

Minutes of the East Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Room 1C, Cecil Ward Building, 4-10 Linenhall Street, Belfast
Tuesday 31st May, 2016

Political Members

Councillor Sonia Copeland
Councillor Aileen Graham
Councillor Tommy Sandford

Independent Members

Mr David Geddis (Vice-Chair)
Mrs Michelle Bryans
Mr Jonathan Currie
Ms Lisa McMaster
Mr Steven McMillan

Designated Organisations

Yvonne Cowan, H&SCT
Jane Lappin, PBNI
Dermot Magorrian, YJA
Alison Methan, NIHE

Chief Inspector David Moore, PSNI
Trevor McClurg, NIFRS
Pauline Smart, EA

Staff Present

Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer

Apologies

Councillor Carole Howard (Chair)
Councillor Deirdre Hargey
Gary Ballantyne, NIHE
Michael Roberts, NIFRS

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Vice Chair welcomed Members to the Meeting and noted the apologies provided.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that following Niall O'Donnghaile's recent appointment he would no longer be a Member of the DPCSP. He further advised Members that Niall would be replaced on Partnership in due course.

2. Declaration of Interests

- i. Members were asked 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 declared at the outset of the Meeting.

3. Minutes and Matters Arising

- i. Minutes of the East Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting held on Wednesday, 27th April 2016, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
Proposed: Mr Steven McMillan
Seconded: Ms Lisa McMaster

4. Chairs Update on Belfast PCSP

- i. Due to the Chair's absence at the Meeting, no update was provided.

5. Alleygates Phase 4

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that Alleygates Phase 4 Programme was now in progress.
- ii. He advised Members that Belfast City Council had approved funding for Phase 4 of Alleygates earlier this year and it is likely that there will be 89 new gates installed in East Belfast. He further commented that the East Belfast Area Working Group (AWG), made up of all Councillors for East Belfast, would determine the locations at which gates will be installed.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator asked Members to note that for the purposes of determining need for alley gates, streets were broken down into four categories of based on the count of crime/anti-social behaviour incidents across the city.
 - 451 – 600 incidents is determined as a hotspot;
 - 301 – 450 incidents is determined as high;
 - 151 -300 incidents is determined as medium; and,
 - 1 – 150 incidents is determined as low.
- iv. He informed Members that the East AWG have asked for Members of the East Belfast DPCSP to provide an opinion before they make a final decision on the location of the next phase of Alleygates. He requested input to be forwarded to Brian Hannon, Project Officer - Alley gates.
- v. Members noted the content of the report.

6. PACT Support Project

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of the proposed PACT Support Project.
- ii. He advised Members how PACT Meetings allow a collective approach to be adopted by all key agencies and the community to address local problems associated with policing and crime.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that in order to ensure the effectiveness of PACT Meetings during 2016/2017, there would be a need to fund the meetings through paying for the venue and providing light refreshments. He commented that the proposed funding allocation to support the delivery of PACT Meetings would be £1,400.00.
- iv. A Member highlighted that PACT Meetings should be chaired by a community representative and not a Council Officer.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that there had been issues in the past with the chairing of PACT Meetings. He commented that a Council Officer would chair the PACT Meetings until a community representative is available to take over the role.

- vi. Following a discussion, Members approved the funding of £1,400.00 towards the PACT Support Project.
Proposed: Mr Stephen McMillen
Seconded: Councillor Sonia Copeland

7. East Belfast DPCSP Draft Annual Report 2015/2016

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with a draft of the East Belfast DPCSP Annual Report 2015/2016 explaining that the final version would contain a picture of each of the Members from the period over which the report covered, a full financial report and a report detailing Members attendance.
- ii. Members noted the East Belfast DPCSP Draft Annual Report and agreed its content subject to the aforementioned points being added.

8. East Belfast Bonfires Update

- i. Andrew Charles, Anti Social Behaviour Officer for East Belfast provided Members with an update on east Belfast bonfires in the following areas:
 - Ballarat Street;
 - Cregagh;
 - Avoniel;
 - Trachey Close;
 - Tullycarnet; and,
 - Clara Street.
- ii. Chief Inspector David Moore thanked Andrew and all Council officers involved in the removal of unwanted bonfire material and their ongoing efforts in dealing with bonfire related issues.
- iii. A Member informed the Partnership that he had recently met with residents from Tullycarnet and advised that agreement had been given for a Beacon. He further advised Members that residents had been provided with information around fly tipping and how to report it.
- iv. A Member asked what procedures had been in place to ensure that a person's identity is protected if they report a fly tipping incident.
- v. The ASB Officer advised Members that if a person had requested that their identity remains anonymous, then no name would be recorded.
- vi. A Member highlighted the effectiveness of good relations work. She informed Members that both Avoniel and Orangefield sites had been proactive this year and credit should to be given particularly to officers from Parks and Leisure with their assistance on these sites.

9. Promoting Cultural Understanding Project

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of the proposed Promoting Cultural Understanding Project.

- ii. He advised Members that the project aims to reduce and prevent anti social behaviour as well as negative outcomes around the July bonfires and additionally engage with those at risk of becoming involved in unwanted August bonfires.
- iii. He informed Members that the proposed project would engage with nine individual groups to deliver:
 - Diversionary and education activities;
 - Consultation with young people in relation to their views and bonfires; and,
 - Production of a publication on the history and cultural meaning of bonfires.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator commented that the proposed funding requested was for a total of £4,080.00.
- v. A Member requested for further information to be included in relation to the August Bonfires emphasising the importance of balanced perspectives being adopted and for the inclusion of all groups.
- vi. A Member asked if the nine groups had been identified who would be involved in the delivery of the proposed project. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the groups had not yet been identified.
- vii. Members noted the proposed project and agreed to allocate the funding requested.
Proposed: Mr Stephen McMillen
Seconded: Ms Lisa McMaster

10. Drugs and Alcohol Quotation Specification

- i. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members that at a previous DPCSP Meeting, it had been agreed for a £15,000 Drugs and Alcohol Quotation to take place and for members to be involved in the drawing up of the specification for inclusion in that document. He provided Members with an overview of the specification and details that the successful group would have to undertake.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator further advised Members that once the quotation document had been finalised, it would be circulated to a range of organisations. He informed Members that it was anticipated that the successful applicant group would be confirmed by the end of July.
- iii. He requested Members to agree to the specification and for the involvement of East Belfast Drug and Alcohol Stakeholders Group, allowing that group to receive updates with regard to the successful applicant group and their subsequent delivery around drugs and alcohol issues.
- iv. Members noted the report and agreed to the requests as detailed.

11. AOB/Emerging Issues

- i. A Member advised all that due to the Royal Visit and car parking not being available at City Hall and for Members to claim back any car parking expenses incurred.

- ii. Members requested clarification to be provided on claiming back car parking expenses.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update on the Orange Order 'It's About The Battle, Not About The Bottle' Campaign. He informed Members that the total cost associated with the campaign had been £6,280.00. He asked Members to note that other DPCSP's have been asked to contribute approximately £1,500.00 towards the Campaign. He further commented that a report detailing the Campaign and financial contributions will be forwarded to Members for consideration in due course confirming that Members were happy to receive such a report electronically due to time constraints around pending delivery of the campaign.

10. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Following a discussion regarding the next East Belfast DPCSP Public Meeting, Members agreed for on a joint theme of safety online and under-reporting of crime.
- ii. Chief Inspector Moore advised the Partnership that he would speak to his colleagues in CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) with regards presenting at the Public Meeting.
- iii. Members were reminded that the prior to the Public Meeting a Private Meeting will be held on Tuesday 28th June.