

**ORIGINATOR:
SAFER SUFFOLK PARTNERSHIP
BOARD**

PAPER NO: AP14/14

**SUBMITTED TO:
PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY PANEL -19 February 2014.**

**SUBJECT: Safer Suffolk Partnership Board – Commissioning of the Crime and
Disorder Reduction Grant on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner 2013/14**

SUMMARY:

For the financial year 2013/2014 the Police and Crime Commissioner has allocated £44,152.60 to the Safer Suffolk Partnership Board (SSPB). The grant has been awarded to allow the SSPB to commission projects and activities to achieve the objectives of the Police and Crime Plan.

This report outlines the progress to date of all of the projects and initiatives commissioned.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Accountability and Performance Panel is requested to note the information to date on all projects and endorse the progress so far.

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION:

Background information:

The Safer Suffolk Partnership Board (SSPB) have adopted 6 priority areas of work for 2013, informed by the annual Strategic Assessment, produced by Suffolk Police and the Community Safety Partnerships in mid-2012, and taking into account the priorities subsequently adopted within the Police and Crime Plan.

In March the SSPB agreed that it would be most effective if Board commissioning concentrated on the areas of need which would not typically be addressed by commissioning undertaken by the Community Safety Partnerships. This was identified as comprising:

- Sexual Exploitation and Prostitution
- Integrated Offender Management
- Domestic Violence

Expressions of Interest to receive funding were then invited from providers, utilising the network of the Safer Suffolk Board and Executive to reach as broad a range of providers as possible.

An initial round of commissioning received a number of applications which were then considered by the Safer Suffolk Executive in May. From this process activity was commissioned to a total cost of £29,130 comprising:

- **Sexual Exploitation and Prostitution: Training for Make A Change Team** staff to enable new techniques to be used within front-line working and a **communication campaign** to increase the impact and reach of the team. *Funding allocated: £5,630*
- **Integrated Offender Management:** A combination of initiatives to enhance the effectiveness of IOM including **GPS tagging, voluntary drug testing and bespoke support to individual offenders.** *Funding allocated: £21,000*
- **Domestic Violence:** The production of **awareness raising materials** for use through local Domestic Violence Forums and other frontline services to increase take-up of services by victims. *Funding allocated: £2,500*

After the initial round of commissioning £15,022 remained unallocated. Board members agreed to look to repeat a commissioning process against any of the Board's priorities therefore expanding the scope to include:

- Creating Safer Night Time Economies
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Tackling Substance Misuse

Two further Expressions of Interest were then considered at the SSPB meeting in July and the following activities were commissioned:

- **Alcohol awareness publicity campaign** – A further development of previous work, using a range of media channels to promote safe/sensible drinking messages. *Funding allocated: £5,000*
- **Domestic Abuse Hidden/Unmet Need** – Project work to develop data and information exchange from non-Police agencies and to undertake a needs assessment to increase the opportunities for services to identify victims and respond appropriately. *Funding allocated: £10,000*

Summary of progress to date on each project/initiative

Sexual Exploitation and Prostitution: Training and Development of Communications Materials for the Make a Change (MAC) Team

Overview:

- A) The MAC practitioner staff team has been offered 'Changepoint' Attachment Based Interviewing training. This accredited training has been used in a variety of settings, and with considerable success, with vulnerable individuals (including both the prison service and with young offenders) to address belief systems, assist individuals to look differently at early life experiences which may have shaped their behavioural responses and adversely affected their decision making capacities. This will build on the MAC team abilities in communication, focus and strengthen direct work interventions with vulnerable service users and improve outcomes
- B) The MAC team have been working with Suffolk County Council Communications Team over the last year to identify ways in which they can announce the teams work more effectively at the increasing number of seminars and conferences they are invited to attend. The team also want to enable access from people within our community who may be experiencing, or be at risk of sexual exploitation, coercion and trafficking across all our communities, but who are not in contact with professionals in a position to refer. This seeks to support awareness of the issues within the general population, and to address the under reporting of crimes.

