

Minutes of the East Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

East Belfast Network Centre
Tuesday, 28th March, 2017

Political Members	Independent Members
Alderman Tommy Sandford (Chair) Councillor Sonia Copeland Councillor Aileen Graham Councillor Deirdre Hargey Councillor Mairead O'Donnell	Jonathan Currie (Vice-Chair) Michelle Bryans David Geddis Lisa McMaster
Designated Organisations	
Yvonne Cowan, H&SCT Jane Lappin, PBNI Alison Methven, NIHE	Chief Inspector David Moore, PSNI Michael Roberts, NIFRS Pauline Smart, EA
Staff Present	Apology
Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator Katharine McCrum, Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Carole Howard

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and noted the apology provided. He reminded Members that the Vice-Chair would be chairing the meeting as it had been scheduled as an informal meeting.

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. In relation to actions from previous DPCSP Meeting, the Safer City Coordinator advised that;
 - Information on the Citywide Schools Project was provided,
 - Information on the Bonfire Programme had been provided and an Officer would attend a future meeting of the DPCSP if requested,
 - A meeting regarding the Titanic PACT had been scheduled and it was hoped that the group would meet again in April/May,
 - Monitoring visits carried out by Members would commence in April and project evaluations would be provided to Members once received.

- ii. Minutes of the East Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting held on 22nd February, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
Proposed: Lisa McMaster
Seconded: David Geddis

4. Updates from Statutory Partners

Probation Board NI

- i. Jane Lappin advised that the Graffiti Bus was now operational and should be visible on the streets.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator agreed to obtain and circulate information about if and how the bus could be booked.

Education Authority

- iii. Pauline Smart provided an update on funding within the Education Authority. She advised that funding for extended youth provision had not been secured and so staff would not be in place after 31st March however existing staffing would be reconfigured to cover these hours.
- iv. It was agreed that the DPCSP would write to the Education Minister to highlight the impact that uncertainty of funding for youth provision was likely to have on anti-social behaviour levels.
- v. Members were advised that the East Belfast Youth Awards would be held on 8th April between 7pm-10pm in Connswater Community Centre with all DPCSP Members invited to attend. Safer City Coordinator agreed to circulate an invitation once received from the Education Authority.

Bonfires

- vi. Several Members noted their thanks to those involved in the work undertaken at the Connswater Greenway in order to remove the bonfire materials that had been collected.

Drugs and Alcohol

- vii. The Vice-Chair advised Members that the East Belfast Drug and Alcohol Forum would meet on 31st March to discuss the outcomes of 'The New Normal' discussions, all DPCSP Members were invited to attend.

5. East Belfast DPCSP 2016/2017 Action Plan Progress Report

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that an update on the delivery of the 2016/2017 East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan was contained within the papers. He advised that an underspend of £2,500 had been identified and asked Members to approve reallocation of this underspend towards the Citywide Schools Programme.
- ii. A Member advised that the East Belfast Area project had not received their monitoring and evaluation forms to which the Safer City Coordinator advised that he would arrange for them to be sent as soon as possible.

- iii. Members noted the contents of the report and agreed to allocate a further £2,500 towards the Citywide Schools Programme.

6. East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan 2017/2018

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that sub-groups had met during February and March to review the current Action Plan and agree on the continuation of a number projects. He also advised that PCSP Members had held co-design workshops in order to develop their 2017/2018 Action Plan and agree on common language and themes to run throughout each of the (D)PCSP Action Plans.
- ii. Members were further advised that while the Joint Committee had suggested that 90% of the previous year's budget would be provided for 2017/2018, in the absence of a letter of offer, each (D)PCSP had been provided with a basic allocation of £37,800.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with a Draft 2017/2018 Action Plan and asked them to review the themes and projects and to approve the submission of the draft Plan to the Joint Committee by 31st March. Members were reminded that amendments could be made through the official change control process if required and comments could be fed into the current draft if received before the submission date.
- iv. Members noted the contents of the draft 2017/2018 Action Plan and agreed to provide any comments before 31st March at which point it would be submitted to the Joint Committee.
Proposed: Councillor Deirdre Hargey
Seconded: Councillor Sonia Copeland

7. Funding Allocation 2017/18

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided further detail on the budget allocation of £37,800 as discussed during the previous agenda item. He added that £20,000 had been allocated to Tranche 1 of the Small Grants and so while planning could continue, delivery of a number of projects would be delayed.
- ii. Members were further advised that an additional £20,000 of funding had been requested from the Council/PCSP in order to issue a quotation to continue with the Anti-Social Behaviour work which had begun during the current financial year.
- iii. Members noted the information provided.

8. Small Grants

- i. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members about the process involved in marking Small Grants and advised that the Member Panel had met on 16th March and approved funding for 5 of the 8 applications from East Belfast at a cost of £20,457.50.
- ii. Members were asked to consider providing an annual budget of £40,000 towards Small Grants which would provide a further £19,542.50 of funding for Tranche 2, subject to funding from the Joint Committee.
- iii. In response to a Members query as to whether feedback would be offered to those who were unsuccessful, the Safer City Coordinator confirmed that as well as feedback, work

could be done with groups in order to secure funding through other areas of the Action Plan if projects were suitable. He added that groups were often not successful in securing Small Grants funding because evidence of need had not been provided.

- iv. Members noted the report and approved the allocation of £40,000 towards Small Grants from within the East Belfast (D)PCSP 2017/2018 Action Plan.

9. Emerging Issues/Open Floor Discussion

- i. The Vice-Chair asked Members to focus discussions on areas related to the work of the DPCSP, notably crime, anti-social behaviour and confidence in policing. He noted that bonfire issues had taken up most of the previous meeting however much good work had since been achieved.

Bonfires

- ii. Members reiterated their thanks to those involved in the removal of bonfire materials at the Connswater Greenway site and noted that the community were beginning to comment on the positive change in the area. The Safer City Coordinator added that many local people had been passing the area during the clean-up and had all welcomed the removal of the bonfire materials. In response to a query, he advised that he was not aware of the bonfire moving to an alternative site.
- iii. With regards to the bonfire at Walkway Community Centre, Members were advised that some material had been removed and organisers had informed officers that a bonfire would go ahead but at a restricted height and that there would be no collection of materials before June.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with information on the Council's Bonfire Cultural Expression Programme and encouraged Members to promote it within their communities. He also advised that there was the opportunity to engage with groups not on the Programme through the DPCSP Action Plan, however they would need to be careful to not provide an alternative source of funding for those not engaging with the Council Programme.

Scramblers and Bikes in Parks

- v. In response to a query regarding the progress of the off-road vehicle signage project, the Safer City Coordinator advised that the signs had been erected however evidence for each of the sites was still to be provided and could be circulated once provided. It was noted that signs had not been placed on the Greenway and in certain areas of parks so as not to clutter or create a negative image of community spaces.

DPCSP Identify and Promotion

- vi. Members discussed the promotion of the DPCSP as a funder of positive community work and how the DPCSP brand could be further developed. It was suggested that this should be a focus for the year ahead. The Safer City Coordinator noted that the Outcomes Based Accountability approach towards to the Action Plan should help with evidencing the impact of DPCSP work and advised that an East Belfast DPCSP project had been used as a best practice example at the PCSP Conference in March.

Belfast Agenda

- vii. Members were advised that the deadline for responding to the Belfast Agenda Consultation had been extended and were encouraged to submit a response.

10. Date of Next Meeting

- i. The Vice-Chair reminded Members that the next meeting on the DPCSP would be on Wednesday, 26th April.