

Minutes of the East Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Musgrave Police Station, Belfast
Tuesday 21st October, 2014

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Mervyn Jones (Chair)	Andy Moorhead (Vice Chair)
Councillor Adam Newton	Mark Houston
Alderman Gavin Robinson	Olwen Lyner
Designated Organisations	
Gary Ballantyne, NIHE	Chief Inspector David Moore, PSNI
Yvonne Cowan, H&SCT	Pauline Smart, BELB
Jane Lappin, PBNI	
Staff Present	Apologies
Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Gareth Beacom Lynda Gibson Councillor Niall O'Donnghaile Patricia Muldoon, YJA

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and noted the apologies provided.

2. **Declaration of Interests**

- i. Declaration of interest was read by the Chair after which no declarations of interest were declared.

3. **Minutes of East Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting**

- i. The Minutes of the East Belfast Private Meeting held on 25th September, of which copies were previously circulated, were taken as read and agreed correct.

4. **Chairman's update on the work of the PCSP**

- i. The Chair provided Members with an update on the Belfast PCSP Meeting held on the 15th September.
- ii. He informed Members that no decisions had been taken at the last PCSP Meeting that would have an impact on the East Belfast DPCSP.

5. **Project Proposal – Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update regarding a proposed project proposal in relation to a Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign.
- ii. He advised Members that domestic violence had been identified by the East Belfast DPCSP as a priority area to deliver relevant and appropriate initiatives in order to reduce incidents of domestic violence and abuse.

- iii. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members of an overview of the proposed Campaign. He informed Members that the Campaign would be rolled out during the month of December in conjunction with the PSNI, Crimestoppers and the Belfast Area Domestic Violence Partnership.
- iv. He advised Members that the main focus in raising awareness would be through a tailored advertising campaign utilising Adshels, Adtalk, Billboards, Adboxes and a production of a leaflet for sharing in key community buildings.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator also provided Members with a project brief for the Awareness Campaign which included an overview of the project, desired outcomes/outputs, quarterly milestones, scheduled public relations and associated costs and risks.
- vi. He recommended that Members consider the granting of £4,000 to support the delivery of the Awareness Campaign.
- vii. A Member asked if the Awareness Campaign would be implemented in East Belfast only. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that the Campaign would initially only be run in East Belfast.
- viii. The Chair asked how would the impact of the Campaign be evaluated. The Safer City Coordinator commented that the Campaign would be subject to Belfast City Councils evaluation process. He further commented that the PSNI and Crimestoppers would evaluate the Campaign and would provide the DPCSP with statistics in relation to the delivery of the Campaign.
- ix. A Member asked what images would the Campaign use. The Safer City Coordinator commented that all images for the Campaign had been pictures of 'closed doors' and there had been no pictures of people were to be used.
- x. Following a discussion regarding who will be targeted and supported through the Campaign Members noted the project proposal and agreed to allocate a total of £4,000 to support the delivery of the Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign.

6. Performance Management Funding Request

- i. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that Belfast PCSP had committed in their 2014/2015 Action Plan, to develop a performance management framework in order to measure the impact of the PCSP and DPCSPs.
- ii. He advised Members that the Criminal Justice Inspectorate had completed a review of (D)PCSPs and a draft report had been forwarded to the Joint Committee for their consideration.
- iii. He informed Members that the Joint Committee Officers had suggested for (D)PCSPs to commission an independent review in order to articulate their performance against identified priorities, community confidence and the social and economic benefits of all (D)PCSPs interventions
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that Belfast PCSP had agreed to contribute £3,000 to the review and commented that it had been suggested for each DPCSP to allocate a further £2,000 each to offset the overall cost of the work.

- v. A Member commented that an opportunity to get research students to conduct the review on behalf of DPCSP had been missed.
- vi. Following a discussion regarding what the review would set out to achieve Members requested that further information be provided to further inform the partnerships decision. Members agreed to defer a decision on supporting the review until the next DPCSP Meeting and subject to receipt of further information.

7. Compass Initiative Project

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of a suggested project proposal that would have an objective of improving community safety issues by tackling anti social behaviour.
- ii. He advised Members that the Compass Initiative would work to tackle anti social behaviour in each section of East Belfast, dividing the area up into segments of north, south, east and west.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that the identification of issues in each of the four areas (north, south, east and west) would be identified through a consultation process with the local community. He also commented that information mapped from crime statistics held by the PSNI and Belfast City Council would also be used.
- iv. He commented that the actual initiatives would be developed in each area in partnership with the PSNI and local community organisations. He further commented that each project will aim to reduce incidents of anti social behaviour and provide learning for those engaged in anti social behaviour as consequences of their behaviour and actions.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator requested that Members consider the allocation of £10,000 to the delivery of the project and for delegated authority to be granted to allow for the development of the projects thereafter. He informed Members that if agreed an update report would be presented at the next DPCSP meeting in relation to programme development and implementation.
- vi. Following a discussion regarding how East Belfast would be divided into project areas, Members commented that £2,500 to each area would not resolve the issues of anti social behaviour.
- vii. A Member suggested that a review should be conducted of both PSNI and Belfast City Council anti social behaviour statistics. He commented that following the review all hotspot areas to be identified. He further suggested it would be beneficial to work with groups who had an East Belfast wide remit to try and address the issues of anti social behaviour within East Belfast.
- viii. The Safer City Coordinator commented that caution needed to be taken when identifying groups to assist with the identification of hotspot areas and the delivery of projects. He commented that Belfast City Council and DPCSPs had been duty bound in relation to governance procedures to ensure that all groups had been consulted with and given a fair opportunity to avail of potential funding to carry out commissioned work.

