

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

**Private Meeting**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016, 6.00pm  
Conor Room, City Hall, Belfast**

**Political Members**

Councillor Jeffrey Dudgeon  
Councillor Deirdre Hargey  
Councillor Geraldine McAteer

**Independent Members**

Aleksandra Lojek-Magdziarz (Vice Chair)  
Michael Boyle  
Aidan Hughes  
Richard Kennedy  
Paul McDonnell

**Statutory Designated Bodies**

Alice Methan 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 Declan Boyle (Chair)  
Gary Ballantyne NIHE

**1. Welcome & Routine Matters**

- i. The Vice Chair welcomed the Members to the South Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting and noted the apologies provided.
- ii. The Vice Chair advised Members that following the recent election of Paula Bradshaw and Christopher Stalford to the position of MLAs; both Members will be replaced on the Partnership in due course.
- iii. A Member congratulated Paula Bradshaw, MLA and Christopher Stalford, MLA on their recent success in the election. He requested a letter to be forwarded to both MLA's to congratulate them on their recent appointments and to thank them for their work in relation to the South Belfast DPCSP. Members welcomed this suggestion.

**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. Minutes and Matters Arising

- i. A Member requested for the Minutes to be amended (Page 4, Section 8) to reflect that open windows and doors had been a contributing factor to burglaries within South Belfast.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update on the actions required from the previous meeting:

Action	Update
Safer City Coordinator to provide an update to Member regarding a letter being sent to cleansing services to ask if Alleygates closed after refuse collections	Letter has been sent but to date no response has been received
Update on how areas are identified to receive funding for alleygates	Update to be provided in DPCSP Meeting (Item 8)
Local Policing Plan to be made available on Facebook and at the next public meeting	Ongoing
Members to update their handbook with the updated Code of Practice	Completed
Small Grants Tranche 2 to be promoted to local groups	Members advised Small Grants Tranche 2 had opened and the closing date for applications is 8 <sup>th</sup> July. She requested for Members to encourage local groups to apply for funding
Members to receive information about all the proposed projects and budget allocation	Ongoing
A copy of PACT's Action Plan to be circulated to Members when available	Completed
Joint communication about the responsibilities of relevant agencies in the Holyland be discussed at the next WUA PACT meeting	To be discussed
Chair to raise the challenge of communicating the work of the South Belfast DPCSP at the next Belfast PCSP Meeting	Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Chair raised this at the last PCSP, however no resources were committed.

- iii. The Minutes of the Private Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016, copies of which were previously circulated, were agreed as correct with the change agreed at 3.i above.

### 4. Budget Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that at the Belfast PCSP Meeting on 18th April, it was agreed that DPCSP budgets would be divided on

a proportional basis similar to the one used by the Joint Committee for PCSPs across Northern Ireland, meaning a 30% basic allocation to all DPCSPs and additional allocations based on population (45%) and deprivation (25%).

- ii. Members were therefore advised that the South Belfast DPCSP budget for 2016/2017 would be reduced to £109,208 which represented a reduction of £10,792.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator suggested that the South Belfast DPCSP Action Plan be reduced accordingly to reflect the amended budget:

**Strategic Priority 1:** Form and successfully deliver the functions of South Belfast DPCSP

- Partnership - £5,000 reduced to **£4,008**

**Strategic Priority 2:** Improve community safety by addressing crime and ASB

- Focused area working - £25,000 reduced to **£24,000**
- Drugs and alcohol - £10,000 reduced to **£9,500**
- Hate Crime and fear of hate crime - £15,000 reduced to **£9,000**

**Strategic Priority 3:** Build Community Confidence, particularly in policing

- Confidence - £10,000 reduced to **£7,700**

- iv. The Safer City Coordinator asked Members to note the amendment to South Belfast DPCSP 2016/2017 budget and for agreement to be given to the redistribution of the budget as detailed above.
- v. Following a discussion, Members noted the amendment to the budget and agreed to the redistribution of the budget as requested.

## **5. Agreeing Focused Area Working**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a full report on Focused Area Working had not yet been available.
- ii. She advised Members that three areas had been identified in relation to Focused Area Working:
  - Wider University Area;
  - Markets; and,
  - South West - Sandy Row/The Village/Donnegal Road.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that in order for delivery to commence, a decision needed to be made on the areas in which to focus. She requested that Members agreed to the areas as discussed.
- iv. Chief Inspector Murdie commented that the areas identified would be of concern for the PSNI as there had been little police/community engagement.

He therefore welcomed the suggested areas identified for inclusion in Focused Area Working.

