

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

Private Meeting

**Thursday 14th April 2016, 6.00pm
Conor Room, City Hall, Belfast**

Political Members

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

Independent Members

Aleksandra Lojek-Magdziarz (Vice Chair)
Michael Boyle
Aidan Hughes

Statutory Designated Bodies

Gary Ballantyne NIHE
Anita Duff EA
Christine Hunter PBNi
Dermot Magorrian YJA

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

Councillor Geraldine McAteer
Paul McDonnell

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. The Chair declared an interest in relation to Item 8 of the agenda.
- iii. No further declarations of interest were noted.

3. Minutes and Matters Arising

- i. A Member asked if the action detailed in the Minutes of the Private Meeting held on 29th February regarding a letter being sent to cleansing services to ask if alleygates could be closed by cleansing operatives after refuse collections, had been actioned. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that this request still had to be actioned. She further commented that she would follow up on this request and update Members at the next DPCSP Meeting.
- ii. A Member asked if the Partnership could receive an update regarding how areas had been identified to receive funding for the installation of alleygates. The Safer City Coordinator noted this request.

- iii. Following a discussion regarding the format and content of Public Meetings, Members agreed that a new approach needed to be adapted to allow Public Meetings to be more informative and interactive. Members further agreed to use a thematic approach, where possible, when facilitating Public Meetings.
- iv. The Minutes of the Private Meeting held on 29th February and Minutes of the Private Meeting held on 10th March, copies of which were previously circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.

4. South Belfast Policing Plan

- i. Chief Inspector Robert Murdie provided Members with an overview of the South Belfast Local Policing Plan 2016-2017.
- ii. Chief Inspector Murdie advised Members that the Local Policing Plan had been divided into the following sections:
 - Accountability;
 - Fairness, Courtesy and Respect; and,
 - Collaborative Decision Making.
- iii. Chief Inspector Murdie provided Members with an overview of each section of the Local Policing Plan.
- iv. A Member asked how the PSNI propose to circulate the Local Policing Plan to the local community. Chief Inspector Murdie commented that the PSNI would seek assistance from South Belfast DPCSP and other key agencies to ensure that the Local Policing Plan is circulated as far as possible throughout the local community.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator suggested that the Local Policing Plan could be circulated to members of the general public at the next South Belfast DPCSP Public Meeting. She further advised Members that the Local Policing Plan could be uploaded on to the PCSP Facebook page to ensure maximum promotion. Members welcomed these suggestions.

5. Code of Practice, March 2016

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Joint Committee had issued a revised Code of Practice. She advised Members that the revised Code of Practice had been effective from March 2016.
- ii. She further advised Members to update their PCSP Member's Handbook with the revised Code.
- iii. Members noted this request.

6. Initiation of South Belfast DPCSP's Action Plan for 2016/17

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of delivery to date of the South Belfast DPCSP's Action Plan 2016-2017.
- ii. She advised Members that 2015-2016 still had to be closed down. She further advised Members that the South Belfast DPCSP Annual Report 2015-2016 would be presented to the Partnership in May/June.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members of both the successful and unsuccessful applicants of the Small Grants Tranche 1 process. She provided Members with details of the Small Grants Tranche 2 and asked Members to circulate information regarding Small Grants to the local community to encourage the submission of applications.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that South Belfast DPCSP had issued two quotations documents to commission work on the following areas:
 - Hate Crime and the Fear of Hate Crime Programme; and,
 - Vulnerable Adults.

She advised Members that an update at the next South DPCSP Meeting would be provided regarding the quotation exercises.

