

Minutes of the East Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

HR Conference Room, Cecil Ward Building, Belfast
Thursday 5th June, 2014

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Mervyn Jones (Chair) Councillor Niall O'Donngaile	Mr Andrew Moorhead (Vice Chair) Mr Gareth Beacom Ms Lynda Gibson Mr Mark Houston Ms Olwen Lyner
Designated Organisations	
Chief Inspector Darrin Jones, PSNI Gary Ballantyne, NIHE Yvonne Cowan, H&SCT	Martina McCooley, YJA Kenny McEwan, NIFRS Pauline Smart, BELB
Staff Present	Apologies
Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator Andrew Charles, Project Officer Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Clare Hanna Councillor Adam Newton Jane Lappin, PBNI Patricia Muldoon, YJA

1. Welcome and Apologies

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and noted the apologies provided.
- ii. The Chair advised Members that Councillor Newton had an operation lately and passed on his get well wishes. The Chair suggested that a letter from the DPCSP to be forwarded to Councillor Newton wishing him a speedy recovery.

2. Declaration of Interests

- i. No declarations of interest were declared.

3. Presentation by LK Communications on Belfast PCSP Communication Strategy

- i. Dave Cullen from LK Communications provided Members with an update regarding the development of the Belfast PCSP Communication Strategy.
- ii. He advised Members that the Communication Strategy will help raise awareness and support the functions of the DPCSP. He further advised Members that a communication audit had been conducted with all key stakeholders and that the Communication Strategy would be completed by the following week.
- iii. Dave requested that Members of East Belfast DPCSP assisted with the review of the draft Communication Strategy. The Chair suggested that two Elected Members assist with the review.

4. Minutes of East Belfast DPCSP Policing Committee Meeting

- i. The Minutes of the East Belfast Private Meeting held on 20th March, of which copies were previously circulated, were taken as read and correct.
- ii. Members congratulated Andy Moorhead in his recent appointment as Vice Chair of East Belfast DPCSP.

5. Chair's update on work with Belfast PCSP

- i. The Chair advised Members that the Belfast PCSP is due to meet next week and will provide an update at the next DPCSP Meeting.
- ii. The Chair commented that there had been a need for better communication between the PCSP and all DPCSP's.

6. East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan 2014/15

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update regarding the development of the East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan. He advised Members of the themes and priorities within the Action Plan and commented that the Action Plan compliments both the Department of Justice and the Local Policing Plan priorities.
- ii. He advised Members that funding for 2014/15 had not yet been confirmed by the Department of Justice and to date no Letter of Offer had been received.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator requested Members to approve the East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan 2014/15. He advised Members that the Action Plan could be flexible to allow the DPCSP to be proactive as well as reactive to issues that may need addressed within East Belfast.
- iv. Members commended the Safer City Coordinator for all his work in relation to the development of the Action Plan and agreed that the Action Plan will allow for further positive engagement with the local community.
- v. Members agreed the East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan 2014/15.

7. Project Briefs 2014/15

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of the initial project briefs developed for each action in the East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan 2014/15.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator suggested for Members to assist with the development of working groups to assist with adding value to the delivery of projects.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members what the themes of the working groups would be within the Action Plan.
- iv. A Member asked how the identified themes link directly with other DPCSP's and how projects will be monitored?

- v. The Safer City Coordinator commented that consideration had been given to what priorities had been identified by PCSP and DPCSP's. He advised Members that all DPCSP Action Plans 2014/15 align to the Belfast PCSP Action Plan and were possible themes and priorities had been interlinked.
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator also commented that in order for the East Belfast DPCSP budget to be managed effectively, that there would be an aim to implement and deliver projects throughout the year to ensure the budget is totally utilised.
- vii. The Safer City Coordinator requested Members to approve delegated authority to the Safer City allow for the implementation of the East Belfast Action Plan. He further advised Members, that updates would be provided regarding project delivery and they would be informed of any changes to projects.
- viii. Members agreed the project briefs and granted delegated authority to the Safer City Coordinator to progress these.

8. Belfast PCSP Project Brief Updates

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a report on Belfast PCSP Project Brief Updates would be provided at a future DPCSP Meeting.

9. East Belfast Tension Monitoring Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update on tension monitoring in East Belfast.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator suggested that the DPCSP make a formal link with the Inner East Tension Monitoring Group and in doing this, the DPCSP would be able to use the groups to assist with the delivery of DPCSP projects.
- iii. He advised Members that the DPCSP could initially support the Inner East Belfast Tension Monitoring Group for three months and suggested this could assist with building capacity and allow for information sharing.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that he would Chair the meetings of the Tension Monitoring Group and provide updates at future DPCSP Meetings to keep Members informed of all progress.
- v. A Member commented that he had concerns regarding tension monitoring and that it tension monitoring needed to focus on other issues not just interface issues. He also commented that there were concerns regarding confidentiality.
- vi. A Member commented that there had been a need for structures to be reviewed to ensure there is no breach of confidentiality.
- vii. A Member commented that structures would need to be reviewed to ensure that there are arrangements in place to ensure that people are protected.
- viii. The Safer City Coordinator commented that a review can be conducted after the initial three months and if there were issues identified including confidentiality, Members can agree to not have any links with the group.

- ix. The Chair asked when would the three month period begin? The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that it would begin from April.
- x. The Chair suggested for an Independent Member to attend the Tension Monitoring meetings. The Safer Coordinator agreed to circulate an email to Members regarding the attendance of an Independent Member.

10. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Date, venue and time for next East Belfast DPCSP to be agreed and circulated to Members.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator asked Members to suggest a theme for the next DPCSP Public Meeting.
- iii. Following a discussion, Members agreed for the theme for the next meeting to focus on a 'Drugs and Alcohol' theme.

11. Emerging Issues

- i. A Member asked for an update regarding Alley Gates. The Safer City Coordinator commented that a report on the Alley Gate initiative would be provided at the next DPCSP Meeting.
- ii. The Chair asked when the new DPCSP becomes effective from? The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that there will be a recruitment of new Independent Members in the Autumn and the new DPCSP will be in place from April 2015.
- iii. Members requested for details of key events to be circulated.
- iv. A Member expressed their concern over the number of racist attacks within East Belfast.
- v. The Area Commander commented that East Belfast had the lowest number of racist attacks across all four districts.
- vi. A Member advised the Partnership that a conference will be held on 26th June in relation to Race Crime in Templemore Avenue.