

**By:** Shafick Peerbux - Head of Community Safety, KCC  
**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
**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 2022/23**

- 2.1 The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) allocated £39,661 grant funding to the Kent Community Safety Partnership to fund projects in 2022/23, 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 2022, the KCSP Working Group reviewed a range of projects suggested by partners as possible options to receive funding in 2022/23. Of those recommended for funding the PCC approved upfront spending of £21,440 on the following four projects:

- **Best Bar None** (£622.50) – this is a Home Office backed accreditation scheme which fits in with a number of ongoing objectives including drink spiking, violence in the night-time economy, violence against women and girls (VAWG). The funding has enabled the purchase of 400 stickers to support the Best Bar None project which is currently being rolled out by district partners. Assessments have begun taking place, and once a licenced premises has been accredited the stickers can be placed in their windows to show customers that the venue is working hard to provide a safe and welcoming place.
- **Trauma Awareness Programme** (£13,000) - aims to enable young people and identified younger adults to increase awareness of the power of feeling strong emotion(s) and how to establish an internal 'sense check' and emotional repertoire. The funding has enabled the toolkit and training package to be reviewed and updated, and professionals that work with young people are currently being signed up to train in the use and delivery of the package.
- **Community Safety Conference** (£5,980) – the funding will enable the hire of a venue and audio visual support to deliver a community safety conference to partners. A task and finish group has been established and work is ongoing to develop and deliver the conference in 2023 (see details below).
- **Promotional Materials for Awareness Weeks** (£1,837.50) – funding has been set aside to support the production of literature as needed on a variety of topics, in the form of posters, leaflets, etc to support awareness weeks and campaigns during the year.

2.3 The remainder of the funding (£18,221) was placed in the tactical pot for in-year use. Following confirmation from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner that the tactical pot could be accessed, a number of project proposals were received from partners for consideration by the KCSP Working Group in October 2022.

2.4 Based on the discussions undertaken by members of the KCSP Working Group, two projects outlined below, received a consensus of support and have been passed to the KCSP Chair and the Police and Crime Commissioner for approval:

- **Gaming & Online Awareness of Hate and Extremism** (£4,600)  
The Gaming and Extremism project (gaming bus) is a community engagement initiative to promote awareness of how hateful extremism and potential radicalisation is spread via gaming and how it can be countered.
- **Hateful Extremism CPD Event** (£3,000)  
The Kent and Medway Prevent Team are planning to deliver another CPD (continuous professional development) event on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 following the successful event in February 2022. The event will include a range of speakers to provide an update to partners and professionals on the current situation, emerging issues, and will strengthen their knowledge on the issues.

2.5 If the above two projects are approved by the PCC there will be approx. £10,600 remaining in the Tactical Pot. The KCSP Working Group are working with partners to identify suitable additional projects and are in receipt of two more proposals for consideration. If KCSP members have any suggestions or would like to discuss potential projects please contact: [kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk).

### **3.0 Review of the Kent Community Safety Team**

- 3.1 In June 2022 the office premises, provided by Kent Fire and Rescue Service, where the KCST had been co-located since September 2015 was decommissioned and returned to KFRS to use for operational purposes. Since then the KCST have continued to work in a hybrid way using the technology at their disposal and where possible meeting physically on a weekly basis to work in an office space to facilitate joint working. Currently the KCST are utilising office space provided by Kent County Council at Invicta House, using a desk booking system to enable partners to work in a similar location, but other potential venues are also being explored.
- 3.2 The review of the KCST is continuing with the aim to be completed by the end of December 2022. The multi-agency task and finish group, led by KFRS, are currently reviewing the remit of the team and identifying key focus areas which will benefit most from a multi-agency approach whilst also delivering the statutory duties of the individual agencies. Once complete a new Memorandum of Understanding will be produced and an action plan developed for 2023/24.

### **4.0 Kent Community Safety Conference**

- 4.1 The KCSP has delivered Community Safety Conferences for the benefit of partners for a number of years based on an identified need. The most recent conference was delivered jointly with the Kent Resilience Forum on the subject of Community Resilience which was held virtually in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic in November 2020.
- 4.2 A multi-agency conference task and finish group (T&FG) has been established and at the last planning meeting agreed that the focus of the conference should be around the *'Cost of Living Crisis and the impacts on Community Safety'* in line with National concerns surrounding this. The planning group identified a number of key topics that could be explored within the overarching theme to include:
- Violence Against Women and Girls
  - Vision Zero
  - Wellbeing / Vulnerability / Mental health
- 4.4 Conference planning is in the early stages with further T&FG meetings planned to establish the content, format and identify speakers. The aim is to hold the conference in February/March 2023 as a hybrid event with the date and venue yet to be confirmed.

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

- 5.1 As part of the KCST's role in sharing information, good practice and facilitating joint working, the team produces and circulates monthly E-Bulletins on emerging community safety issues, relevant news, publications, publications and to highlight and promote community safety work to over 200 practitioners across the county.

- 5.2 The KCST delivered a Community Safety Information Session (CSIS) in September for over 50 staff from partner agencies covering a range of topics including Hate Crime, Protection Against Stalking, Domestic Abuse Professional Champions, 16 Days of Action Against Domestic Abuse, OSARA problem solving model, Neighbourhood Policing update, Domestic abuse and suicide toolkit, Serious Violence Duty and Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.
- 5.3 The KCST, on behalf of the KCSP, are in the process of delivering DHR learning webinars. So far this year, four webinars have been delivered on three different themes identified from the most recently published case including: Domestic Abuse and Children and Young People, Domestic Abuse and Suicide and DHRs and Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) involving Carers; was delivered jointly with the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board.
- 5.4 The next DHR learning webinar will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> November during the National Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week and will be focused on harmful practices and cultural competence.
- 5.5 The KCST is currently working with the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board (KMSAB) on the annual Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week (SAAW) campaign (21<sup>st</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> November). The KCST has engaged with colleagues within the Kent Community Warden service and at a local district level to ensure that events/activities are taking place during the week as well as sharing the SAAW toolkit.
- 5.6 In addition, the team are also working with colleagues to support and promote the 16 days of Action Against Domestic Abuse which runs between 25<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December and will be sharing the toolkit and providing promotional literature signposting to the Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Services Website that is managed by the KCST.
- 5.7 The KCSP Working Group would like to encourage partners to contact the KCST if they have any suggested updates for the bulletins, or any other suggestions for funding opportunities, training and/or collaborative working. In addition, if you would like to be added to the distribution list for the bulletins, please email the KCST: [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.

### **For Further Information:**

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