

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) – 4th July 2024

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.

2.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2024/25

- 2.1 The funding allocation to the KCSP for 2024/25 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 to help deliver the priorities as set out in the PCC's Making Kent Safer plan 2022-25. This

year the PCC has advised that some of the types of projects that CSPs may want to consider using the funding for include:

- Reduce ASB and crime
- Reduce violence against women and girls (VAWG)
- Provide crime prevention and reassurance activities
- Deliver initiatives to reduce crime and ASB in the daytime and in the night-time economy (NTE).
- Deliver diversionary activities, including school-based interventions to increase awareness of risk-taking behaviour and encourage positive behaviours.
- Enable partnership approaches to areas of concern to reduce crime and ASB.
- Deliver drug and alcohol reduction and treatment services.
- Reduce offending and re-offending

2.3 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.

2.4 Nine project proposals were received from partners for consideration by the KCSP Working Group at their meeting on 29th April 2024. Based on the shortlisting exercise by partners and discussion at the multi-agency KCSP Working Group, seven of the nine projects received a consensus of support (see below) and were recommended for funding and submitted to the Chair of the KCSP and the Police and Crime Commissioner for approval. *Details can be found in Appendix 1.*

- Expert level training in ASB Case Reviews and ASB legislation (£6,00)
- Neurodivergent intimate relationships Training for partners (£5,300)
- Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) training sessions (£2,400)
- Countering the Extreme Right-Wing Training (£4,578)
- Partnership Workshop on New CSP Statutory Duties (£3,000)
- Community Safety Learning (£1,500)
- Hateful Extremism CPD Event (£3,500)

2.5 At this stage the KCST is currently liaising with the Office of the PCC on the projects and any other further information/clarification required. Further updates will be given at the next KCSP meeting.

2.6 The KCSP Working Group are also liaising with partners to explore potential projects for funding through the tactical pot. The lead agency for each project has been asked to present the proposal at the next KCSP Working Group scheduled for 17th July 2024.

2.7 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. For 2023/2024, the KCST partners trialled an alternative format for the CSIS events, making them shorter sessions, and delivering them more frequently as lunchtime learning or drop-in sessions. All sessions were well attended and

received positive feedback. Therefore the delivery of the sessions have continued in the same way for this financial year.

- 3.2 In 2024/25, the KCST has delivered three CSIS lunchtime learning sessions covering topics such as 'Fish FEST' (Fishing, Engaging, and Supporting Teenagers) and tackling low level ASB issues; Victim Support Services; Safeguarding on the Railway delivered by Southeastern Railway; and the Kent and Medway Restorative Justice & Mediation Service. The latest session was held on the 20th June, with inputs from Kent Police around ASB best practice and from AMPARO the suicide bereavement support service.
- 3.3 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. Two DHRs have been published this calendar year DHR [DIANA 2020](#) and [LOUISE 2020](#).
- 3.4 The KCST delivered Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) learning webinars throughout 2023, in total three sessions were delivered. The first DHR learning webinar for 2024, took place on 27th June which explored ongoing risks to victims when perpetrators are in prison/on probation or in the Criminal Justice System. The webinar included a special guest speaker who spoke about this family's experience of coercive control. Further webinars are being prepared in line with cases that are going to be published over the next few months.
- 3.5 As part of the KCST's role in sharing good practice and facilitating joint working, the team produces and circulates monthly E-Bulletins with the latest community safety updates and any relevant news, publications, and legislation. The most recent bulletin included updates and information on the next CSIS sessions, DHR learning webinar, Euro 2024, Community Catalysts, Safeguarding Adult Review publications, training offers, campaigns and awareness events.
- 3.6 The KCST would like to encourage partners to contact the team if they would like to subscribe to the e-bulletin, have any suggested topics/speakers for the information sessions, brief updates for the e-bulletins or anything else. Please email the KCST: kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 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

Shafick Peerbux
KCC, Head of Community Safety
shafick.peerbux@kent.gov.uk

Appendix 1:

CRG Business Case(s) – Proposed Projects

- **Delivery of expert level training in Case Reviews and ASB legislation**
To deliver training to local partnerships on both ASB case reviews and the developing ASB legislation around tools and powers.
- **“Neurodivergent intimate relationships” Training for partners**
Project to deliver two recorded training webinars to practitioners providing an overview of neurodivergence and how neurodivergent individuals can be better supported by services, and the second will explore more specifically the issues around neurodivergence, trauma and intimate relationships.
- **VAWG Training Sessions**
Project to deliver six online training sessions (Two on each of the following topics) “How to engage men and boys in anti-misogyny work”, “Creating community interventions for reducing violence against women and girls” and “victim blaming and rape myths”
- **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.
- **Partnership Workshop on New CSP Statutory Duties**
A workshop to explore the changes proposed by the Home Office in relation to Community Safety Partnerships and ASB and how these will need to be implemented in Kent.
- **Community Safety Learning**
Funding for speakers such as research professors and experts in their field, to present (virtually) at bespoke events and/or the Community Safety Information Sessions (CSIS) to expand professional awareness and understanding, or explore new learning, ideas or methods about tackling community safety issues. .
- **Hateful Extremism CPD Event**
A CPD event to be held in February 2025 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.