

**Minutes of the North Belfast District Policing and
Community Safety Partnership
Private Meeting
Wednesday, 28 May 2014, 6.00pm
1st Floor HR Conference Room, Cecil Ward Building, Belfast**

Members Present	
Councillors	Independents
Councillor Mary Ellen Campbell (Chair)	Ms. Jennifer Cornell
Councillor Pat Convery	Ms. Bronach Graham
Councillor JJ Magee	Mr. Pat McLarnon
Councillor Naomi Thompson	Mr. Ian McLaughlin
Designated Organisations	
Chief Inspector Robert Singleton	Mr. David McComiskey
Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick	Mr. Martin Morgan
Inspector Roy Watton	Mr Mark Nicholson
Mr. Harry Bradley	Mr. Alan Wilson
Mr. Liam Gunn	
Staff Present	Apologies
Richard McLernon, Safer City Coordinator	Councillor Guy Spence
Edele Cleary, Project Officer	Mr. Malachy McKinney
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Ms. Patricia Muldoon

1. Welcome/Apologies/ Declarations of Interest

- i. The Chair, Cllr Mary Ellen Campbell, welcomed Members to the Private Meeting of the District Policing and Community Safety Partnership and noted apologies provided.
- ii. The Chair highlighted the declarations of interest policy. No declarations of interest were recorded.

2. Minutes of North Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting

- i. The Minutes of the North Belfast Private Meeting held on 23rd April, of which copies were previously circulated, were taken as read and correct.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update regarding actions from the last DPCSP Meeting.
- iii. The Area Commander provided Members with an update regarding car crime within North Belfast.
- iv. The Area Commander also provided Members with a report regarding ongoing work in local parks. He also informed Members of what issues had been identified with local Parks within the last 12 months.
- v. The Area Commander provided a crime prevention audit of parks. Following the audit all key stakeholders are to identify collectively how they could support this initiative. The Area Commander further suggested for a multi agency meeting to be convened with Parks through North Belfast DPCSP.

- vi. A Member thanked PSNI for the report and commented that the report had been a true reflection of what had been happening in local parks. She asked for an addendum to be made to the report, and for contact information to be included in all signs that are displayed in local parks.
- vii. A Member suggested for Members to go to their local park, review the situation and identify any issues and where possible offer resolutions.
- viii. The Area Commander suggested a meeting to be convened with Parks regarding a clean-up exercise of local parks. Then following this, structures and audits can be identified and implemented.
- ix. Following a discussion, Members agreed to convene a meeting with Parks. Jennifer Cornell, Mark Nicholson, Pat Convery, Bronach Graham, Cllr Mary Ellen Campbell, Chief Inspector Robert Singleton, NIHE Representative and Richard McLernon to attend the meeting.
- x. A Member highlighted her concerns regarding Members expenses. She expressed her concern regarding the Policing Board's decision on Members Expenses.
- xi. A Member asked if other PCSP/DPCSP's had raised queries over Members Expenses.
- xii. Following a discussion Members agreed to forward a formal letter to the Policing Board regarding their decision on expenses. Members also requested for their concerns to be raised at the next Belfast PCSP Meeting.
- xiii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a draft Belfast PCSP Communication Strategy will be presented to Belfast PCSP in June and following this the report will be circulated to DPCSP's for review.

3. **Community Safety Updates**

- i. A Member commended the PSNI for their assistance with the recent burglaries in Bawnmore.
- ii. A Member provided an update regarding a youth conference had been held the previous week in the 174 Trust. He also advised Members that summer funding will be available for summer schemes. He further commented that the funding had not been confirmed formally by OFMDFM, but commented that he does not envisage that this will have any direct impact on delivery throughout the summer period.
- iii. A Member commented that there had been concerns regarding underage drinking and anti social behaviour around Upper Cavehill. He commented that cars in the area had been damaged. He further commented that he had been aware of CCTV cameras within the area but to date the cameras are not providing any use to stopping these issues.
- iv. A Member commented that the local community had concerns regarding the number of burglaries happening and he suggested to try and get more Neighbourhood Watch Schemes developed within North Belfast.
- v. Inspector Roy Watton commented that in comparison to this time last year, reports of anti social behaviour within the Upper Cavehill area had been less.

