

By: Mark Powell – Violence Reduction Unit Director for Kent and Medway  
(Chair of KCSP Working Group)

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

To: Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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 2023/24**

- 2.1 The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) granted the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) £39,661 from the Crime Reduction Grant for 2023/2024. The grant has been used to fund projects throughout Kent, focussing on the priorities identified in the Community Safety Agreement and the Police and Crime 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 Two thirds of the funding (£26,440) was made available for upfront project spending with the remaining third of the grant (£13,220) allocated to a tactical pot for spending in-year.

- 2.3 This financial year the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) on behalf of the KCSP submitted a total of twelve distinct project proposals in a business case to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for consideration and approval. Eight of the project proposals received approval totalling **£28,675** (see project updates below).
- 2.4 A summary about each of the projects was included in previous report to KCSP members, the following is a brief progress update:
- **Reducing Abusive Behaviour Policy and Training (£4,200) - On Track**  
*Dates for the training sessions have been finalised for the 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The booking forms have been created and will go live shortly. The policy slides and resource pack contents are in the process of being finalised.*
  - **Domestic Abuse Bitesize Training Videos (£5,440) - Delivered**  
*Five videos have been produced covering key themes (see links below). These videos have been launched online and are being shared with partners and professionals. Initial feedback received has been very positive with the first video in the collection already receiving at the time of writing this report over 400 views online. Full feedback and evaluation will be received at year end.*
    - Signs Of Abuse: <https://youtu.be/uLI5jyc7c2c>
    - Safety Planning: <https://youtu.be/7P1NcZjE9h8>
    - Safe Enquiry: <https://youtu.be/SLZVPBPxohQ>
    - Support & Signposting: <https://youtu.be/cs5ri7B52gq>
    - Understanding Risk: <https://youtu.be/f4Bj7m2jPw>
  - **Tackling Victim Blaming Language Training (£1,600-£2,400) - Part Delivered**  
*Initially four training sessions were delivered and received great feedback from attendees, with most rating the sessions as either excellent (84%) or very good (13.8%). Due to the success of the training, several requests to deliver additional sessions have been received, therefore an updated business case was submitted to the OPCC requesting a further £800 to deliver two more sessions before the end of the financial year. The funding has been approved and dates for the additional sessions are in the process of being arranged.*
  - **Hateful Extremism CPD event (£3,500) - Delivered**  
*The event took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at the Mercure Maidstone Great Danes Hotel. The hybrid event included delegates attending in person and virtually online. Full feedback and evaluation will be received at year end.*
  - **KCSP Anti-Social Behaviour Event (£5,000) - On Track**  
*The event date has now been finalised for the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The venue has been confirmed, event bookings are open for the hybrid event, speakers are confirmed and the agenda is being finalised.*
  - **Community Safety Information Sessions (£1,500) - On Track**  
*The editing of the information sessions are in progress and five inputs are in the process of being made accessible with captions and will soon be able to be added to the Safer Communities Portal on MS Teams.*
  - **Business Crime Reduction Partnership (BCRP) extension to rural locations (£3,186) - On Track**  
*Ordering and installation of equipment is in progress for the initial roll out of the scheme.*

- **Gaming Together 2023/2024 (£3,450) - On Track**  
*The school locations and dates for delivery of the gaming bus project in Kent have been confirmed. These are scheduled to take place on three different dates in Gravesend, Folkestone and Canterbury and will engage with both secondary school children and Year 6 children from primary school.*

2.5 The OPCC notified all Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) that from 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024, access to the Tactical Pot closed and the KCSP is unable to submit any further proposals this year. As a result, there is approx. £11,000 left in the Crime Reduction Grant tactical pot that has not been spent and will be returned to the OPCC as an underspend.

### **3.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2024/25**

3.1 The Kent PCC has yet to confirm the KCSP allocation of funding for the new financial year spend 2024/2025, although based on previous experience it is hoped (but not guaranteed) that the same amount of funding will be allocated to the KCSP for 2024/25 as in previous years (£39,661).

3.2 Given the timeframes involved, it is proposed that the partnership plans for the potential allocation of the funding. As such partners have been contacted to request submission of project proposals for next year by the end of March 2024.

3.3 The project proposals will be discussed by the multi-agency KCSP Working Group at their next meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and the group's recommendations will be presented to the KCSP Chair for approval prior to submission as a business case to the OPCC.

