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**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**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.

## **2.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2019/20**

- 2.1 The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) allocated £39,661 to the KCSP in 2019/20 to fund projects throughout Kent, focussing on the priorities identified in the Community Safety Agreement and the Police and Crime Plan. Similar funding has also been provided by the PCC to all Community Safety Partnerships across Kent and Medway to help deliver projects in support of local priorities.
- 2.2 Of the grant, £26,441 was allocated for upfront expenditure and the remaining £13,220 was allocated to the tactical pot for emerging issues in-year. However due to unforeseen circumstances, three of the projects could not take place in this financial year and had to be removed, including taxi driver training (£2k), gangs training (£2,541) and a community safety conference/seminar (£5k). In addition, one project (knife crime first aid) was funded entirely through the PCC Violence Reduction

funding and as a result, the KCSP was subsequently refunded the £10k initially allocated to this project in early 2020.

2.3 The further three initial projects which have proceeded and that partnership have helped to fund in 2019/20 were:

- *Trauma Informed Practice: Staff Awareness Training 18-24 (VRC Recommendation)* - This project is for four half day 'Trauma Informed Practice' sessions to be delivered to between 64-80 members of staff from the National Probation Service and the Community Rehabilitation Company. The content includes understanding the impact of unregulated stress on brain development and function, and understanding how to promote recovery for traumatised children, young people and adults. The course also gives participants access to an E-Learning course.
- *Knife Crime Retail Surveillance and Enforcement (VRC Recommendation)* - Trading Standards has undertaken work on underage sales of knives in identified areas of Kent (based on intelligence), which includes the engagement and education of retailers, and enforcement action against persistent offenders where necessary.
- *Easy Read Leaflets for 'Raise a Brow' Scams Campaign* – This project involves the design and printing of easy read leaflets for adults with learning disabilities in relation to the 'Raise a Brow' scams campaign, to provide simple guidance around scams and doorstep crime. This work has been undertaken with the North Kent Independent Advocacy Scheme and a group of adults with learning disabilities.

2.4 The remaining funding was discussed at the February 2020 KCSP Working Group meeting and recommendations were made to the Chair of the KCSP. The below projects were subsequently approved by the Chair of the KCSP and are subject to final approval from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC):

- *Emergency Trauma Packs (ETPs)*– This project involves the purchase of 36 small Emergency Trauma Packs (ETPs) which can be used to assist in incidents of life-threatening injuries (e.g. knife assaults, terrorist attacks and road traffic accidents). Training sessions are required for the use of large packs, which are being funded by the PCC for the district/borough CSPs. This project therefore also involves the funding of four training sessions for partners and colleagues to be trained in using the packs.
- *Modern Slavery: Train the Trainer* – This project consists of one training session for community safety colleagues across the county. The training session will be delivered by the charity 'Stop the Traffik' and aims to raise awareness and increase understanding, whilst also enabling participants to spot the signs of human trafficking and equipping participants to respond. Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) staff will be included in the training which will provide a partnership resource for further cascading this training.

- *OSARA Problem Solving Training* – OSARA is an applied problem-solving model used by Kent Police which identifies a range of tools and techniques that can be used to identify and respond to issues of crime and ASB. This project will deliver a three day “Train the Trainer” course for up to 10 delegates. It will provide Community Safety Partners with new tools to find ways to reduce crime. The ‘trainers’ will become a partnership resource, allowing workshops to be delivered to colleagues/partners across the county without the need to buy the training in from an external company.
- *Domestic Abuse Website: Publicity Material* – This project raises awareness of the refreshed Domestic Abuse Website. The purpose of the website is to provide advice and support to victims of domestic abuse and their family and friends. In order to raise awareness of the website, this project will fund the printing of promotional material (10,000 posters and 3 pull up banners).
- *Strategic Assessment Workshop* – The workshop delivered by the KCST, which took place in November 2019, provided district/borough Community Safety colleagues with greater details about the data that has been supplied for the strategic assessment process. It involved a variety of partner agencies covering trends, emerging issues and hotspot locations to help inform the strategic assessment process.
- *Kent Community Vulnerability Guidance Webapp* – This app was originally designed to increase awareness of vulnerability and exploitation definitions and identifiers, whilst providing information sharing pathways and details of support services. It has become evident that the App needs to be on public platforms to allow access to all in the community, blue light partners, statutory agencies, community services and NGO’s and the public. This project will fund the enabling of the Webapp’s blueprint (currently only policing systems) onto other media platforms such as Android, Apple etc.

2.5 It should be noted that feedback on the outcomes from all of the above projects funded in 2019/20 must be completed and submitted to the OPCC in the coming weeks. A final update on the projects will be provided at the next KCSP meeting.

