

**PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL****Community Safety Committee – 12 May 2010****COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP BUDGET 2009/10 & 2010/11****Report by Executive Director (Housing & Community Care)****ABSTRACT**

This report indicates the projects that have been funded by the Perth & Kinross Community Safety Partnership during 2009/10 and requests that funding for the Community Safety Partnership be continued in 2010/11.

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Community Safety Committee;
- (i) note the decision of the Perth & Kinross Community Safety Partnership to fund the projects described in this report during 2009/10
  - (ii) agree to continue this funding to the Community Safety Partnership in 2010/11 to enable them to make a significant contribution to the priorities identified within the Perth & Kinross Community Safety Strategy 2007-12 and the Single Outcome Agreement

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 For 6 years the Scottish Executive/Government has funded projects led by Community Safety Partnerships through the Community Safety Partnership Award. A fixed amount of £88,462 was awarded to the Perth & Kinross Community Safety Partnership for each of the three years from 2005-2008.
- 2.2 From 2008/09 this funding stream have been included within the general financial settlements offered to Councils and covered by the Concordant between COSLA and the Scottish Government and the Single Outcome Agreements (SOA) for each local authority area. The Concordant establishes a new relationship between central and local government and recognises the importance of partnership working and the strategic role of local authorities in providing services to address the needs of the most vulnerable.
- 2.3 At its meeting on 21 May 2008 the Council's Housing & Health Committee agreed to continue to allocate £88,000 from the Housing & Community Care budget to the Community Safety Partnership. The Executive Director (Housing & Community Care) is responsible for the monitoring and reporting on this expenditure, which is included within the Housing & Community Care performance and budget reporting framework.

### **3. 2008/09 FUNDING ALLOCATION**

- 3.1 Details of the projects funded by the Perth & Kinross Community Safety Partnership during 2009/10 are shown at Appendix I.
- 3.2 Full details of the outcomes delivered by these projects will be reported in the Community Safety Partnership's annual report in August 2010.

### **4. 2010/11 FUNDING ALLOCATION**

- 4.1 Should the funding be continued the Community Safety Partnership will be expected to commission projects in line with the priorities identified within the Perth & Kinross Community Safety Strategy 2007-12 and the Single Outcome Agreement.

### **5. CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 The Perth & Kinross Community Safety Partnership has been consulted as part of the preparation of this report.

### **6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 This report recommends that the £88,000 allocated to the Perth & Kinross Community Safety Partnership in 2009/10 be continued in 2010/11.

### **7. COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN OBJECTIVES 2009-2012**

- 7.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2009-2012 lays out five Objectives which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate and service level and shape resources allocation. In this case the relevant three objectives are as follows:-
  - (i) A Safe, Secure and Welcoming Environment
  - (ii) Healthy, Caring Communities
  - (v) Confident, Active and Inclusive Communities

### **8. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EqIA)**

- 8.1 An equality impact assessment needs to be carried out for functions, policies, procedures or strategies in relation to race, gender and disability and other relevant protected characteristics. This supports the Council's legal requirement to comply with the duty to assess and consult on relevant new and existing policies.
- 8.2 The function, policy, procedure or strategy presented in this report was considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:
  - i) Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA

## 9. STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a legal requirement under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that applies to all qualifying plans, programmes and strategies, including policies (PPS).
- 9.2 Pre-screening has identified that the PPS will have no or minimal environmental effects, it is therefore exempt and the SEA Gateway has been notified. The reason(s) for concluding that the PPS will have no or minimal environmental effects is that it does not meet any of the conditions required in Schedule 2 of the Act.

## 10. CONCLUSION

- 10.1 As can be seen by the wide range of projects put in place this funding has enabled the Community Safety Partnership to support their partners in delivering better outcomes for our communities.