- v. A Member commented that South Belfast DPCSP needs to be clear about what they mean by the Wider University Area as it is much wider than the Holyland.
- vi. A Member commented if the area of Sandy Row/The Village could be extended to include the lower Lisburn Road. The Safer City Coordinator advised the South West area could not be extended to include lower Lisburn Road. She further commented that the purpose of Focused Area Working is to work within specific areas and if areas are extended the level of impact may be compromised.
- vii. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members that the focused area working approach was a part of the overall Action Plan with all other opportunities available to the other areas.
- viii. The Safer City Coordinator asked Members if they agreed to the areas identified or if Members required a written report regarding Focused Area Working.
- ix. Following a discussion, Members noted the proposal and agreed on the areas for focused area working as:
  - Wider University Area
  - Markets
  - South West – Sandy Row/The village/Donegal Road.

## **6. Vulnerable People Update**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of the work being undertaken in relation the Vulnerable People theme in South Belfast DPCSP's 2016/2017 Action Plan.
- ii. She reminded Members that the purpose of the quotation had been to map existing provision and identify gaps for vulnerable people within South Belfast.
- iii. She advised Members that a quotation exercise had been undertaken and Brian Stratford Associates had been appointed. She further commented that an initiation meeting had been held with the contractor to discuss the detail of work to be undertaken.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that this area of work would be delivered in partnership with key statutory representatives.
- v. A Member asked what the associated delivery timeline for this work area had been. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a draft report would be presented to the Partnership at the end of July 2016.

- vi. A Member commented that in order for the draft report deadline to be achieved, buy in from statutory agencies will be key and the Safer City Coordinator will involve the statutory partners in a Working Group
- vii. Members noted the report presented.

## **7. Hate Crime and Fear of Hate Crime Update**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of the work that was undertaken in 2015/2016 which resulted in the hate crime response and resource pack that was provided in the meeting papers. Members agreed the content of South Belfast DPCSP's Hate Crime Response and Resource Pack; which will be pack proofed and designed for distribution and use.
- ii. She advised Members that a quotation exercise had been undertaken and Migrant Centre NI had been appointed. She further commented that monitoring reports would be submitted on a quarterly basis and one formal presentation will be made to the DPCSP.
- iii. Members noted the project report and agreed to the publication of the report.

## **8. Alleygates, Phase 4**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of the Alleygates, Phase 4 Programme.
- ii. She advised Members that the provisional allocation of alleygates within South Belfast had been determined by the South Belfast Area Working Group.
- iii. She informed Members that the Area Working Group had requested South Belfast DPCSP review the provisional allocation of alleygates within South Belfast. She further advised Members that Chief Inspector Murdie had reviewed the provisional allocation of gates and had provided this update to the Area Working Group.
- iv. Councillor Dudgeon advised that he was liaising with cleansing services in relation to getting gates closed.
- v. A Member asked what the definition of a hot spot had been. Chief Inspector Murdie commented that an area is defined as a hot spot when there are a heightened number of reports in one area.
- vi. A Member asked if alleygates had caused any access issues for the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service when responding to calls. Station Commander Michael Roberts commented that the NIFRS are aware of where Alleygates are located and they have keys to open the alleygates.

- vii. Station Commander Michael Roberts provided Members with an overview of home safety checks. He asked Members if they had been aware of any vulnerable groups who could benefit from a home safety check to make a referral directly to the NIFRS.

## **9. Draft Annual Report**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a Draft South Belfast DPCSP's 2015/2016 Annual Report is currently being produced.
- ii. She informed Members that a copy of the Draft Annual Report would be circulated for review and comment within the next few weeks.

## **10. Chairs Update**

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

## **11. Emerging Issues**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a copy of the Wider University Area (WUA) PACT Action Plan had been included within the papers for information.
- ii. She further advised Members that WUA PACT is hosting a Public Meeting on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May, 7.00pm in City Church. She welcomed all Members to attend.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator suggested to Members for future DPCSP Meetings to be held on a bi-monthly basis. The Safer City Coordinator commented the reason for a change to the meeting structure would allow for operational work to be achieved and be a more effective use of time to work in partnership with statutory agencies.
- iv. A Member commented that caution needed to be taken if the Meeting structure is changed, as consideration needs to be given to what is best for the DPCSP and achieving the delivery of the Action Plan.
- v. Following a discussion, Members agreed to review the structure of DPCSP Meetings at the next Meeting.

## **12. Date of Next Meeting**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the next South Belfast DPCSP Meeting will be held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June.
- ii. The Vice Chair thanked all for attending.