

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Community Safety Committee

January 2017

Community Planning Community Safety and Environment Group Briefing Paper

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

This briefing provides the Committee with an update on the current partnership activity within the remit of the Community Safety and Environment Group agenda.

1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

1.1 The Community Safety and Environment Group is tasked with delivering the outcomes in respect of Community Safety and the Environment as outlined in the Perth and Kinross Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement.

2. UPDATE

2.1 This is the summary of the business considered at the Group meeting on 9 December 2016.

2.2 ADULT SUPPORT AND PROTECTION BIENNIAL REPORT

2.3 The Group considered a report which had provided an overview of Adult Support and Protection activity in Perth and Kinross and received a presentation on the Biennial Report of the Perth and Kinross Adult Support and Protection Committee for the years 2014-2016 delivered by the Independent Chair of the Committee, Alex Davidson.

2.4 The key points highlighted in Mr Davidson's presentation included:

- The importance of reaching into new areas for social work and health, and the opportunities this presented;
- The move towards using the national database, which helped develop a better data understanding;
- The Vulnerable Person Report was reviewed with Police Scotland;
- The work with NHS and Care Homes regarding reach of engagement and a rise in referrals respectively;
- The work based around the Children's Act Scotland (2014), and the transition from child to young adult;
- The continued drive to develop the notion of reporting outcomes of Adult Support and Protection;

- The work done to eradicate hidden harm and hate crime, and also engagement with minority groups and continued new ways to develop with minority groups.

2.5 SAFER COMMUNITIES THEME UPDATE

The Group received an update on Safer Communities which included the following:

2.5.1 Challenger Bus

The Challenger Bus is now a regular feature of the Perth City Night Time economy and is a welcome addition to a team that includes the following partners:

- Police
- Street Pastors
- Safer Community Wardens
- Taxi Marshalls

This multi-agency policy approach supported by a broader range of partners.

2.5.2 Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV)

PSYV is a new addition to the Community Safety family in Perth and Kinross and are led by Constable Scott Robertson who has previously presented on their capability to the Safer Communities Partnership.

2.5.3 Woody Island

Throughout the year, the Safer Communities Wardens and Police, when required, have been conducting water-safety patrols in the Woody Island area.

The Group were informed that recent tragic events have emphasised the importance of this work and the Safer Communities Partnership will be reviewing its approach in order to explore if there is any further action which can be taken to limit the risk of such events in the future.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service continues to lead on Water Safety and Chair the Water Safety Partnership.

2.5.4 Community Safety Hub

The Hub continues to demonstrate best value through effective partnership working and collaboration by ensuring a prompt multi-agency response to a variety of community problems. The multi-agency tasking meeting now takes place fortnightly

2.5.5 Aberfeldy Warden

The Aberfeldy Warden commenced their role which will be subject to ongoing development. Priorities have been agreed between the Safer Communities Team, the Community Council and the Reference Group.

2.5.6 Co-locations

Community Wardens are now co-located at Aberfeldy and Perth Fire Stations. Work continues to enhance the Police Hub at St Martins House.

2.5.7 Community Watch

The Safer Communities Partnership has been awarded £7,000 from the Scottish and Southern Electricity (SSE) Resilience Fund to support the marketing of Community Watch in Perth and Kinross. This money will be spent on staffing events with sessional staff with a view to increasing the membership and raising the profile of the product.

2.5.8 Missing People

The Short Life Working Group continues to meet and Perth and Kinross is now a pilot area for the Scottish Government Strategy. On 1 June 2016 new processes focussing on two key areas of (1) Repeat Missing People, and (2) Risk Management Planning were introduced.

2.5.9 CCTV

Over the preceding few months, the Safer Communities Team and other Perth and Kinross Council staff had worked with representatives from Dundee City Council and the Scottish Government to develop a bid to the European Regional Development Fund to develop a City Operations Room Project. This has resulted in a probable, and still to be ratified by the full Programme Board, grant of £265,000 which will allow the Group to consider a number of options going forward.

2.6 **GIANT HOGWEED**

2.7 Scottish Natural Heritage had circulated a report at the meeting setting out the risk associated with Giant Hogweed. The Group discussed the challenge particularly the threat to the banks of the River Tay and the potential impact on the redevelopment plans, water taxis and the intent to improve public access.

2.8 A risk to the health of the public and to the amenity was acknowledged and the Group accepted no single agency had the resources to deal with this threat and that a multi-agency strategy would be required. The Group had agreed the matter should be referred to the Community Planning Partnership Board.

2.9 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN COORDINATOR

- 2.10 The Group were informed about new guidance for Violence Against Women Partnerships published by the Scottish Government and COSLA. This included six 'minimum standards'. Perth and Kinross is currently compliant but there is a risk to the sustainability of the Violence Against Women Co-ordinator, a post required by one of the standards.
- 2.11 The Group were informed there is currently a part-time co-ordinator, funded through the Integrated Care Fund, however, there is insufficient funding in place for 2017/18. This is a long-standing issue which requires a partnership response. This matter was referred to the Community Planning Partnership Board.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION(S)

The purpose of this report is to provide members with an overview of the activity within the Community Safety and Environment Group to give members reassurance that this activity is delivering positive outcomes for communities. It is recommended that members note the content of the report.

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Approved

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