

HUNTINGDONSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (HCSP)

Examples of projects previously funded by the HCSP

Junior PCSOs (Prevention)

This scheme works with 36 Year 5 pupils split into six schemes each year. The pupils have been identified as at risk of entering the criminal justice system by the use of a scoring matrix that is completed by their teacher. Over a 6 week period, partner agencies including Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Huntingdonshire District Council, Link to Change amongst others with these young people intensively to raise their awareness about the risks of becoming involved in crime, disorder and ASB. On completion of the scheme, the local PCSO maintains contact with each young person and monitors their progress until they leave secondary school. Not one child who has completed the scheme has ever come to the attention of an agency again.

Amount Awarded (one off amount) - £3,500.00

Year Awarded – 2009/ 10

Dodgems (Prevention)

Working with males between the ages of 12 - 25 who are at risk of entering or who are already involved in the criminal justice system and who do not have a positive male role model in their life. Link to Change have been commissioned to deliver this project and is based around working with identified males with a male worker on a one to one basis. Project aims to find a diversion for the young person. A young person will not be released from the project until they are either in education, employment or training. There have been no further incidents of offending by those involved in this project. Considering sustainability, we would like to develop this project further so that we recruit male volunteers to act as mentors to those participating in the project. This would mean a cost saving as well as being able to work with more individuals each year.

Amount Awarded - £10,000.00

Year funding first awarded – 2011/ 12

Stukeley Meadows Skate Park (Prevention)

The need for a skate park was first identified after complaints were received about young people skate boarding in Huntingdon Town Centre. A piece of consultation work was carried out with the young people who advised that the reason they skated in the Town is because they were 'street style' skaters, they felt safe and that they had nowhere else to go. From the consultation a working group involving the young people was established and over the next 3 years met regularly to plan and organise events to raise funding and to secure land to build a skate park. Supported by the HCSP in the form of funding and officer time, a piece of land owned by the District Council was secured and £250,000.00 was awarded from different sources to build the skate facility. In September 2009, the Stukeley Meadows Street Style Skate Park was opened, being the first of its kind in the country. This facility has been held up as an example of best practise and has addressed the issue of skating in the Town Centre by 100% and helped reduce ASB by providing an excellent diversionary activity.

Amount Awarded (one off amount) - £8,000.00

Year Awarded – 2005/ 06

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Huntingdonshire Business Against Crime (HBAC) (Prevention, Intervention and Awareness)

Huntingdonshire Business Against Crime is an independent, non-profit making organisation set up in March 2004 by the Huntingdon Town Centre Partnership to address crime related incidents in Huntingdon. This was in direct requests from businesses in Huntingdon. Such was the success of the scheme in Huntingdon that 2005 saw the initiative change its name from Huntingdon to Huntingdonshire Business Against Crime, and expand to include St Ives and St Neots. Since the introduction of the scheme, incidents of shop theft have reduced significantly. This project is an excellent example of partnership working.

Amount Awarded - £13,000.00

Year funding first awarded – 2005/06

ASB Case Worker Posts x 2 (Prevention and Intervention)

With the introduction of the ASB Act 2005, the HCSP was committed to ensuring that they were able to effectively address issues of anti-social behaviour. The Partnership originally employed two ASB Case Workers to work across the District but with the reduction in funding that was received it resulted in one of the Case Workers being made redundant in March 2011. The Partnership was adamant that the reduction in resources should not affect our communities and therefore developed the Shared Services Team which has been operational since April 2012.

Amount Awarded - £50,000.00

Year funding first awarded – 2006/07

Young Persons Drugs Misuse Worker (Prevention and Intervention)

Dial Drug Link was awarded a grant by the HCSP to work with young people who were involved with or at risk of becoming involved with drugs. This project led to the evolution of the Dodgems project which specifically works with male offenders.

Amount Awarded (one off amount) - £18,000.00

Year Awarded – 2008/09

Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) (Prevention and Intervention)

Although not considered to be anti-social behaviour, the Partnership recognises that the playing of ball games in residential areas can have a significant impact on a persons' quality of life. Services that make up the Partnership were receiving a considerable amount of calls from the Oxmoor area of Huntingdon where it is recognised that there is limited provision for play. Through a consultation with local young people and identifying the most appropriate location, the Partnership secured a piece of open space from the District Council and a multi-use games area was installed. This has helped contribute towards a significant reduction in calls for service associated with ball games.

Amount Awarded (one off amount) - £13,439.00

Year Awarded – 2009/10

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Examples of successful partnership working where funding has not been necessary

- Huntingdon and St Ives Pub Watch Schemes
- ASB Problem Solving Groups
- Shared Services Team
- Stukeley Meadows Management Commitment and annual fundraisers
- Streetwise ASB Awareness Raising Event
- ASB Campaigns e.g. Halloween campaign, football nuisance campaign
- Support for new and emerging communities through local businesses
- Open Out Hate Crime Reporting Scheme

Community Safety Fund 2013 – 14

To date the HCSP has allocated £19,700 of their £28,400 budget. The following projects have been awarded funding:

- Dodgems (sustainable long term with the use of volunteers as mentors) - Prevention
- Domestic Violence Prevention Workshops - Prevention
- 'Fusion' Holiday Schemes – Prevention

All the projects are focusing on prevention so we are investing to save.

The Partnership has identified an emerging issue, this being the potential increase in crime and impact on our communities as a result of the changes to the benefit system. With the remaining funding, the Partnership is investigating the possibility of some commissioned work with CAB as well as working with the community to put in place more food banks and community shops.

Volunteers and Mentoring

The Partnership is passionate about utilising where possible, volunteers and mentors in all of its projects to ensure sustainability should funding cease in the future.