Progress to date:

A) The specialist training took place in October in Ipswich and the co author of the method of intervention conducted the training. The initial block training will be followed by two follow up/consultation days, the first of which will be the 2nd of December, the second in the New Year. We have been able to fund 22 delegates from a range of agencies and partners in the strategy-(Ipswich Borough Council, Adult and Community Services, Children's Services, Education etc) and each delegate works with service users, or groups of service users, who are perceived to be particularly difficult to engage and with the specific intention of improving outcomes both in respect of their safety, community safety. In addition, hopefully, engaging them in such a way as to enable them to make effective and positive steps forward out of difficult situations.

The funding from the SSPB has enabled us to provide each delegate with their own course work /reference book/ manual and training materials (accompanying DVD) that will enable their participation and give them a source of reference to which they can consult. The training is widely acknowledged, accredited and will enable staff to add this to their professional development portfolio.

The team will be discussing with the delegates the possibility of holding regular practitioner forums to support assist and share progress over the next few months to enable us to track how the method has supported their practice skills.

B) In relation to the revised marketing materials, the SCC Communications team have worked closely with team members over the last year to produce materials which were relevant, inclusive and engaging not only to our immediate our service user group, but which can also translate to public sight in respect of awareness raising prevention and early intervention. A partial print run was recently 'road tested' at a recent three day county event (Trinity Part) for multi agency practitioners and managers and at a Safeguarding event held in Endeavour House.

The materials have been very well received by all who have seen them and we are encouraged that they will make a significant impact in relation to our work.

Both the training and the materials have been tailored to include the work begun last year in relation to advancing access and communication with Men and Boys, who were identified as being under represented in our service user group.

Outcomes:

Having strengthened their skills, MAC practitioners are better enabled in their engagement skills with vulnerable service users.

By enhancing the abilities of practitioners to identify the attachment style of those vulnerable individuals they are working with, they will be enabled to focus their interactions in an even more accurate and timely way.

By adding this approach to the team's existing 'skill set' they will be able to engage service users more effectively in building relationships from which they feel more confident in addressing their experiences, moving more confidently (as appropriate) to identifying perpetrators, build their own confidence in recognising and assessing personal risk and vulnerability, and in making safe, informed, positive choices toward a healthy, safe lifestyle from which they can work towards their own aspirations.

A carefully planned and worded campaign, supported by simple yet portable display material for awareness raising, training seminars and conferences in and out of county, and including posters and postcard leaflets promoting the work of operational team and its multi agency partners. This will also maintain Suffolk's profile and commitment to this work, will engage members of the community as yet unaware of the work of the team, will promote the work of the SSPB and the Police and Crime plan in their objectives to announce high quality focused services to victims, help them move forward positively in their lives and support crime prevention activity.

Integrated Offender Management

Overview

Based in Probation offices, Suffolk 180 has three co-located multi-agency schemes across Suffolk. Suffolk 180's interventions focus on the established pathways out of offending: accommodation, health, drug/alcohol misuse, financial management, employment, supporting families and addressing offending behaviour.

In order to achieve positive outcomes funding would be used for the continuation of the following three established projects until end of March 2014:

- **Operational Pot** – day-to-day expenses such as emergency accommodation, food, toiletries, clothes, travel to appointments. This would be used to meet presenting needs. In particular in a crisis or an emergency, provision of short-term support of accommodation and food will, in most cases, prevent the damaging effects of drugs and alcohol on lives, crime levels and the night-time economy.
- **GPS Tracking** – worn on a voluntary basis this can quickly eliminate a suspect from police enquires. Thus saving investigative resources, prevention of unnecessary arrests and disruptive searches. Plus it reinforces an offender's motivation to remain crime free to their families, employers and their communities. Also the wearer has a physical reminder of their stated intention not to re-offend. Twenty four hour, seven days a week monitoring will provide a high quality service for potential victims, support crime prevention activity, reduce business crime and reduce use of police resources.
- **Voluntary Drug Testing** – Suffolk drug agencies are contracted to test every six weeks. Additional twice weekly testing by the IOM Team confirms usage. It offers public protection, crime detection (victims of night-time economy: burglary, robbery,

assault and vehicle crime). In addition it alerts agencies to who is using what combination of drugs so they can target their services and offer harm reduction. It also offers offenders proof of their not using drugs thereby supporting family re-unification, improving employability and provide positive recognition of their on-going achievement of remaining clean from drugs.