**David Burke**  
**Executive Director Housing and Community Care**

**Note:** No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

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**PROJECT NAME – Safetaysiders**

Safe Taysiders is a major citizenship development event organised annually by Tayside Police for local school children. Targeting the critical Primary 7 audience before transition to secondary school, Safe Taysiders is a true multi agency event, involving statutory, commercial and voluntary partners at every stage from planning to execution. In 2009 the event celebrated its 17<sup>th</sup> year at Scone Race Course. Each year one thousand local school children from 76 primary schools participated in the 9 'sets' all focused on personal and community safety. Safe Taysiders is an important annual highpoint engaging young people in community safety. Due to the reduction in commercial sponsorship additional funding was required to ensure the continuation of the event in 2009 and beyond.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £3,000**

**PROJECT NAME – Army Cadet Force – OUTREACH Project**

In 2005 this local project called "Young Achievers" started working with the 11-12 age group when pupils make the transition from Primary School to Secondary School. Traditionally this is a time when poor behaviour and increasing criminal activity can occur. The partnership organisations are Tayside Police, The Black Watch Army Cadet Force, Alyth, Coupar Angus and Rattray Primary School. The project aims to help crime vulnerable and socially disengaged young people become responsible citizens by using adventurous and challenging activities to raise their self-esteem, build confidence and broaden their perspective on what they can achieve with their lives. Participants are selected for the project by teaching staff in conjunction with the police community officer. The project aims to guide and help these young people realise that there is another 'route' they can take and that with encouragement and determination they can achieve targets that they believed were once unobtainable. The 2010 course intends to have 66 young people participate in it.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £8,000**

**PROJECT NAME – Show Racism The Red Card / Street Sports / Coach Play Respect – Collaborative Projects with St.Johnstone FC**

**Show Racism the Red Card**

Show Racism the Red Card is an anti-racist charity which aims to raise awareness amongst young people about racism in society. They make use of the powerful position of professional footballers as role models to deliver an anti-racist message. A pilot project was run last year with 6 Perth primary schools involved. This year over 300 young people from 12 primary schools across Perth and Kinross have been involved and a number of secondary schools are also delivering sessions. Over 60 people with additional support needs have also accessed this programme. The workshops can be used as a catalyst to talk sensitively and effectively about racism. They allow schools to be proactive in promoting racial equality by tackling a serious issue using football as a starting point. Delivery of the coaching/training sessions is delivered by a coach from St.Johnstone Football Club.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £6,000**

### **PROJECT NAME - Street Sports**

Feedback from the fear of crime survey indicated that young people hanging around and the lack of local affordable facilities increased the fear of crime of those surveyed. As part of a range of initiatives developed to address this a mobile football field has been purchased by the Antisocial Behaviour Investigation Team. It can be taken to hotspot areas where youth causing annoyance calls are prevalent as identified by the antisocial behaviour tasking process. It can be deployed in any suitable open space such as a supermarket car park. Volunteers encourage local youths to take part in organised games of football. Last year it was deployed in 18 locations and over 1150 young people used this free facility in their own neighbourhood. It is a valuable 'hook' which allows partner services to access young people in their own areas in a non confrontational way. It also gives a positive activity for those who may have been tempted to do otherwise. St Johnstone FC have agreed to take over the management of this project and the funding will allow them to ensure that it is delivered.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £7,000**

### **PROJECT NAME - Coach Play Respect**

The key to providing effective football activities for young players is, without doubt, ensuring that there are a quality group of coaches available to guide and encourage our young people of tomorrow. There lies a responsibility to promote respect, good citizenship, fair play, effort, willingness to learn, companionship – all of which help to create decent, respectful citizens in caring, vibrant communities.