- ix. Following a discussion, Members agreed for an analysis of both Belfast City Council and PSNI anti social behaviour statistics to be reviewed with an objective of identifying hotspot areas. Members requested for an update report regarding hotspot areas to be presented at a future DPCSP Meeting.

8. Policing Update

- i. Chief Inspector David Moore provided Members with an update on policing operations.
- ii. He advised Members on the recent merge of A and B Districts to become Belfast City Policing District (BCPD).
- iii. He informed Members that Chief Superintendent Nigel Grimshaw and Superintendent Paula Hillman would be representing the PSNI on Belfast PCSP.
- iv. Following a discussion regarding police resources, a Member commented that there had been fears within the local community that if resources had been reduced in Neighbourhood Police, community confidence would be affected.
- v. Chief Inspector David Moore commented that there would not be a reduction in Neighbour Police Teams. He advised Members there would be one Neighbourhood Police Team but there purpose would remain the same.
- vi. A Member requested for the PSNI to attend the next Pottinger PACT meeting to provide reassurances to the local community regarding Neighbourhood Police. Chief Inspector David Moore welcomed this suggestion and agreed to attend the next PACT meeting.
- vii. A Member commented that details of the next PACT Meeting would be circulated to Members.
- viii. A Member asked for clarification in relation to the purpose of the Policing Update.
- ix. The Chief Inspector commented that the purpose of the Policing Update had been to provide statutory partners with an overview of policing operations.
- x. A Member asked can the agendas of both the Policing Committee and Private Meeting in relation to the Policing Update not be merged? He commented that this would allow for no overlap in both meetings to occur.
- xi. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that due to legislation, information disclosed in the Policing Committee Meeting could not be disclosed in the Private Meeting.
- xii. A Member asked if the Chief Inspector could provide an update of the information disseminated at the Policing Committee Meeting at the Private Meeting? The Chief Inspector commented that he could provide an overview of the information provided at the Policing Committee Meeting and answer any questions he deemed to be in a position to answer.
- xiii. The Safer City Coordinator commented that he would need to seek clarification around sharing of information that is discussed in the Policing Committee Meeting with statutory partners.
- xiv. A Member provided an update regarding ongoing issues in Thistle Court.

- xv. A Member asked if the DPCSP could do anything to support the NIHE in resolving the issues at Thistle Court. The Chief Inspector commented that the PSNI had been aware of the ongoing issues in Thistle Court and confirmed that arrests had been made. He advised Members that the ongoing issues had been mainly social issues.
- xvi. A Member asked if the PSNI inform the NIHE of incidents reported following domestic disputes. A Member confirmed that the NIHE communicate with the PSNI and vice versa. He further commented that both the NIHE and PSNI face difficulties in getting evidence to support reported incidents.

9. AOB

- i. A Member requested for Chief Superintendent Nigel Grimshaw to be invited to attend a future DPCSP Meeting. He also suggested that the DPCSP write to Alan McCrum to wish him well in his future career.
- ii. A Member commented that there had been an increase in the number of paramilitary punishments and burglaries within East Belfast. He commented there had been a need to address organised crime in East Belfast. Members agreed to address this issue at the next DPCSP Meeting.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator requested two Members to volunteer to participate on the Belfast PCSP Communication Strategy Working Group. Members requested for information to be circulated via email and Members would respond accordingly.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator requested for the East Belfast DPCSP Public Meeting to be scheduled for the 28th October to be postponed and rescheduled. Members agreed for the Public Meeting to be rescheduled and for new a new date/venue to be circulated.
- v. Members discussed the lack of attendance by a political party representing the Short Strand area. Members agreed that due to the lack of attendance of the political party that the local community within the Short Strand had been not represented at the DPCSP Meetings.
- vi. A Member commented that if a Member of the District Policing Partnership failed to attend a number of consecutive meetings, the Member would be written to and if the Member did not reply or attend future Meetings, they would be removed from the Partnership.
- vii. The Safer City Coordinator commented that he would review the Standing Order in relation to attendance at DPCSP Meeting and update Members accordingly.

10. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Members requested for the next DPCSP Meeting to be held outside Belfast City Council.
- ii. The Chief Inspector agreed to host the next DPCSP Meeting on Tuesday 25th November in Strandtown Police Station.