Drug agencies are informed of drug usage across Suffolk so will be able to maximise best use and targeting of their services. Plus they can review Recovery Plans to prevent deaths by unintentional overdose. Offenders can have prescriptions reviewed at an early stage to ensure they are on the optimum relapse prevention dosage. Plus provide proof to their family, friends and employers that they are drug free – supporting families and maintaining their place in the community.

Progress to date

All three of the above services are now in place and in daily operation

Operational Pot – probably the most welcome and flexible resource for both practitioners and clients. This has been used in a variety of ways to offer short-term, targeted support at critical times. One example is buying clothes for someone on release from prison – they had stopped using drugs whilst in prison and had consequently put on weight. However, the bulk of spending has centred on emergency, short-term Bed and Breakfast accommodation such as a young man, assessed as vulnerable to the influences of a negative peer group being re-located to another area on release from prison. A initial food shop was also made in this case to meet his specific dietary needs.

Expenditure since start of Financial Year April 2013:
£8,000 allocated to the Operational Pot. £5,348.00 spent to mid-January 2014.

GPS Tracking – Four units are being funded on a month by month basis. Teams are making efforts to maximise their uses in each of the three IOM Hubs (Ipswich, Bury and Lowestoft). We can confirm that currently all four units are being used. These have proved to be a cost effective, time saving method of monitoring clients of interest. It also empowers wearers to actively engage in their own rehabilitation.

The Public Protection Unit (PPU) were so impressed with IOM's use of GPS they have funded a unit for use on a high risk of serious harm offender.

Expenditure since start of Financial Year April 2013:
£10,000 allocated to GPS Tracking. Suffolk Constabulary is overseeing this aspect of the budget. Spending has been kept in line with available funds with a monthly payment of £800 plus VAT. Plus an allowance for possible additional repair/replacement costs.

Voluntary Drug Testing - This supports working in partnership and fills identified gaps in service provision. An example is that if a client is drug free the drug agencies may stop testing them - therefore lapse into previous drug misuse could go undetected. Sharing results of voluntary drug testing gives agencies early indication of lapse/relapse. Positive test results prompt early intervention to prevent a return to previous entrenched drug misuse and repeat offending.

Voluntary drug testing also offer the client a timely reminder to remain drug free and gives proof to their families, friends and employers that they are drug free. Thus supporting reintegration into the community.

Expenditure since start of Financial Year April 2013:
£3,000 was allocated to Voluntary Drug Testing: This service is reserved for those clients who do not have a statutory drug testing requirement on their Licence or Order. We are using the portable Windicator tests which have proved beneficial; in particular with outreach

work. Boxes of 25 are ordered on an 'as required' basis. The cost is approximately £9.00 per test.

Interesting Developments for Suffolk IOM

Work to harmonise the Norfolk & Suffolk IOM schemes into one efficient, cost effective scheme is almost complete. As with some other agencies such as the Crown Prosecution Services (CPS) and Mental Health Services, both Norfolk & Suffolk Probation and Police Services are increasingly working together.

The process currently underway aims to identify the appropriate cohort of clients; staffing levels from both police and probation; methods of performance monitoring and appropriate governance arrangements. It is anticipated this will be in place by the end of March 2014.

Outcomes:

By providing the above services, Suffolk 180 is able to offer innovative, holistic, individually tailored provision to prolific offenders beyond the remit of statutory funding.

In this way, a reduction in re-offending is more likely to be achieved.

Operational Pot: Reduction in frequency/seriousness of situational re-offending and increased engagement with services by those who have been supported.

GPS Tracking: Reduction in re-offending by wearers; number of volunteers to wear a tag; reduction in police investigative activity. Increased engagement with services.

