Question from the Lincolnshire Strong Voices Core Group:

"The Lincolnshire Strong Voices Core Group have identified that instances of drug misuse are having an impact on young people's feeling of safety while out in their community – How can Lincolnshire police be more involved in building strong relationships with young people in Lincolnshire and help reduce their feelings of vulnerability?"

The Force Response to the Public Question:

Lincolnshire Police are committed to building strong relationships with young people in Lincolnshire. It is through engagement that we are able to identify what may be impacting on feelings of safety and what more as a police service (or partnership agencies) we can do about this. The Lincolnshire Police Education team deliver face to face education sessions to 9000 primary children and 21000 secondary children every academic year. They deliver into 37 primary schools and 64 secondary schools, furthermore deliver at approx. 20 alternative education sites and colleges within our county. Our secondary sessions are delivered in partnership alongside We Are With You (tendered drugs agency), Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership, Fire and Rescue and Lincolnshire County Council. The input from We Are With You in particular is prudent to instances of drug misuse and feelings of safety. All children take part in a feedback exercise where needs and vulnerabilities are captured and then taken forwards by the relevant agency. If there are any disclosures that require intervention then these are fed through the safeguarding teams at schools and the appropriate measures put in to safeguard these children. We are in a school in Lincolnshire most days of the academic year across our county which is enabling conversations to take place and strong relationships to be built with young people.