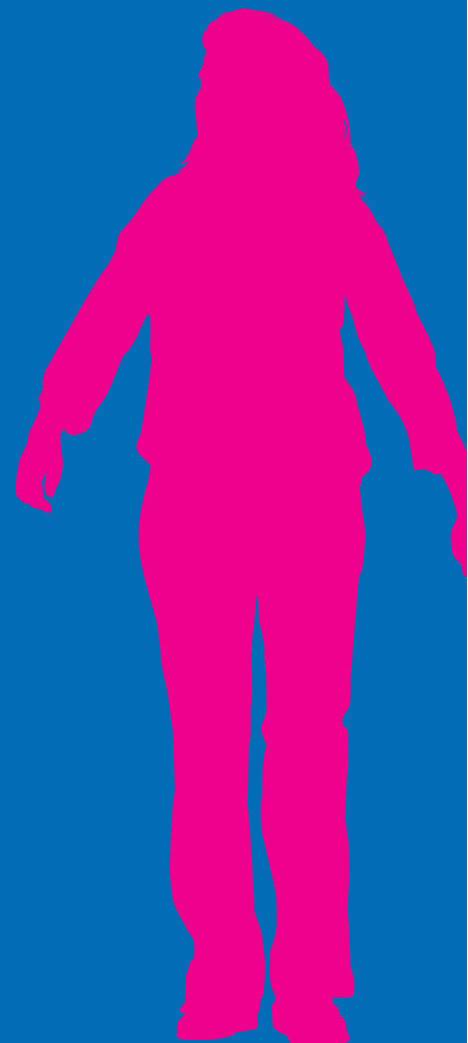




Our aim in 2011/12 is:

“To help create safer, shared and confident communities by working in partnership to address crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour”



Foreword

Despite the official statistics showing a fall in crime, Belfast Community Safety Partnership recognises that tackling crime and antisocial behaviour remain top priorities for our city.

In this plan we want to show you how Belfast Community Safety Partnership will tackle the things that you have told us are your greatest concerns; namely antisocial behaviour, alcohol and substance misuse, hate crime and cohesion, and fear of crime. We want to build upon our good work to date and we give you our commitment that we will make the best use of available funding in an increasingly challenging economic climate.

This year will also see the integration of the Belfast Community Safety Partnership and District Policing

Partnership which should mean a more joined-up approach to addressing crime and antisocial behaviour. We already work closely with the District Policing Partnership so we look forward to this change.

I hope that this plan demonstrates our commitment to creating a safer city and to working in partnership with you. I would like to thank and encourage those individuals and organisations who continue to support our work and I look forward to working together in the coming year.



Suzanne Wylie
Chairperson, Belfast
Community Safety
Partnership



Belfast Community Safety Partnership was established by Belfast City Council in 2004 to help reduce crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour. Our membership includes a range of public service organisations; as well as local councillors and representatives from the community, voluntary and private sectors. We work together in partnership to reduce crime and since 2004 we have delivered over 50 community safety projects in Belfast.

The Safer Belfast Plan 2011-2012

The Safer Belfast Plan 2011/12 is the annual plan for Belfast Community Safety Partnership which outlines what we will do in the next 12 months using the resources we have available.

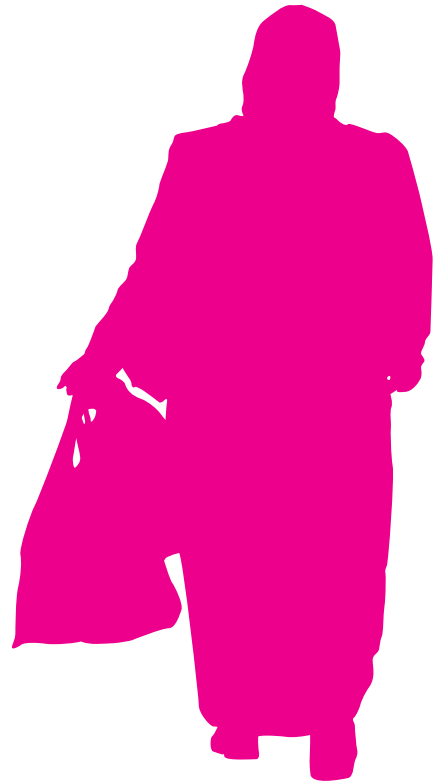
Our aim in 2011/12 is “To help create safer, shared and confident communities by working in partnership to address crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour.”

To achieve this aim we will therefore deliver services that tackle the issues that you told us were your greatest priorities. Namely:

- Antisocial behaviour
- Alcohol and substance misuse
- Hate crime and cohesion; and
- Fear of crime

These issues were identified by speaking to community groups and organisations on the Community Safety Partnership. We also used the findings from the council’s public survey in which community safety was named as residents’ top priority for the city and considered the official statistics on crime and antisocial behaviour.