Voluntary Drug Testing: Increased number of volunteers taking advantage of drug testing and engaging with drug services. Improved information sharing between agencies such as probation, police, drug services, safeguarding agencies and accommodation providers

Domestic Violence

Overview:

A gap has been identified in information for victims, their families and local communities as currently there are no resources available county-wide.

The project is developing leaflets, posters and materials and brings these together to provide a free accessible resource. These will be available to all partners either in hard copy (leaflets) or to download (posters), and will include domestic and honour based abuse. The leaflets will be non gender specific and aimed for all victims irrespective of their age. To address target groups for example; young people, male victims, older victims, the project will provide agencies with information, examples and sources of support. The posters design will be aimed for themed times of the year, for example Christmas, Easter but will carry the same message throughout the campaign. The project will specifically support the Town Pastors project with domestic and honour based materials and information as well as other local and county awareness raising campaigns

This will provide continuity of approach across the Suffolk giving equal access to public facing materials to victims, their families and communities by promoting the Be a Survivor not a Victim message countywide. This message has been trialled on the SCC public facing website and has received positive comments

As part of the project a Suffolk County Domestic Abuse Forum logo will be developed to represent partnership across agencies to address domestic abuse.

Progress to date:

The leaflet is now agreed with joint Police/SCC group and proof reading completed. The first batch of the leaflets was distributed at the launch of this year's White Ribbon Campaign on 25 November.

The new County Domestic Abuse Forum logo is drafted and now with the Forum Chair for approval.

The project is nearing completion. A library of posters for partner agencies to download will be available during March 2014. New leaflets are now available and are being distributed across the county.

Outcomes:

The main objective of this communications work is to raise awareness of Domestic Abuse, therefore encouraging more people to access services and recognise the signs of abuse. At the moment there is no mechanism in place to capture this data and link access to services with this campaign. Therefore, at this time, we will be measuring the following outputs:

- Number of leaflets produced
- Number of organisations displaying leaflets and using posters
- Increase in information on services available to victims

Domestic Abuse Hidden/Unmet Need**Overview**

The discrepancy between the number of reported cases of domestic abuse and the results of the Home Office figures indicate the scope of this problem.

Home Office estimates suggest that 18,565 women were victims of domestic abuse in Suffolk (based on the 2011 census). This is considerably higher than the 7361 incidents reported to the police in 2011/12.

The majority of the costs to public agencies are borne by Health services and the Police, but there are also substantial costs to other Local Authorities, including the County Council in direct service provision or through commissioning. Nationally the Government indicate there is a compelling business case for public agencies to invest in preventative measures but without sufficient local data it is difficult to prove.

Data is not currently being collected from partners as currently there is no county initiative to collect data about outcomes in terms of the numbers of domestic abuse victims who are protected from harm from agencies other than the Police and qualitative data about the victims experience following crisis support. This hampers evidence gathering in relation to issues and risks, and effective decision making.

This project is outcome focused with a defined purpose to set up a system to gather information of recorded domestic abuse. There is a range of local data sources within the statutory and voluntary sector which could provide anonymous information to a central point. A protocol to share information across organisational boundaries will be developed as well as developing common data standards. This can be used to facilitate operational improvements. Once developed and set up data collection would be maintained using existing resources to provide information on a quarterly basis. The project is time limited and will be delivered before March 2014.

The final stage the project would investigate ways of collecting data about the overall success of interventions from the perspective of victims.

Progress to date:

The Business Development Team within Suffolk County Council have been commissioned to undertake this work. Data collection will be undertaken in December/January with the Needs Assessment produced in February/March 2014.

An experienced research officer in the Business Development Unit has started work to gather data that will form the basis of a needs assessment around domestic abuse. Data most likely to be of use will include age of victim, postcode and ethnicity

How the work develops after the initial data gathering will be dependent on the quality and quantity of the data – until it starts arriving, we will not know what it can tell us.

