertaken as part of the events to support and promote e-safety awareness day on 9th February 2016.

4.0 New Psychoactive Substances

- 4.1 Kent Police and KCC Trading Standards have been working together to tackle the sale of New Psychoactive Substances (referred to in the media as Legal Highs) and have had some success in the magistrates courts
- 4.2 The government is currently in the process of introducing new legislation to make the supply of New Psychoactive Substances illegal. Partners are currently working together as part of a Task and Finish Group to identify the implications of the legislation and the partnership activities that can be undertaken to raise awareness and protect the public.

5.0 KCSP Grant Update

- 5.1 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) allocated £39,661 to the Kent Community Safety Partnership to fund pan Kent projects in 2015/16 focussing on the priorities identified in the Community Safety Agreement.
- 5.2 In 2015/16 the partnership funded the following 8 projects:
- ASB Tools & Powers Workshop (approx. £1,000) – partnership event to share good practice between Police and district authorities and discuss implementation.
 - Joint Kent CaRe / CSP Cycle Safety Campaign – pilot initiative undertaken in Canterbury City Centre in mid-October to promote cycle safety.
 - ASB & E-safety Schools Tour (£10,000) – contribution to the £60,000 programme which works with young people in schools to tackle the issues of crime and ASB.
 - Licence to Kill (£8,000) – road safety education initiative aimed at young people/drivers.
 - Domestic Homicide Reviews (£6,000) – contribution to the cost of facilitating the DHR process including independent Chairs and practitioner seminars.
 - Domestic Abuse Training (£5,200) – development of a an e-learning package to provide basic support and an enhanced safety planning one day course for practitioners
 - Stop the Scammers (approx. £2,750) - purchase of materials to help educate and support scam victims across the county and provide training to organisations

- Volunteer Support Warden Pilot (approx. £3,750) - pilot scheme to deploy volunteer support wardens in a number of parishes and towns to promote community safety in their local area.

6.0 Kent Community Safety Team

- 6.1 In September 2015 the co-located Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) based at Maidstone Fire Station was established, comprising staff from Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue Service and Kent County Council. The concept of a joint team was developed in conjunction with both county and district partners with the aim to deliver community safety work in a collaborative way, giving increased value for money for all three partners through sharing resources, expertise and reducing duplication.
- 6.2 Some of the areas identified for joint working include the county community safety agreement, youth education programmes, domestic homicide reviews, community safety campaigns, workshops/conferences and partnership support at district and county level. It is still early stages in the development of the team but joint initiatives are being identified and collaborative work is progressing with the delivery of the annual Community Safety Conference in November on Dementia and workshops on e-safety and serious and organised crime.
- 6.3 The work of the Kent Community Safety Team will support the activities of the KCSP and the Working Group and it is intended that an action plan be developed by the joint team in order to ensure that partners will continue to work together to address the key community safety priorities for the county highlighted within the revised Kent Community Safety Agreement.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) is asked to note the progress and actions undertaken by the Working Group

For Further Information:

Martin Adams
KFRS, Assistant Director Service Delivery
martin.adams@kent.fire-uk.org