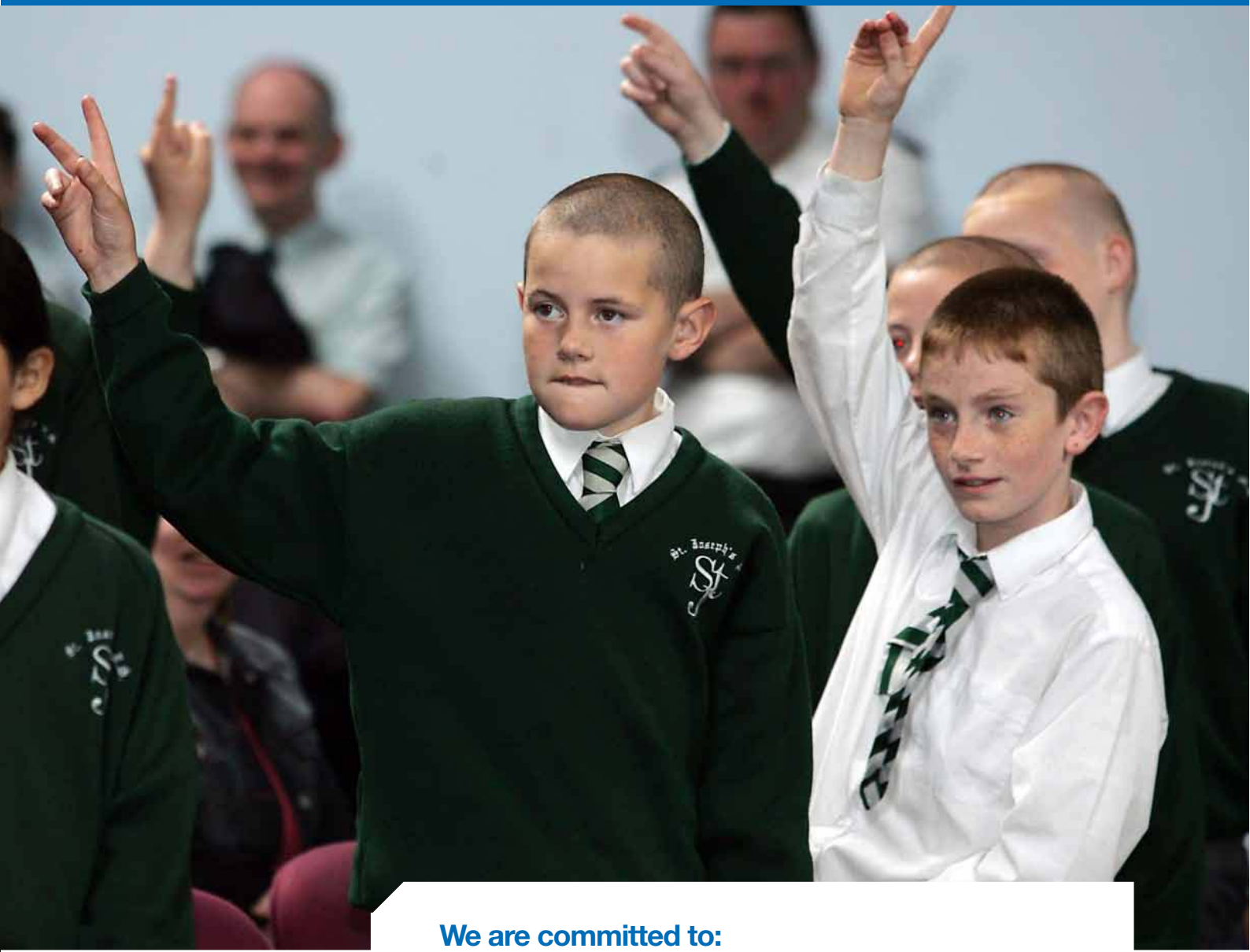
Lastly, we also used the feedback from Belfast District Policing Partnership’s public consultation on policing priorities. As the two partnerships will merge in the next year we hope that what we do will also support their work against policing priorities such as violent crime and burglary.



What have we achieved so far?

We believe we can make a difference in Belfast. Here’s an example of what we’ve achieved in the last year...