3.4 The KCST is working with partners to identify suitable projects for the forthcoming financial year. If any of KCSP partners 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 Anti-Social Behaviour Event**

4.1 A Task and Finish Group of the KCSP Working Group has continued to meet throughout the financial year to devise and plan the multi-agency Anti-Social Behaviour event. The event will include the National, Regional and Local picture and various multi-agency case studies. This hybrid event will be delivered in person at Kent Showground and virtually via MS Teams on Tuesday 19th March 2024.

4.2 The focus of the event will be around Anti-Social Behaviour in line with the Government's ASB Action plan (published in March 2023). The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) will be speaking at the event along with the National Police lead on Anti-Social Behaviour. The event planning group have identified several key topics that will be explored within the overarching theme, including Complex needs, Homelessness, Begging, Vehicle Nuisance, Youth ASB, Deliberate Fires and Community Payback.

- 4.3 Those attending in person will have access to marketplace stall holders and networking opportunities, and all attendees will be able to interact during the event through the Question-and-Answer panels and survey feedback.
- 4.4 If you or any other professionals are interested in attending the hybrid event there may still be spaces available. Please contact the KCST for details: [kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk).

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

- 5.1 The KCST delivers Community Safety Information Sessions (CSIS) covering a broad range of topics. For this financial year, the KCST partners have been trialling an alternative format for the CSIS events, making them shorter lunchtime sessions which have been delivered more frequently. Topics covered this year included presentations on the new Neighbourhood Policing model for Kent, Scams & Dangerous Dogs, Hate Crime & E Scooters, Co-Occurring Conditions linked to Domestic Abuse and Domestic Homicide Reviews, Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programmes, Police Licensing and Kent Fire & Rescue input around fires and unsafe commercial premises. All sessions have been well attended and received positive feedback. Following the success of the trial, the KCST will continue to deliver these lunchtime information sessions in 2024/25 and plan to devise a schedule of topics for the new financial year based on upcoming awareness weeks, and securing additional speakers throughout the year as new and emerging issues are identified.
- 5.2 The KCST delivered an online Data Workshop on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 for district/borough community safety colleagues to help with the annual strategic assessment process and inform the priority setting for CSP Community Safety plans. The main input came from the Kent Police Central Analytical Team who provided an update on crime trends, hotspots, emerging issues etc. Other topics/speakers included: Youth Justice, Hospital Admissions, Serious Violence, Counter Terrorism, etc. The workshop gave data providers an opportunity to give some context to the data supplied, whilst enabling those completing the assessments to ask questions.
- 5.3 The KCST has been delivering Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) learning webinars throughout 2023. In total three sessions have been delivered with 353 people in total attending across the events held on the 20<sup>th</sup> September, 17<sup>th</sup> October and the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023. The most recent webinar was delivered jointly with Adult Safeguarding and took place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 during the National Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week focussed on 'Who cares for the Carers'. As each webinar concluded, a survey was sent to each attendee to request their views to help the KCST evaluate the effectiveness of the webinars and to shape future events. 96% rated the events as excellent, very good or good. Learning events/webinars for the upcoming financial year are in the planning stages and will be based around DHRS that are expected to be published in 2024.
- 5.4 As part of the KCST's role in sharing good practice and facilitating joint working, the team produces regular e-bulletins aimed at providing frequent but brief updates on emerging community safety issues to practitioners across Kent, such as legislative changes, newly published documents, data releases, links to media articles, funding

opportunities. The most recent E Bulletin has included updates and information on the Multi-Agency Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Event, recently published Domestic Homicide Review, OSARA Training Sessions, Domestic Abuse Awareness social media posts for February, COBI & Healthy Relationships Referral Pathway and upcoming training and information events and details about the Safer Communities Portal.

- 5.5 The KCST historically managed and maintained the Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Support Services website, however discussions are currently underway regarding the redevelopment of the website and as an interim measure a holding page has been put in place to direct anyone needing support to the main referral routes.
- 5.6 The KCSP Working Group would like to encourage partners to contact the KCST if they have any suggested topics for the information sessions, brief 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:**

Mark Powell  
KCC Violence Reduction Unit, Director for Kent and Medway  
[mark.powell@kent.gov.uk](mailto:mark.powell@kent.gov.uk)

Shafick Peerbux  
KCC, Head of Community Safety  
[shafick.peerbux@kent.gov.uk](mailto:shafick.peerbux@kent.gov.uk)