

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for International Affairs
<b>Date of Decision:</b>	23 March 2010
<b>Decision Title:</b>	Grant allocations from the Community Strategy Budget (Community Safety element)
<b>Decision Reference:</b>	1457
<b>Report From:</b>	Chief Executive

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### 1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this report is to inform the approval of allocations from the Community Strategy Budget (Community Safety element) as follows:

- Hart Community Safety Partnership - £ 10,000 towards the Alcohol and Drug misuse education project.

### 2. Contextual information

- 2.1. For 2009/10, the Executive Member Policy and Resources agreed that £50,000 from the Community Strategy budget be earmarked to create a budget for County Council contributions towards community safety related activity and that this be allocated by the Deputy Leader in his capacity as Chairman of The Hampshire County Strategy Group for Crime and Disorder.
- 2.2. To date £ 12,000 of funding have been made in respect to the Community Safety element of the Community Strategy Budget. Allocation of this funding would result in £ 28,000 remaining in the Community Safety element of the Community Strategy Budget.

### 3. Alcohol and Drug misuse education project

This allocation is to fund a project aimed at raising education and awareness amongst young people in Hart around alcohol and drug misuse.

#### Project Outline

A member of staff has been employed to run a couple of key projects for the 'Safer Hart' CSP and the Alcohol and Drug Misuse education project is one of them. This member of staff has been provided with 'Basic Awareness' training and is in the process of being trained as a Tier 1 and Tier 2 Drugs

and Alcohol Awareness practitioner. This member of staff is building strong partnership relations with the local schools and agencies participating in the project and will attend Personal Social and Health Education(PSHE) to reinforce education provided through this program.

Through liaison with Head Teachers in Hart's five secondary schools, a squad of agencies and services attend on the set off-curriculum day to provide interactive learning sessions. A timetable is set during a multi agency planning meeting, the young people are divided into six groups and spend 40 minutes in each interactive session.

### Interactive Learning

The following agencies/interactive sessions are provided:

- **Hampshire Constabulary - Drugs and the Law** : Information is provided to the young people about drug classifications/offences and penalties.
- **Hampshire Youth Services - Alcohol and Sexual Health** : Session exploring how alcohol consumption affects decision making and judgement and leads to sexual health concerns.
- **Connexions - Self Esteem** : Explores how young people are perceived, how they feel about themselves and how peer pressure affects their decisions to drink alcohol and/or take drugs.
- **Dr AI - My Mistakes** : A group of young people from the 'Step-by-step' program talk about their experiences with drug and alcohol misuse and the impact that it has had on their lives, family relationships, work potential and finances.
- **'Safer Hart' Community Safety Team - It's just a bit of fun ..... isn't it?** : ASB – what is it really? Alcohol and drug related ASB explained. Consequences and interventions, practitioners and partners.
- **HCC Participation Team - What do you know?** : Who wants to be a millionaire style touch pad Q & A session aimed at gathering local intelligence and testing knowledge.

A variety of interactive methods are employed during these sessions including: group work, feedback presentations, touch pad Q&A, visual aids, beer goggles, and poster production. The day is high energy yet relaxed and encourages the young people to be as open and honest as they can so that the work can be truly meaningful.

### Monitoring Performance

The young people are required to evaluate each session prior to moving on to the next one. This feedback is then assessed and disseminated to services and agencies involved in order that sessions can be developed and improved where necessary and information gathered about the learning process and the next steps.

Schools and agencies are also asked to complete feedback forms to assess how useful the exercise is to their interests and similarly for scheme development.

The first of these off-curriculum days was spent at Courtmoor School, Fleet on October 20<sup>th</sup> 2009, educated 220 pupils, was met with great enthusiasm and success. Halloween weekend followed the day and ASB reports to the Council were reduced to nothing. Youth Services saw an increase in the number of young people attending the local youth centre for further advice in groups and one-to-one and an increase in requests for condoms. Courtmoor staff are keen to set a date for the next day and to firmly establish the program as part of their curriculum. As a result of the positive feedback from Courtmoor, Hart Community Safety Partnership (CSP) have now been approached by both Frogmore School and Yateley School and are currently negotiating suitable dates.

Off-curriculum days are to coincide with education and awareness evenings that Hart CSP have been providing to parents and this is to ensure that parents have the same information that their children do and that they are then able to answer questions and/or discuss issues. These evenings also provide additional information to parents about signs of alcohol and/or drug misuse to look out for and contact details of agencies and practitioners who they can contact should they have any concerns.

### Bid

Hart's portion of the Area Based Grant is seeing a significant reduction for 2010/11 and this will impact service provision for Hart residents. Alcohol and drug misuse education is a vital piece of preventative work that hits a number of agendas including;

- a reduction in incidents of alcohol related anti-social behaviour
- reduction in incidents of underage drinking
- reduction in number of first time entrants into the criminal justice system
- reduction in number of alcohol related rapes, pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections
- there are inherent health benefits for individuals
- reductions in the number of young people admitted to the emergency department as a result of alcohol misuse
- longer term benefits of responsible drinking once young people are of age

Hart CSP, as a result of the first day, been able to provide some intervention to those who have already begun misusing alcohol and continue to offer comprehensive support to any young person in need of help.

Hart CSP want to make this program as professional, slick and effective as they can, publishing a glossy publicity and promotion pack for schools and

partners, providing key information cards to the young people themselves, purchasing equipment that will better enable Hart CSP to perform this role independently and follow-up support for the participating youngsters to ensure that their needs are met on an ongoing basis.

Bid Breakdown

Wireless Voting System	£1,500
Publicity / Handbook / Posters / DVD	£1,500
Promotional material for young participants	£2,000
Contribution to A&D Misuse post	£5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£10,000</b>

Feedback and performance reports will be submitted following each and every event as well as an annual report measured against identified targets.

**4. Recommendation(s)**

4.1. To approve the allocation from the Community Strategy Budget (community safety element) in respect of

- £ 10,000 to the Hart Community Safety Partnership towards the Alcohol and Drug Misuse Education Program.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:****Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	Yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

**The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)**

DocumentLocation

None

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

### **1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

- 1.1. The bid aims to support young people and advice will be provided by the Drug & Alcohol Action Team on the necessary standards for schools materials.

### **2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

- 2.1. This decision relates to the Corporate Strategy priority: Hampshire safer and more secure for all.

### **3. Climate Change:**

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption? N/A
- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? N/A