St Johnstone FC intend to run this project which will create a team of capable leaders who

- realise the importance of instilling respect in young people
- can motivate young people to perform to the best of their ability
- can deliver enjoyable training and games which promote healthy activity
- are motivated to develop their own coaching skills
- recognise the importance of social responsibility of football and its place in the community

10 potential coaches, between the ages of 16 and 25 years have been identified and are participating in a 12 month pilot scheme. The young persons involved were identified by various groups, including Perth College, Secondary Schools, Youth Services, Princes Trust, Youth Justice Partnership.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £2,000**

### **PROJECT NAME – 'Scamnesty' Campaign**

Every year an estimated three million people fall victim to mass marketed scams such as bogus lotteries, deceptive prize draws and sweepstakes, fake psychics, get-rich-quick schemes and miracle health cures. Many of these scams are sent through the post, as well as by email or over the phone, and target the elderly and vulnerable. However, Office of Fair Trading (OFT) research suggests that less than 5 per cent of victims report the scam to the authorities. In addition vulnerable people are targeted by “bogus callers” or “rogue traders” who exploit them. An awareness raising campaign was run during March 2010, including a seminar targeted at professionals, carers and volunteers who come into contact with vulnerable people.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT – £2000**

### **PROJECT NAME – Home Safety Officer**

The part-time Home Safety Officer has carried out over 200 visits to vulnerable people. He has fitted 97 smoke alarms and carried out 59 small repairs. He has also referred 102 people to other agencies for assistance. He also has been trained to carry out electric blanket testing which has allowed a more flexible approach in respect of where and when blankets are tested. A major part of the role is to build up the confidence of vulnerable people to assist them to remain within their homes.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £17,500**

### **PROJECT NAME – Domestic Abuse / Alcohol Campaign**

At the end of 2009 as part of the 16 Days of Action to combat Domestic Abuse and Violence against Women an advertising campaign was carried out on local buses that delivered the message that in terms of domestic or sexual violence “alcohol is not an excuse”.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £5,500**

### **PROJECT NAME – Graffiti / Flyposting Campaign**

As part of a campaign to reduce graffiti in Perth & Kinross 100 graffiti removal kits were purchased that can be supplied to local people and community groups so that they can be proactive in the removal of graffiti.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £2,500**

### **PROJECT NAME – Victim Support Scotland**

Victim Support Scotland is the lead voluntary organisation in Scotland helping people affected by crime. It provides emotional support, practical help and essential information to victims, witnesses and others affected by crime. The service is free, confidential and is provided by volunteers through a network of community based victim and youth justice services and court based witness services. Victim Support is a charitable organisation which at present has only minimal core funding to run its service within Perth and Kinross. This is insufficient to meet the demands placed upon it by the victims of crime.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £3,000**

### **PROJECT NAME – Street Pastors**

There can be many vulnerable persons on the streets of Perth city centre during the evening economy. These persons can be vulnerable due to age, alcohol or drugs and become the victim or perpetrator of anti-social behaviour. Perth Street Pastors were launched in March 2008. They are a Christian based voluntary group who presently patrol the city centre on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights between 2100 – 0400hrs. They are dressed in distinctive blue jackets and baseball caps, and provide a supportive and friendly ear, particularly for vulnerable individuals. They will also identify potential issues such as glass bottles and beer glasses left lying on the streets which can be used as weapons. Since they started patrol they have disposed of over 1000 bottles and glasses. The project has received universal praise from Tayside Police, local and national politicians and the public. The Street Pastors carry radios that allow them to communicate with the Police, taxi marshalls and local licensed premises. The Police will task the Pastors to deal with minor issues as appropriate. The volunteers receive intensive training to enable them to deal with the issues that they may face on patrol. Patrols are concentrated at the main taxi rank in Perth in Mill Street around 3am when up to 3000 people can be milling around after leaving local night clubs. An additional 9 more volunteers were trained to increase the pool of volunteers and increase the numbers available over the festive season and beyond. The training and equipping of the volunteers required funding.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £2,700**

