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Title: **Eyes and Ears Parish Council Training**

Committee: Operational Services

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

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[V156]

1.0 ISSUE

1.1 To provide an update on engagement between the East Cambs Community Safety Partnership and parish councils

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 Members are asked to:

- (i) Note the updates on engagement between the East Cambs Community Safety Partnership and Parish Councils

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 The East Cambs Community Safety Partnership has offered all East Cambs Parish Councils the Eyes and Ears “Friends” home-learning training.

3.2 The modules raise awareness of themes such as:

- Cyber-Crime
- Domestic Abuse
- Scams and fraud
- Hate Crime/Incidents
- Children and Adults at risk of abuse and neglect
- Exploitation
- Radicalisation
- Loneliness
- Modern slavery

3.3 All modules can be completed in approximately 1 ½ hours.

3.4 The Eyes and Ears “Friends” home-learning training is an interactive package which includes video clips, links to further training and resources. The benefits are to provide a platform for Parish Councils to get involved and understand how they can make a difference to the lives of those around them by simply spotting the signs that all may be a problem effecting a member of the Parish, and by knowing how to report potential concerns. Every little bit of information reported could mean a vulnerable person is supported.

3.5 All parish councils were contacted at the beginning of September 2020 either by phone or email to ask if they would like to receive training or support. There was a very positive response from the Clerks with requests to receive the Eyes and Ears “Friends” home-learning training to be shared with their Parishes Councillors, this was followed up in November 2020 with links to further training about Scams and

Fraud. There was then further contact made to each individual Parish in January 2021 regarding our newly developed “Members” Eyes and Ears training. This will be delivered face to face (via Zoom) by the Community Safety Officer as and when requested.

- 3.6 “Members” Eyes and Ears training was developed following requests for a face to face delivery offering the opportunity to ask questions and be more interactive. This differs from Friends home-learning training which is worked through in your own time.
- 3.7 Benefits to individuals, the Community and the CSP:
- Individuals: Engagement to raise awareness and signpost support for community safety issues in the community.
  - Communities: Seek to strengthen communities and their resilience by providing them with the knowledge to identify risk and seek help from both within the community and, where necessary, relevant services.
  - Community Safety Partnership: Development of existing referral pathways to support those at Risk, Identifying correct referral pathway for relevant issues. Training also results in parish councils being in a better position to establish third party reporting centres, for example hate crime/incidents.
- 3.8 The Community Safety Partnership will continue to engage with Parish Councils to work towards enhancing safety within the community. Parish Councils hold responsibility for many spaces that could be outlets for Eyes and Ears information, as well as places of importance to the community events and groups.
- 4.0 ARGUMENTS/OPTIONS
- 4.1 Eyes and Ears “Members” Training - 7 Parish Council have now signed up to receive the training with others expressing an interest.
- 4.2 In addition to the training the engagement with parish councils has also included encouragement to sign up as Official Supports of Cambridge and Peterborough against Scams Partnership (CAPASP). Currently there are 7 East Cambs Parish Councils signed up as Official Supporters and are now listed on the CAPASP Website.
- 4.3 The benefits of parish councils becoming CAPASP supporters are: Parish Councils will receive useful information from CAPASP to share within their community. This includes information on the latest scams, access to resources such as training, posters and leaflets. These include general information on scams and details of local supporters. Parish Councils can also celebrate the great things they are doing through this website and through social and other media.
- 4.4 There was also engagement with Parish Councils at the County Parish Conference – Community Safety Officer Spoke at the Workshop - Enabling and Supporting Volunteering. Parish Councils were also offered support and information and was part of a Q&A Panel at the Scams and Fraud (CAPASP) Marketplace event.
- 4.5 The Community Safety Officer offered support to Littleport Parish Council in the planning and of an informal survey to enable them to gain a picture of local safety concerns.

- 4.6 The Community Safety Officer recorded a Podcast for Soham Radio raising awareness about Scams and Fraud
- 4.7 Next Steps – To continue to develop the Community Safety Partnership engagement with Parish Councils.
- 4.8 An on-line evaluation is in the process of being compiled to provide feedback in terms of the quality of the materials and the impact the delivery of training has had within the community.
- 5.0 **CONCLUSIONS**
- 5.1 It is recognised that there are a variety of benefits in the delivery of continued engagement and training with Parish Councils as the Community Safety Partnership is able to obtain a comprehensive picture of community safety matters affecting local communities at a Parish Level. The delivery of training to Parish Councils provides them with the resources, tools and knowledge to effectively address matters impacting local residents.
- 6.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**
- 6.1 There will be no cost to ECDC for the Eyes and Ears training as this is part of the Transformation Grant so is fully funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)
- 7.0 **APPENDICES**
- 7.1 Appendix 1 – EIA

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**Background Documents**

Link to booklet  
<https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/sites/default/files/eyes%20and%20ears%20publisher%20final%20October%202020.pdf>

**Location**

Room 008,  
The Grange

**Contact Officer**

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