- We have worked with over 1,200 young people; diverting them away from antisocial behaviour and encouraging them to make a positive contribution to their communities.
 - From April 2010 to March 2011 we helped to reduce antisocial behaviour by providing 189 on-street drinking enforcement operations and successfully prosecuting 386 people for on-street drinking.
 - We have supported a daily telephone advice and befriending service to over 900 elderly and vulnerable adults across the city.
 - We awarded 68 small grants to community-led scheme to help address community safety issues in their neighbourhoods.
 - In 2010 we had over 100 nominations to our Young People’s Awards and celebrated the work of 19 groups and individuals across the city.
-



We are committed to:

- Delivering services that make visible, real improvements in people's lives
- Using prevention, reassurance and enforcement as appropriate
- Working with local communities
- Directing resources to where there is need
- Working in partnership with, and within our organisations, to improve community safety

**What services
will we deliver?**



In 2011/12 the Department of Justice awarded Belfast Community Safety Partnership approximately £400,000. Belfast Community Safety Partnership also receives funding from a range of other organisations and we offer our thanks to those who continue to support our work. Using these resources Belfast Community Safety Partnership will deliver the services outlined on the following pages. In addition we will continue to seek out opportunities for other resources to support new initiatives.

For more information about our work visit our website at www.belfastcity.gov.uk/communitysafety

Antisocial behaviour

Belfast Community Safety Partnership will deliver the following services to tackle antisocial behaviour; though many of these projects will address other community safety problems.

Small grants

We will award small grants of up to £5,000 to community-led initiatives and intergenerational work that address community safety priorities in local communities.

Street-based youth outreach

We will fund youth workers to work with at least 200 local young people in their neighbourhood and involve them in positive activities. We will also train 20 of these young people in youth work skills that they can then go on to use in their own communities. In addition we will explore funding opportunities such as Peace III to work with young people, who have a history of repeat offending, and their families.

Youth Awards ceremony

In an effort to challenge the often negative stereotype of young people we host an event to celebrate and reward the positive contribution of nominated young people who have taken initiative in their own neighbourhoods to make them safer.

Alleygates

We will support the council-led alleygating scheme that will erect approximately 125 gates on entries (in areas pre-identified by Belfast City Council) throughout the city to prevent crime and antisocial behaviour.

Community Safety Wardens

We will support the council-led initiative to deploy teams of wardens to approximately seven neighbourhoods across the city. The wardens are deployed in each neighbourhood for 3-4 months at a time and will provide a visible patrol presence to tackle antisocial behaviour, crime and environmental damage.

Antisocial Behaviour Forums

We will support the council, Housing Executive and Police to meet regularly (in the north, south, east, west and the Shankill) to share information about known offenders of antisocial behaviour and to agree what further action could be taken. This may include formal warnings or, if appropriate, Antisocial Behaviour Orders.

Alcohol and substance misuse

Belfast Community Safety Partnership will deliver the following services to tackle alcohol and substance misuse; though many of these projects will address other community safety problems.

On-street drinking operations

We will deploy officers, alongside the police, on approximately 200 operations at weekends and key events to pursue prosecutions for on-street drinking and to reduce underage drinking.

Off-licence Code of Practice

We will visit all off-licences in Belfast at least four times to promote our Code of Practice which aims to reduce sales to underage children. In support of this work we will also provide training to bar and off-licence staff on the responsible sale of alcohol.

City Centre 'Nite Zones'

We will support the development of four Nite Zones in key nightlife centres where the public will be assisted by coordinated safety measures such as CCTV, taxi ranks, street pastors and emergency contact points.

Licensed premises scheme

We want to build upon the already successful schemes operating in the Odyssey which allow licensed premises who join the scheme to 'ban' patrons who have committed crime or disorder in their premises. Other premises signed up to the scheme are then notified of the individuals' details and would similarly have the right to exclude them from their premises.

Drug-use study

We will work with community organisations to explore the impact of substance abuse on crime and antisocial behaviour and make recommendations for potential solutions.

Hate crime

Belfast Community Safety Partnership will deliver the following services to tackle hate crime; though many of these projects will address other community safety problems.

Advice and support services to victims of hate crime

We will support schemes, including advocacy workers that encourage reporting of hate crime incidents and provide support to victims of hate crime.

Tackling hate crime and reducing community tensions

We will meet regularly with other organisations such as the Housing Executive and Police to see if there is evidence of tension, based on racist, sectarian, homophobia, transphobic, faith or other incidents, emerging in communities to try and prevent it from becoming disorder and hate crime. Along with our partners we will also contribute to

coordinated planning and responses for major civic calendar events where there is potential for antisocial behaviour and public disorder.

Hate Crime Convention

We will hold an annual convention to increase awareness, reporting and recording of hate crime and promote prevention of hate crime and early intervention.

Supporting the Good Relations Agenda

We will work closely with the council's Good Relations Unit to support work in interface areas and during the bonfire season to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour.