Outcomes:

The creation of a data collection process – bringing together a range of datasets covering DV service providers (including voluntary sector, Anglia Care Trust, Children and Young People's Directorate/etc) as well as the Police.

The production of a needs assessment based on the above data.

A further outcome will be for the Needs Assessment to be used by all partners to inform their service planning.

The project will be included in the County Strategy Delivery Plan 2013/14. Partners have a vital role and domestic abuse related partnerships have made significant progress against the majority of the objectives within the County Violence Against Women and Girls and Men Experiencing Domestic Abuse Strategy 2011 – 2014. Progress will be monitored by the County Domestic Abuse Forum with regular progress reports provided to the County Strategic Group and Safer Suffolk Partnership Board.

Alcohol Awareness Publicity Campaign**Overview:**

Last year the SSPB commissioned Suffolk Constabulary and Suffolk County Council to lead on the development of an alcohol awareness campaign for the Christmas period. All CSP's across Suffolk were consulted in the development of the campaign and in its subsequent delivery.

Having developed a branding "Think before you drink another drop" this was delivered over the Christmas period via a radio campaign, a dedicated website, engagement by Town Pastors and a high profile poster campaign in licensed premises.

Having now established the branding across Suffolk it would be intended to further exploit the message around alcohol awareness on an all year round campaign, in particular to include the summer months and again with an intense Christmas campaign. It would also be intended to look at other innovative ways to get the message across, in particular within the night time economy. For example, other problematic night time economy areas have used projects such as pavement graffiti messages and light projectors to successfully deliver important messages.

Another important factor for the Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's) is that this type of campaign raises awareness of the CSP's and demonstrates that the various partnerships are able to work together to deliver an important countywide campaign.

Progress so far:

This funding is only a proportion of the overall funding towards the Christmas campaign, an additional £5,000 is being funded from Public Health and £5,000 from existing Night Time Economy partnership funds.

The theme for Christmas is to continue the “Think again before you drink another drop” strap line that we used last year. A radio campaign will run on Heart radio in the run up to Christmas, this has already been booked and paid for, and will promote personal safety messages within the Night Time Economy. This will be linked to a social media message which will be accessed via Q&R codes linked to literature within licensed premises. We have sufficient posters remaining from last year and these will be distributed to key licensed premises to continue the theme along with business sized cards displaying the Q&R code.

Following positive feedback from the Town Pastors after last year’s campaign we will be supplying them with small bags of sweets with safety messages, a positive engagement tool they found last year.

A proposal has been put forward to run a joint police/ambulance staff patrol on key nights during December; however this will need to be funded through overtime. Public Health is supportive of the idea but we need to look at costs etc. and if health would be willing to assist further with funding.

See appendices A and B – Christmas Campaign Action Plan and Drain on Resources document

Outcomes:

Given the variety of factors that can affect an individual’s behaviour in the Night Time Economy, it has not previously been possible to directly ascertain the effect of specific media campaigns. The outputs and possible outcomes are listed in Appendix A.

In light of this the police Performance team are undertaking an evaluation of this year’s campaign. Therefore, in future, there will be better information about outcomes.

In terms of the financial impact of this project, it is worth comparing the cost of crime in relation to the cost of this project. For example a single instance of Common Assault ‘costs’ £1,750 (Home Office); the SSPB is contributing £5,000 to this campaign. Therefore if the media efforts managed to prevent 4 of these more minor offences, it could be worthwhile. The principles behind this hypothesis are reflected in Appendix B, which is a leaflet that will be given to individuals who are arrested and highlights the cost of the whole process.

2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The use of funds will be monitored on a 4-monthly basis by the SSPB ensuring that funds are being used effectively and as intended.

3. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS:

The progress of activities will be monitored on a 4-monthly basis by the SSPB. This will enable the Board to ensure that risks to successful delivery are identified/addressed at an early stage and if necessary the SSPB will be able to decommission activities if it is felt they are not successfully achieving the stated outcomes.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	No
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	No
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	Yes
Have human resource implications been considered?	Yes
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	Yes
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	Yes
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	No
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	Yes