

Agenda Item No.3(c)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES

24 May 2016

Report of the Strategic Director - Economy, Transport and Communities

COMMUNITY SAFETY EVENTS IN LIBRARIES

(1) **Purpose of Report** To consider funding for Community Safety Events to be delivered in partnership by Community Safety Unit, Libraries, Museums and wider partners during the 2016 summer holidays, in line with the Summer Reading Challenge. This will raise awareness of community safety and increase public confidence.

(2) **Information and Analysis** Community Safety Week events have run successfully in 2008, 2009 and 2010 with smaller events in libraries up to 2012. The events were re-invigorated in 2015 to raise awareness of community safety, reduce the number of anti-social behaviour (ASB) related incidents in hot-spot libraries and increase knowledge on new and emerging crime types, such as Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), modern slavery and cyber-crime.

Previously, community safety events have been run both in school holidays and on Saturdays. The proposal is to run a main event at Chesterfield Library, with other libraries supporting this with displays and optional partnership attendance/engagement.

Libraries are the hub of the community and Chesterfield Library has the facilities to co-ordinate a large scale event, with a selection of other libraries providing information to the communities. The 2015 events were a success for partners and the public, as a 'card stamping' system of visiting at least four stalls in the library was used to ensure the public gained information from the County Council and wider partners. More than 400 younger library users engaged in activities. The average increase in footfall at these events was 15%, with the highest recorded increase noted in Alfreton library of 44%. This equates to more than 2,000 Derbyshire residents accessing Community Safety messages.

A range of events will be delivered in the County's libraries throughout the summer holidays, including youth engagement, alcohol awareness, cyber-

crime awareness and showcasing campaigns developed by local young people and partners. Funding of £6,000 is required to cover the cost of:

- Key information about the impact on community safety and health. This will include drinks measures and unit measures to promote better understanding of alcohol units, volume and safer drinking, as well as long term health issues relating to this.
- Information and activities relating to the Summer Reading Challenge – using Roald Dahl books with themes relating to community safety.
- The use of Buxton Museum, if appropriate, to make contact with migrant workers using the internet facilities on Sundays throughout the summer.
- Youth engagement activities, e.g. hire of extreme wheels or climbing wall. These will be used to engage with young people and enable the delivery of safer drinking messages and CSE.
- Wider engagement activities, options currently being explored include interactive sessions on online awareness/cyber-crime and signs of modern slavery.
- Promotional Items – a competition will be factored into the day whereby visitors must visit all the stands in order to receive community safety related materials for their personal use.

(3) **Financial Considerations** The £6,000 funding can be met from the Communities budget.

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

(4) **Key Decision** No.

(5) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(6) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Communities Department. Officer contact details – Sally Goodwin, extension 38295.

(7) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION** That the £6,000 funding to support Community Safety Week during the Summer 2016 is agreed from the Communities budget.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Communities