



ALCOHOL AND DRUGS PLEDGE UPDATE

BOARD MEETING - 11 DECEMBER 2008

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board on the progress in relation to the Community Planning Alcohol and Drugs Pledge.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following the development of the Alcohol and Drugs Pledge in April of 2008, partners and stakeholders have concentrated activity around alcohol given the significant impact that alcohol has on individuals and communities.
- 2.2 This impact is illustrated by statistics which show a doubling of consumption of alcohol since 1950 and associated adverse social and economic costs. These economic costs have been recently estimated by the Scottish Government at £2.25Bn per annum.
- 2.3 The recent widely publicised consultation on alcohol from the Scottish Government has seen alcohol receive significant public attention.
- 2.4 In addition, Alcohol was among the topics for discussion at a recent meeting of the Joint Central South and Central North Community Local Community Planning Forum.

3. COMMUNITY PLANNING PLEDGE UPDATE

- 3.1 Partners will be aware of the proposals submitted to Ayrshire and Arran Alcohol and Drug Action Team (ADAT) in order to resource activity around young people and older people. These proposals were approved and are summarised below:

- Young People's Support Project
- NewStart – addressing alcohol related offending
- Alcohol Education Co-ordinator
- Multi Agency Pre Referral Group – addressing the needs of children affected by parental alcohol use
- Support for older people experiencing problems with alcohol.

In addition, a pan Ayrshire proposal was approved that will support the most vulnerable children and young people. Finance is currently awaited from ADAT.

- 3.2 In addition to these proposals, significant activity was undertaken as part of Alcohol Awareness Week which ran from the 5-11 October 2008.
- 3.3 Alcohol Awareness week materials were distributed to over 300 members of the public at Burn's Mall and Kilmarnock College with the CHiP van distributing safer drinking messages and bottled water at Kilmarnock Football Club. In addition, over 300 young

people received alcohol interventions via Streetsport cages and 'Jump To The Beat' sessions.

- 3.4 Supported by Partner agency staff, local voluntary sector organisations recently received over £62,000 via Scottish Government's Cashback to Communities programme in order to provide positive alternatives for young people at risk of using alcohol and/or drugs.
- 3.5 During the Christmas and New Year Period, Safer East will once again be operating with additional high visibility policing, a taxi marshalling scheme and free late buses in order to reduce alcohol related anti social behaviour.
- 3.6 Over the next year, further action will be taken forward to ensure a continued focus on this important issue and partners are asked to give further consideration to identifying activity which can be progressed.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Community Planning Partnership Board is asked to:
 - i) note the ongoing work being carried out as part of the Community Planning Pledge;
 - ii) give further consideration to actions to be progressed in 2009/10; and
 - iii) otherwise, note the content of the report.

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25 November 2008