Fear of crime

Tackling fear of crime is at the heart of all our services. Specifically, however, Belfast Community Safety Partnership will deliver the following services to help reduce fear of crime.

Advice and befriending service for older and vulnerable adults

We will oversee the continued delivery of the Good Morning services operating across Belfast which provide a daily telephone service to 1,500 adults to check on health and wellbeing and provide advice and support.

Re-deployable CCTV

Alongside PSNI we will support the deployment of CCTV in the Holyland area of south Belfast and explore opportunities for the use of re-deployable systems elsewhere in the city.

Crime prevention messages

In conjunction with the District Policing Partnership we will host or attend at least 12 information events in venues across the city to provide advice and guidance to the public on

issues such as personal and property safety. We will also support media campaigns to increase awareness of crime prevention messages. This includes our Get Home Safe campaign which encourages responsible drinking and our student awareness campaigns that run at Freshers' week and St Patrick's Day.

Neighbourhood Watch

We will continue to work alongside the Police and District Policing Partnership to promote Neighbourhood Watch and support the Neighbourhood Watch schemes currently in existence across Belfast.

Responsible and positive media reporting

We will seek to publicise the positive aspects of our work and ensure balanced and useful advice is provided to the public on community safety issues.

Other work that we are committed to during 2011/12 includes:

Supporting area-based working

As well as delivering services to tackle certain problems we will coordinate our work on a north, south, east and west basis. This includes a nominated Coordinator and Antisocial Behaviour Officer for each area as well as an Antisocial Behaviour Forum in each area.

Working with community organisations

We know that our work is more effective when we work together with local communities. We are committed to supporting neighbourhood structures such as the West Belfast Community Safety Forum and Holyland Inter-agency Strategic Group as well as many others.

Supporting the work of Belfast District Policing Partnership

In preparation for our integration in 2011 the Community Safety Partnership is committed to working closely with the District Policing Partnership to help tackle policing priorities. Where possible we will combine our available resources to deliver local services and also consult and communicate our messages in a joined-up way.



Belfast District Policing Partnership (DPP) was established in 2003. Its role is to monitor police performance against local policing plans and to provide an opportunity for communities to inform local policing priorities. In 2011 DPPs and Community Safety Partnerships will integrate to form a new, combined partnership for the city as a result of the new Justice Act (NI) 2011.

How will you know we're delivering?

We will provide reports on what we are doing on a regular basis and these reports can be accessed on our web page, subject to agreement by the Community Safety Partnership.

Some of the things we will report on include:

How we have allocated our resources	The number of on-street drinking enforcement operations and prosecutions	The number of incidents our warden service has responded to
The percentage of people who felt safer because of our services	The number of young people that we have engaged with through outreach work	The level of incidents of antisocial behaviour (PSNI statistics)

Where possible we will provide feedback on a north, south, east and west basis and also on overall levels of recorded crime in the city using the reports provided by the police to the District Policing Partnership.

Governance

Belfast Community Safety Partnership is a multi-agency partnership comprised of representatives from the statutory, private, community and voluntary sectors as well as elected representatives. The Partnership is coordinated and chaired by Belfast City Council on behalf of all the partners and ultimately reports into the Department of Justice; as well as other relevant funding bodies.

Belfast Community Safety Partnership shall govern the delivery of this plan. However, as the council plays the lead role in the partnership it also has a significant role in governance of the plan. For that reason the Partnership will report to the council as appropriate on matters such as service delivery, performance and expenditure. The Community Safety Partnership is therefore committed to ensuring that we are using our resources for the right things, in the right way, for the right people, in a timely, inclusive, open and accountable manner.



To find out more about our membership contact the team at the address overleaf or visit our website.



Contacts us

If you have a query or wish to give feedback on the plan please contact:

Belfast Community Safety Partnership
c/o Safer City Manager
Environmental Health Service
Belfast City Council
Cecil Ward Building
4-10 Linenhall Street
Belfast
BT2 8BP

Tel: (+44) 028 9027 0469

Email: envhealth@belfastcity.gov.uk

Website: www.belfastcity.gov.uk/communitysafety

Belfast Community Safety Partnership members

Belfast City Council (including DUP, Sinn Fein, UUP, SDLP, PUP and Alliance)
Belfast Area Partnership Boards
Belfast City Centre Management
Belfast District Policing Partnership
Belfast Education and Library Board
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Belfast Regeneration Office
Engage with Age
NIACRO (on behalf of NICVA)
Northern Ireland Alternatives
Northern Ireland Ambulance Service
Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service
Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Police Service for Northern Ireland
Probation Board for Northern Ireland
Public Health Agency
Translink
Victim Support
Women's Aid
Youth Justice Agency