### **PROJECT NAME – Taxi Marshalls**

Two years ago a CCTV survey was carried out of the main taxi rank in Mill Street, Perth, situated in Murray Street. It revealed that people in the queue could wait for up to ½ hour for a taxi when local night clubs had closed. This delay meant that noise levels in the area were high well into the early hours of the morning and disputes often occurred. Enquiries with taxi drivers revealed that some were reluctant to use the rank as it was felt to be unsafe in the early hours of the morning. It often required having Police resources deployed in the area. A Taxi Marshall scheme was implemented for the festive seasons 2007/08 and 2008/09 and was universally praised. Two taxi Marshalls were again employed from a reputable security company to facilitate the orderly and safe working of the queue. They were on duty every Friday & Saturday night from 4<sup>th</sup> December 2009 until 9<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and on Christmas Eve and Hogmanay. They worked between 2300 and 0400 hours. Feedback again has been very positive.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £3,000**

### **PROJECT NAME – Women’s Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre (WRASAC)**

Women’s Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre Perth & Kinross offers free and confidential support for women and girls who have been raped or sexually abused at anytime in their lives. They lost a significant funding stream and were not able to meet the demands placed on them due to the large numbers of women and children requiring their service.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £10,000**

## **PROJECT NAME – Domestic Abuse “Skyguard Alarm”**

Presently when risk management plans are put in place to minimise the risk to victims and their children affected by domestic violence, the services available in respect of critical notification alarms to emergency services are limited. The gap of vulnerability for the victim here is when the victim leaves their home to go about their daily business. This is of course a time when a victim can be most at risk of harm from a domestic abuse perpetrator, especially in cases of stalking. This often means victims feel the need to be re-housed to an area where the perpetrator does not know where they are or alternatively to change their normal routine and live in heightened fear when leaving their home.

Skyguard is a company which provide a 24/7 purpose-built Incident Management Centre. They manufacture GPS mobile units which can be activated by domestic abuse victims. An alarm is sent via mobile phone technology to the Incident Management Centre. There the staff will know who the victim is, where they live and where they work. Because the device is GPS enabled, the Incident Management Centre will be able to trace their actual position and cross check it against the victim's home or work locations. A line is opened allowing staff to listen to sound in the vicinity and if safe to do so they can talk to them and everything is recorded for evidential purposes. The emergency services would then be informed that a response is required in order to neutralise the threat quickly.

Five devices are presently being trialled in Perth and Kinross. The devices are allocated to victims of domestic abuse by the Tayside Police Domestic Abuse Department which covers Perth and Kinross.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £500**

## **PROJECT NAME – ACT (All Communities Together) Now**

ACT Now has been developed in response to the PREVENT strand of the National Counter Terrorism Strategy. The ACT Now session is designed to stimulate and allow debate around the sensitive issue of extremism within communities. As such it is an enabler for community participants to air grievances, debate matters of interest to them and work through a group problem solving experience. ACT Now is a classroom exercise that allows groups of community members to play the role of police officers and to make carefully thought out decisions based on information from police sources and members of the public about a pretend terrorist incident. The exercise generates debate about issues such as when police should take action in a lively and fast moving situation and deal with community issues that result from the incident. A session was held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2009 involving a wide cross section of the various communities in Perth and Kinross. It was chaired by an experienced member of the Muslim community from northern England.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £1,000**

**PROJECT NAME – Thrillseekers**

Thrillseekers is a long standing youth diversion project based in Blairgowrie. It runs during the school term and regularly attracts over 50-60 young people on a Friday evening. It is strongly supported by the voluntary sector, Perth and Kinross Council and Tayside Police. It has been a useful tool in the reduction of street disorder by young people at the times it has been run.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £8,000**

**PROJECT NAME – Perth and Kinross Violence against Women Forum Coordinator**

The Perth and Kinross Violence against Women Forum aims to work towards reducing the physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, within the general community, or in institutions, including: domestic abuse; rape; sexual harassment and intimidation at work and in the public sphere; commercial sexual exploitation, including prostitution and trafficking; adult survivors of child sexual abuse; dowry related violence; female genital mutilation; forced and child marriages; honour crimes. The partnership works with the 4 P's of Prevention, Protection, Provision and Participation. The forum employs a coordinator to consolidate its work and a contribution towards her salary costs are met from the budget.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENT - £5,000**