



Report to: Licensing Committee Meeting – 22 June 2023

Director Lead: Matthew Finch, Director – Communities & Environment

Lead Officer: Nicola Rowlands, Senior Licensing Officer

Report Summary	
Report Title	Cocaethylene Awareness Campaign
Purpose of Report	To inform Members of the night-time Cocethylene Awareness Campaign within Newark & Sherwood
Recommendations	That the report be noted.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 In conjunction with the Police & Crime Commissioner, Nottinghamshire Police and Nottinghamshire County Council, Newark & Sherwood submitted a successful bid to secure funding from the Home Office's Safer Street Fund. An area of concern in the Night-Time Economy (NTE) was Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).
- 1.2 As part of this strategy, local authority officers and officers from Nottinghamshire Police have been working together on a Cocathylene Awareness Campaign.

2.0 What is Cocaethylene and What Does it Do?

- 2.1 Cocaethylene is a chemical that our bodies create in the liver when alcohol and cocaine are taken together.
- 2.2 Cocaethylene:
 - Increases violent and impulsive behaviours
 - Ruins sexual performance
 - Increases chance of seizures, heart attacks and strokes
 - Causes liver damage
 - Can lead to sudden death – Death is 20 times higher when mixing alcohol and cocaine than when using cocaine alone.

3.0 What have Officers Been Doing to Educate People about Cocaethylene?

- 3.1 Officers from NSDC and Nottinghamshire Police have worked together on Nights of Action on 16 December 2022, 4 March 2023 and 6 April 2023, with a further night planned on 17 June 2023.

- 3.2 A briefing is carried out at Newark Police Station then Officers, dressed in civilian clothing and pink high-viz vests, are deployed to different tasks across the town centre for the evening. These include: visits to licensed premises; setting up and managing an information stall on the Market Place; as well as speaking to members of the public as they move around the town centre. Each team has a number of questionnaires and information cards to speak to people, engage and educate as to what Cocaine is and what it does to the body.
- 3.3 The engagement and participation of the general public has been good on all of the nights so far. The better weather and the lighter nights have seen people talking about their situations for longer and all that have visited the information stand have left with a 'freebie' such as personal alarm or a hand-bag hook.
- 3.4 A summary of the questionnaire results from 4 March can be found at **Appendix 1** to this report.
- 3.5 The posters and handouts that have been produced, which are displayed in town centre pubs and given out as part of an information card, can be found at **Appendix 2**

4.0 Proposal/Options Considered

- 4.1 This report is intended to provide Members with information about the partnership working of Newark & Sherwood District Council and Nottinghamshire Police in relation to taking cocaine and drinking alcohol.

5.0 Implications

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, Officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Resources, Human Rights, Legal, Safeguarding and Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate. There are no implications arising from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.