

Minutes of the Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Conor Room, City Hall, Thursday, 31st May 2012

Members Present

Councillor Jim McVeigh (Chair)	Valerie Allen
Councillor Janice Austin	Michael Cunningham
Alderman Tom Ekin	Eva Grosman
Councillor Matt Garrett	Liz Groves
Councillor John Hussey	John MacVicar
Councillor Colin Keenan	Harry Maguire
Councillor Gareth McKee	Frank Mulhern
Alderman Jim Rodgers	Mark Vinton
Councillor Guy Spence	Alan Wardle

Staff Present

Eve Bremner, Safer City Manager
Suzanne Wylie, Director Health and Environmental Department
Lorna Somers, DPP Manager
Siobhan Toland, Head of Service
Katharine McCrum, Partnership Support Officer

Apologies

Councillor Claire Hanna

1. Welcome and Introductions

- i. The Chairman, Councillor McVeigh, welcomed Members to the inaugural meeting of the Belfast PCSP and asked that each Member briefly introduce themselves to the Partnership.

2. Confirmation of the Vice-Chair of the Belfast PCSP

- i. Members were informed that two nominations had been received for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership; namely Mr A. Wardle, nominated by Valerie Allen, and John MacVicar, nominated by Liz Groves.
- ii. John MacVicar's nomination was seconded by Mark Vinton and so he was subsequently elected as the Vice-Chair for the period of 31st May 2012 to 31st March 2013.

3. Discussion on the Roles and Responsibilities of the Belfast PCSP

- i. The Chairman requested that Members consider the roles and responsibilities that would inform the future work of the PCSP.

- ii. Members discussed the lobbying role of the PCSP, engagement and consultation with communities, the monitoring and evaluation of the DPCSPs, City wide initiatives/public events and the marketing and PR of the partnership.
- iii. **ACTION:** Members agreed to revisit the issues at a future planning session and to take into account the priorities raised by each of the DPCSPs.
- iv. During discussion, a Member questioned the use of Standing Orders when conducting business, particularly when proposing actions.
- v. Members agreed that, while it was envisioned that decisions would be reached via consensus, it would be useful to have a protocol to govern operational decisions.
- vi. **ACTION:** The Chairman requested that the agenda for the next meeting reflect the requests of Members for such governing documents.

4. Review of the Transitional Plan and Financial Budget

- i. The Chairman presented Members with the transitional plan for the Belfast PCSP and DPCSPs, explaining that this had been developed at the request of the Joint Committee in order to avoid gaps in service delivery between the cessation of DPPs and CSPs and the inaugural meetings of the PCSPs.
- ii. He added that the plan had been developed and agreed by the Chairs and was intended to ensure that as much resource was made available to DPCSPs upon their formal establishment. Furthermore, he added that the transitional plan also ensured commitment to spend on an area basis during the transitional period and until the PCSP and DPCSPs can agree local delivery plans. He made particular reference to the allocation of small grants funding for Summer 2012, totalling £150,000 across the City.
- iii. While Members agreed that there was a practical need for such decisions to be made, several raised concerns that partnership funds had been allocated without the agreement of its Members. Additional concerns were raised in relation to the criteria used and the makeup of assessment panels for the small grants.
- iv. **ACTION:** Eve Bremner assured Members that any future small grants programmes would be delivered with the full approval of the PCSP and that a review of scoring criteria and the assessment process would take place with Members nominated by the PCSP and DPCSPs.
- v. Following further discussion, Members approved the transitional plan and the allocation of funds as laid out within the plan, namely;
 - a. £500K of funding will be split between the DPCSPs i.e. £122,500 for each, and that the Council's annual revenue contribution of

approximately £120,000 would be made available to the PCSP

- b. Allocate £30K for youth outreach provision over the summer period however further discussion required to inform delivery and procurement of services
 - c. Funding for CPLC's and PACTs with the stipulation that a protocol be developed to address the gaps in service across the city
 - d. Advocacy services for victims of hate crime within the LBG&T community, however Members requested that other victims of hate crime were recognised in future funding decisions
- vi. Eve Bremner presented Members with a funding opportunity from the DOJ - Priority Youth Intervention Funding – and requested that Members consider potential proposals that would benefit from this funding.
 - vii. **ACTION:** Members agreed to set up a working group to review the funding stream and potential applications on Thursday, 7th June.
 - viii. **ACTION:** Members also requested that a letter be sent from the Chair to the DOJ highlighting their objection to the short turn around of the request from DOJ.

5. Next meeting of the Belfast PCSP

- i. Members agreed to meet on Thursday, 7th June a 5.45pm, with the venue to be confirmed.