### **3.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2020/21**

- 3.1 The Kent PCC has confirmed that the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) will retain its current level of funding for 2020/21 of £39,661. Up to a third of this funding (£13,220) can be allocated to a tactical pot to be spent in-year on emerging issues. In addition, the KCSP has sought permission from the PCC to rollover the £10k refunded on the knife crime first aid project into the pot for 2020/21 due to the tight timescales involved in reallocating this funding in 2019/20.
- 3.2 It should be noted that the submission dates for the 2020/21 business cases to the OPCC is 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020. As such, the KCSP Working Group considered a number of projects for the 2020/21 financial year at their last meeting in February 2020. These include projects that will aimed at violence reduction.

3.3 At the time of writing this report the projects for 2020/21 have not yet been finalised. However, a verbal update will be provided at the meeting to advise on the recommended projects submitted to the PCC with the agreement of the Chair of the KCSP.

#### **4.0 Community Safety Conference/Seminar**

4.1 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) has delivered a Community Safety Conference for the benefit of partners across the county for a number of years, with a different focus topic each time. Feedback from these events has been very positive and has enabled the Partnership to develop a shared understanding of the topics covered and ensure that key messages are cascaded out to all community safety partners. The last conference took place on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018 focussing on the priority of 'Preventing Extremism and Hate'.

4.2 The Multi-agency Conference Working Group, who organise and deliver the conference with support from the KCST, met on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 to discuss a potential conference/seminar in 2020. Discussions took place with the statutory responsible authorities and around whether there was a need for such an event at a county level. There was agreement for exploring this further and options were discussed regarding the potential theme for the day. The topic must fulfil a need and will need to link to the priorities outlined within the Kent Community Safety Agreement and PCC Police and Crime Plan. Two of the suggested themes so far include Serious Organised Crime (including serious violence) and Road Safety, with a particular focus on drug driving (including prescription drugs).

#### **5.0 Kent Community Safety Team (KCST)**

5.1 As mentioned at the last KCSP meeting in October 2019, part of the continuous improvement of the KCST led to feedback being sought from local district Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). The aim of this approach was to identify where the KCST are doing well, where the team could do better and whether there are any gaps or potential for joint working on particular projects.

5.2 The questionnaire was completed by 11 of the 12 district/boroughs. The feedback was largely positive, with 76% of respondents suggesting that the KCST were either delivering 'well' or 'extremely well' against their aims and objectives. Areas highlighted as of benefit locally to districts/boroughs and of particular note were: the managing and coordinating of DHRs, sharing of information, being a central point of contact for community safety matters and providing learning/training opportunities.

5.3 Some areas for future development identified were: improvements to the Safer Communities Portal, more regular communications, a wider training offer and coordination / joint approach in relation to specific topics. Following the results of the questionnaire, work has already begun on the implementation of the suggestions and updating the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

5.4 The KCST continues to deliver as part of its role in sharing good practice and facilitating joint working, the team produces a partnership newsletter on Community

Safety in Kent, highlighting and promoting Community Safety work across the county. The latest edition published in December 2019 had a range of articles including updates on partnership activities and training, such as the KFRS 'Drive: Road Safety Pledge', raising awareness of domestic abuse and supporting victims, a recently opened dementia carer's café in Kent, problem solving and crime prevention training etc. The next edition is due in April 2020 and the KCST are currently liaising with partners for suitable articles for inclusion.

- 5.5 In addition to the newsletter, the KCST will be trialling news e-bulletins, aimed at Community Safety practitioners across Kent, including joint Community Safety Unit staff, local authority departments, housing providers and the wider Community Safety sector. This is aimed at further developing communications in line with the questionnaire feedback. It is hoped that the first e-bulletin will be sent in mid-March and will then be distributed as and when required. The bulletin will include the latest Community Safety news such as legislation, updates to the Safer Communities Portal and any publications or consultations. The newsletter will still be retained for the sending of articles and examples of good practice/case studies which was highlighted by local district/boroughs as useful in the questionnaire.
- 5.6 The KCST is in the process of coordinating and delivering a number of events. By the end of 2019/20 the KCST will have delivered three DHR Lessons Learnt Seminars and two Community Safety Information Sessions covering topics such as self-neglect and hoarding, suicide prevention, financial abuse, Emergency Trauma Packs etc. The team are also working in partnership to deliver or support a number of other training sessions and events which will be made available over the coming months.
- 5.7 The KCSP Working Group would like to encourage partners to contact the KCST if they have any suggested topics for the information sessions, articles for the newsletter or any other suggestions for funding opportunities, training and /or collaborative working. The KCST email address is [kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk).

## **6.0 Recommendations**

- 6.1 The KCSP is asked to note the progress and actions undertaken by the Working Group and the work of the KCST.
- 6.2 The KCSP is asked for comments on the proposed topics for a community safety conference/seminar and confirmation of the need for this at a county level.

### **For Further Information:**

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