- vi. A Member asked that before the implementation of Service First, had training been given to all call handlers?
- vii. A Member further commented that North Belfast DPCSP had given a commitment to assist with the training of call handlers but the PSNI never availed of this opportunity.
- viii. The Area Commander commented that he would take this into consideration when providing feedback on Service First. The Area Commander commented that there are different tiers of response adapted and there is a need to ensure that all systems support this.
- ix. The Area Commander also commented that Service First allows of the collation of any unsatisfied calls and again this is reported in any evaluations of Service First. The Area Commander commented that if any Members had any issues around call handling to forward through to PSNI.
- x. A Member suggested for the PSNI to conduct call tests and get an insight themselves on how call are being handled. The PSNI welcomed this suggestion.
- xi. Members were provided with an update from the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service. Members were informed that there had been no incidents in North Belfast to report.
- xii. A Member commented that there are currently small groups of young people from the Newlodge area working and engaging with Safer Streets.
- xiii. A Member commented that Safer Neighbourhood Officers had recently been attacked in the Newlodge area.
- xiv. A Member asked if the Safer Neighbourhood Officers had been in Council vehicles and if the Council logo had been displayed.
- xv. Members were informed that the Council logo had been on the vehicle. Members requested for clarification to be provided regarding Council logo being on vehicles.
- xvi. A Member commented that arranged fights continue to be organised through Facebook and that the individuals who had been responsible for organising them are well known. The Area Commander commented that the PSNI are aware of who the individuals are and that the PSNI are monitoring the situation.
- xvii. A Member commented that there had been more attacks on the Invest NI site.
- xviii. A Member asked if Belfast City Council had been aware of the attacks? The Member advised that Belfast City Council should invest in security at the site given that they are leasing it from Invest NI to build an innovation centre.
- xix. The Safer City Coordinator commented that he had been unaware of the attacks and will liaise directly with Council officers to ensure they are informed of ongoing issues.
- xx. A Member asked the PSNI that following recent attacks on foreign nationals, could the PSNI advise Members where they reside. Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick commented that recent attacks had happened in Lower Skegoneill and Mount Vernon.
- xxi. A Member commented that there had been no update from the Health and Social Care Trust. However, if Members have specific issues for the Trust, he could bring the issues to the attention of the Directors and form a response to the DPCSP.

- xxii. A Member provided an update regarding budget constraints facing the Probation Board for Northern Ireland. He advised Members that PBNI had to make a saving of 4% over the next year. Following a conversation regarding Thomson House and Centenary House, he invited Members to attend the local hostels to get a insight to the work of the hostels. Members welcomed the invite. He also circulated to Members for information a copy of the PBNI Corporate Plan 2014-17.
- xxiii. A representative from the Youth Justice Agency provided Members with an update regarding work with the Repeat Offenders Unit and also the recent Roadshow they held in partnership with the PSNI. He commented that the Roadshow had received positive feedback and that another Roadshow had been scheduled to take place in the Boys Model School this month.
- xxiv. Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick advised Members that there is a period of contention ahead for the PSNI particularly regarding parades and the July bonfires. He advised Members that an operational update will be provided at the next DPCSP Meeting.
- xxv. The Area Commander advised Members on the priorities of the PSNI. He commented that Hate Crime remains a priority and going forward tension among the loyalist community, as well as ASB.
- xxvi. Inspector Roy Watton advised Members of the success of the prevent and deter programme that is currently being implemented in the Newlodge area.
- xxvii. The Area Commander commented that information regarding the new police boundaries is currently not available and will forward information on to Members when it becomes available.
- xxviii. The Project Officer advised Members that funding had been released for all small grants projects. She further advised Members that the location of the drug bin had to be agreed and also provided an update regarding the mural in the Newlodge area.
- xxix. Following a discussion, Members requested for an evaluation report regarding previous funded small grant projects to be presented at the next DPCSP meeting.

4. Chair 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.

5. Priorities for Action and Timetabling/ Sign Posting

- i. Members requested for a formal letter to be forwarded to the Policing Board regarding Members expenses and also for their concerns to be highlighted at the next Belfast PCSP Meeting.

6. Project Briefs

- i. The Safer City Coordinator presented to Members a report regarding an update of older people representation on North Belfast DPCSP. He advised Members that a meeting had

been held with older people groups including Greater Belfast Senior Forum, North Belfast Senior Forum and Shankill Senior Forum. He further commented that he recommended to Members that when developing the 2015/16 North Belfast DPCSP Action Plan to consult and engage with Older People Forums.

- ii. A Member commented that there had been a number of issues that affect older people attending meetings and this needed to be considered by the DPSCP.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with a report detailing information regarding projects developed under each action in the North Belfast DCPSP Action Plan 2014/15. He advised Members that monthly updates will be presented at each DPCSP meeting to provide an overview on the delivery and impact of the projects. He requested Members to allow for delegated authority for implementation of the Action Plan to Belfast City Council Officers. He reassured Members that the Partnership will always be updated regarding any amendments to project and that Members will be fully engaged in project delivery through inclusion of thematic working groups. Members approved project briefs and delegated authority.
- iv. The Chair commented that she had a concern that organisations may facilitate activities so they align with the North Belfast DPCSP.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator commented that meetings will be held whereby projects will be reviewed by officers to ensure no duplication of delivery can occur.
- vi. A Member requested for a breakdown of what funding programmes are available through Belfast City Council and what they have funded. Members agreed for a report detailing a breakdown of funding to be provided at the next DPCSP Meeting.
- vii. Members discussed the allocation of funding within each of the project briefs. The Safer City Coordinator commented that the allocated budget detailed within the Action Plan can be reviewed if required.
- viii. Following a discussion regarding tension monitoring, Members agreed to review the evaluation report when received and for tension monitoring to be discussed further at a future DPCSP meeting. Members also proposed for Brendan Smith to attend a future DPCSP to present the evaluation report.
- ix. The Chair requested for a report to be provided on who had received funding for hate crime.

7. **Next Meeting**

- i. Members noted that North Belfast DPCSP will facilitate a Public Meeting as Wednesday 18th June in the 174 Trust at 7.00pm.
- ii. Members also noted that the next North Belfast DPCSP Policing Committee and Private Meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th June, 5.00pm, Cecil Ward Building.