

**Minutes of the South Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership**

**Private Meeting**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016, 2.00pm  
Wellington Park Hotel, Belfast**

**Political Members**

Councillor Declan Boyle (Chair)  
Councillor Paula Bradshaw  
Councillor Jeffrey Dudgeon  
Councillor Geraldine McAteer

**Independent Members**

Michael Boyle  
Aidan Hughes

**Statutory Designated Bodies**

Gary Ballantyne NIHE  
Anita Duff EA  
Yvonne McKnight H&SCT

Chief Inspector Robert Murdie PSNI  
Station Commander Michael Roberts NIFRS

**Staff Present**

Suzanne Gowling, Safer City Coordinator  
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer

**Apologies**

Paul McDonnell  
Christine Hunter PBNI  
Aleksandra Lojek-Magdziarz (Vice Chair)  
Dermot Magorrian YJA

**1. Welcome & Routine Matters**

- i. The Chair welcomed the Members to the South Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting and noted the apologies provided.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

- i. The Chair asked Members to declare any material interests which they may have in relation to any item of business to be considered during the meeting.
- ii. No declarations of interest were noted.

**3. South Belfast District Policing Plan 2016/2017**

- i. Chief Inspector Murdie provided Members with an overview of the draft South Belfast District Policing Plan.
- ii. He advised Members of the indicators against each of the priorities detailed within the South Belfast District Policing Plan. He further commented that Members could amend the indicators within the South Belfast District Policing Plan to reflect local priorities.
- iii. A Member advised the Partnership if amendments were to be made to the South Belfast District Policing Plan, consideration would need to be taken regarding next year's figures.

### **Accountability**

- i. Following a discussion regarding burglaries as a priority for the Partnership, Members agreed to amend this priority to reflect an 'increase the number of outcomes'.
- ii. Chief Inspector Murdie advised Members on the priority regarding the outcome rate for crimes with a racist motivation.
- iii. A Member commented that there needed to be a more effective way of relaying information regarding crimes with a racist motivation to members of the public and the media.
- iv. Chief Inspector Murdie advised the Partnership that crimes with a racist motivation could be reported using a low, medium or high rating.
- v. A Member commented that if ratings were to be used for crimes with a racist motivation that a definition of the ratings would need to be provided.
- vi. A Member commented that a level of caution would need to be adhered to when crimes with a racist motivation are being rated as there could be the danger of a racist crime being incorrectly rated.
- vii. Members welcomed the suggestion for crimes with a racist motivation to be ranked accordingly as suggested by Chief Inspector Murdie.
- iv. Chief Inspector Murdie advised Members of a Hate Crime Event on next week in Newforge. He welcomed all Members to attend the event.

### **Collaborative Working**

- i. Chief Inspector Murdie provided Members with an overview on the priority regarding collaborative working.
- ii. He advised Members that it had been the role of the PSNI to increase the number of drug seizures. He informed Members of new legislation to be implemented from April, 2016 regarding psychoactive substances. He further commented that the new legislation would assist the PSNI to increase the number of drug seizures.
- iii. A Member asked what support services had been in place to assist with the delivery of this priority since FASA stopped operating. Chief Inspector Murdie commented that there had been adequate services still available to assist with the delivery of this target.
- iv. Chief Inspector Murdie suggested the Partnership include reference to harm reduction issues in the South Belfast District Policing Plan. Members welcomed and agreed to this suggestion.
- v. Chief Inspector Murdie advised Members of a social media project to be launched by the PSNI.

- vi. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members that local community engagement had been identified as a priority within the South Belfast DPCSP Action Plan 2016/2017. She further advised Members that a focus group would be held in April/May to review how the Partnership proposes to engage with the local community.
- vii. Station Commander Michael Roberts advised Members that the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service work closely with older people to highlight and promote home safety. He welcomed working with the PSNI to integrate this service offered to older people. Chief Inspector Murdie welcomed this suggestion.
- viii. Following a discussion regarding how the Partnership could promote their work with the local community, Members agreed to look at a mechanism on how to communicate the work of the Partnership. The Safer City Coordinator suggested that there could be a link within the service level agreements with local community groups.

#### **4. South Belfast Policing and Community Safety Small Grants**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that at the last South Belfast DPCSP Meeting, Members had agreed to participate in a Small Grants Assessment Panel. She asked Members to confirm that the group had delegated authority from the Partnership to approve the allocation of grants.
- ii. Members noted and agreed to this request.

#### **5. Priority Youth Intervention Fund**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised that no suggestions had been made by Members in relation to the Priority Youth Intervention Fund.
- ii. As such it was confirmed that South Belfast DPCSP would not be submitting a proposal for Priority Youth Intervention funding.

#### **6. Emerging Issues**

- i. No emerging issues were discussed.

#### **7. Date Of Next Meeting**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Planning Meeting scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> March had been cancelled.
- ii. The Chair advised Members that the next South Belfast DPCSP Meeting will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> April.
- iii. The Chair thanked all for attending.