



**ORIGINATOR: WAVENEY COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

**PAPER NO. AP13/31**

**SUBMITTED TO: ACCOUNTABILITY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL – 13 AUGUST 2013**

**SUBJECT:** To report on Waveney Community Safety Partnership progress against Action Plan priorities funded through the Police & Crime Commissioner.

**SUMMARY:**

The Waveney Community Safety Partnership has agreed an Action Plan for 2013-14 that takes into account the needs and priorities contained within the Annual Strategic Assessment and the Police & Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan. The Police and Crime Commissioner has allocated £31,932.50 to Waveney Community Safety Partnership to commission projects and pieces of work to directly and indirectly address the priorities identified within those documents. To ensure we take into account the local environment and perspective, Waveney Community Safety Partnership, working closely with the Suffolk Coastal Community Safety Partnership, have designed and are delivering a Joint Action Plan for East Suffolk (see Appendix A).

Whilst Suffolk is a low crime area, Waveney and Lowestoft in particular have one of the highest crime rates in the county. Through Partnership working, the Police have highlighted that they cannot address crime and anti-social behaviour alone in hotspot areas, and the Partnership recognises the benefits and value in promoting and delivering preventative work to young people through schools and non-mainstream channels to complement the work of the police. It is acknowledged, through our troubled family work that there are a number of dysfunctional families residing across our districts, particularly in deprived areas. Through our proactive work we can help address the risk-taking behaviour undertaken by young people. We help to support and inform them to address root causes and underlying issues which affect their lives and the communities they live in, which can also prevent them from reaching their full academic or vocational potential.

The strength of the Partnership also means we can act quickly to deal with emerging issues, for example, in dealing with domestic burglary in South Lowestoft, working with CrimeStoppers and partners to respond and take appropriate action and also implementing a Dispersal Order in Beccles to help a community being troubled by escalating anti-social behaviour issues.

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The Partnership recognises the good practice and successful delivery of projects aimed at supporting young people e.g. Crucial Crew and Y-B-Yz (aimed at 8-10 year olds) where Waveney enjoy circa. 1,200 school children attending each event on an annual basis. We have increased year on year support from schools with 29 out of 37 schools across Waveney attending Y-B-Yz and 34 attending Crucial Crew, including 2 special schools. This shows the value and benefits the schools place on these type of events.

These projects have delivered positive outcomes, including improved personal safety, good citizenship and provide a positive role model experience for many children lacking a positive family influence. We regularly meet young people today who remember their Crucial Crew experience.

This work will not be carried out in isolation but links with other positive schemes and projects delivered and funded outside the Community Safety Partnership, aimed at providing young people with positive out of school activities including various summer activities on the beach and in local parks in Lowestoft.

This report outlines progress on the work of the Partnership to achieve this. Appendix B lists the grants awarded to date and progress made.

At the date of this report, some of these projects have not yet started, However, the design and planning of these events/projects is well underway.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Accountability and Performance Panel note the information in this report and endorse the progress made to date.

## **DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION**

### **1. KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION:**

Waveney Community Safety Partnership have a good track record on commissioning and delivering projects that contribute to reducing crime and making Suffolk a safe place to live, work and visit.

The 2013-14 Action Plan for the East of Suffolk was developed by Partners during their Annual Partnership Planning Workshop held in January this year. The Action Plan takes into account the Annual Strategic Assessment key priorities and the Police & Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan to ensure the Partnership contributes and addresses county-wide issues whilst at the same time addressing local issues, for example we will be supporting the Suffolk Wide Alcohol Awareness Programme.

The Partnership also considered previous projects, their performance and outcomes with a view to improving and updating and intend to repeat some of this good work and practice this financial year.

Due to the close working relationship between both Waveney and Suffolk Coastal District Councils steps have been taken to mirror and reflect successful projects and initiatives across each of the districts. Many partners attend meetings for both areas so whilst they remain two separate Partnerships, they do share an Action Plan and hold joint Responsible Authority Group and Officer Working Group meetings promoting efficiency and effectiveness through Partnership working.

Due to the current economic climate and ever decreasing budgets the partnership are minded to ensure smart targets, measureable quantitative and qualitative data and positive outcomes are a pre-requisite to the endorsement of each project. The Partnership monitors the progression of each of the commissioned projects at each of the joint Responsible Authority Group meetings and provides challenge and support as necessary to ensure the best possible outcomes, value for money and improved quality of life for its citizens and communities.

### **2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Appendix B details projects commissioned and funding allocated. A Monitoring Agreement will be agreed and signed prior to any project receiving its funding.

### **3. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

To mitigate risk of the project failing, monitoring will be required on a regular basis and reported to each quarterly Community Safety Partnership Responsible Authority Group meeting. If concerns are identified the Partnership will work with the project leads and partners to identify, agree and implement corrective action or if necessary close down the project and take steps to recover the project funding.