- v. The Safer City Coordinator further provided Members with a detailed overview of the following proposed projects and the associated budget allocations:
 - Therapies and Support Pilot Project (Proposed budget allocation £2,500);
 - Feel Safer Over the Summer (Proposed budget allocation up to £21,000); and,
 - Build Community Confidence, Particularly in Policing (Proposed budget allocation up to £5,000).
- vi. A Member highlighted their concern regarding funding festival activities and requested that a check to be conducted to prevent duplication of funding and to ensure community safety and good relations outcomes are achieved.
- vii. A Member further commented that with regards to the 'Feel Safer Over the Summer Project' that the project only receives the amount required and any remaining budget be reallocated accordingly.
- viii. The Safer City Coordinator reassured Members that only funding required will be allocated to the proposed projects. She further informed Members that the Partnership would be informed of all proposed projects and budget allocation.
- ix. Following a discussion regarding the proposed projects, the Safer City Coordinator requested delegated authority be given in relation to the management and delivery of the projects. Members agreed to give the Safer City Coordinator delegated authority as detailed below:

- Therapies and Support Pilot Project (delegated authority up to £2,500);
- Feel Safer Over the Summer (delegated authority up to up to £21,000); and,
- Build Community Confidence, Particularly in Policing (delegated authority up to £5,000).

7. Chairs Update

- i. The Chair advised Members that the next Belfast PCSP Meeting would be held on Monday 18th April at 5.30pm in the Lavery Room, City Hall, Belfast.

8. Emerging Issues

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that work had been continuing in the Markets area, in particular in relation to ASB issues around Stewart Street. Chief Inspector Murdie commented that the PSNI welcomed this engagement and to date all work completed had been positive.
- ii. A Member requested an update from the PSNI on the recent Junior Orange Parade and burglaries within South Belfast.
- iii. Chief Inspector Murdie provided Members with an update on both areas. He commented that following the initial Junior Orange Parade, engagement and communication between the loyalist community and the PSNI had been reconvened. He further informed Members that there had been a rise in the number of burglaries in South Belfast, particularly in the Stranmillis area. He advised Members that the PSNI had increased their presence in the area and home safety workshops had been scheduled to be delivered in partnership with key agencies.
- iv. A Member asked if recent burglaries had targeted a specific group of people or had they been sporadic. Chief Inspector Murdie advised Members that the recent burglaries had not targeted a specific group in the local community. He commented that burglaries in South Belfast had been contributed to doors and windows not being secured properly by home owners.
- v. Chief Inspector Murdie provided Members with an update of the PSNI burglary campaign 'Operation Cordella'.
- vi. Following a discussion, Members highlighted the need for social media to be utilised more effectively in order to communicate and promote the work of the Partnership and key statutory agencies.

St. Patrick's Day Review

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members of the key activities that happened on St. Patrick's Day.

- ii. She provided Members with an update on the WUA PACT Meeting held on 22nd March. She informed Members that the meeting had been positive. She further commented that PACT had been in the process of developing an Action Plan. Members requested PACT's Action Plan be circulated when finalised to the Partnership for information.
- iii. A Member advised the Partnership that negative comments had been received from local residents regarding the role of key agencies on St. Patrick's Day. She asked if a joint communiqué would be circulated regarding the roles key agencies played in relation to planning the activities delivered on St. Patrick's Day.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator commented that there had been no agreement to circulate information to the local community regarding the role key agencies played on St. Patrick's Day. She suggested for this to be highlighted at the next PACT meeting, and if agreed for a statement as discussed to be made and circulated to the local community.
- v. The Chair agreed to raise the challenge of communicating the work of the South Belfast DPCSP at the next Belfast PCSP Meeting.
- vi. Chief Inspector Murdie provided Members with an overview of the number of incidents reported to and actioned by the PSNI on St. Patrick's Day. He advised Members that 35 arrests had been made across Belfast on St. Patrick's Day.
- vii. A Member suggested for South Belfast DPCSP to allocate funding to support family engagement events on St. Patrick's Day. The Safer City Coordinator commented that it would be up to the Partnership if they wanted to fund such activities. She also advised Members that local community groups could apply for a small grant to assist them with the delivery of family engagement events.

9. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Members noted that the next South Belfast DPCSP Meeting would be held on Monday 23rd May.