

Minutes of the North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Conor Room, City Hall
Wednesday, 26th October 2016

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Mary Ellen Campbell Councillor Mary Clarke Alderman Patrick Convery Alderman Guy Spence	Jennifer Cornell (Vice-Chair) Michael Murray Catherine Patrick
Designated Organisations	
Harry Bradley, YJA Chief Inspector Steven Burns Malachy McKinney, NIHE	Inspector Kelly Moore, PSNI Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT
Staff Present	Apologies
Alison Allen, Safer City Manager Richard McLernon, Safer City Coordinator Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Nuala McAllister (Chair) Alderman Gareth McKee Gerald Solinas Mark McBride, EA Mark Nicholson, PBNI

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and noted the apologies provided.

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. No declarations were provided at the outset of the meeting.

3. Minutes/Matters Arising

- i. The Safer City Coordinator recapped on the actions from the previous meetings of the North Belfast DPCSP noting that:
 - Invitation to be circulated to Designate Members to attend future Policing Committee Meetings;
 - A paper on the Youth Conference had been deferred until the next DPCSP Meeting;
 - A meeting had been scheduled to progress an online safety project and an update would be provided at the next DPCSP Meeting; and,
 - A date for the intercommunity communication project had been scheduled for 8th November. Invite had been circulated to Members.

- ii. Minutes of the North Belfast DPCSP Private held on 31st August and Public Meetings held on 4th October, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
- iii. The Vice Chair advised Members that Mark Nicholson had changed role within the Probation Board for Northern Ireland and therefore would no longer be attending North Belfast DPCSP Meeting's. Members requested for a letter to be forwarded to Mark to thank him for his attendance and contribution to North Belfast DPCSP.

4. Presentation on Body Worn Cameras

(Chief Inspector Rachel Shields, Chief Inspector Gary Smyth and Inspector Paul Jackson attended in relation to this item)

- i. Chief Inspector Gary Smyth provided Members with information on the PSNI's Body Worn Video equipment which would be rolled out across Belfast in late 2016.
- ii. Members were advised that the devices were capable of continuous recording for 8 hours during both day/night-time conditions and that the information was securely transferred via a docking station to a media storage facility and then deleted if not required as part of an investigation.
- iii. Members were informed of the evaluation findings from their use in Scotland, and the privacy implications that had been addressed as part of the PSNI's use of the system. The Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) undertaken would also be published on the PSNI website.
- iv. Chief Inspector Smyth advised that trials showed that the public were reassured by the use of the cameras, and that the number of complaints against Officers reduced, however they were not a proven deterrent.
- v. Members raised the following queries in relation to the presentation:
 - a) Question: What are the consequences for PSNI Officers who do not switch the cameras on?
Answer: Chief Inspector Shields advised Members that this would be regarded as a non-compliant issue. She further commented that if the PSNI Officer had access to the tool that would assist them to gather evidence, they should utilise it. However, Chief Inspector Shields did highlight the importance of PSNI Officers using their discretion when using the body worn cameras.
 - b) Question: Does the PSNI Officer have to inform the member of the public that the body worn camera is turned on?
Answer: Chief Inspector Shields confirmed that the PSNI Officer has to inform the member of the public that the body worn camera is in use and is recording.

- c) Question: Is the identity of the person being recorded protected?
Answer: Chief Inspector Shield confirmed that a risk assessment approach was always taken and the PSNI Officer would never do anything to jeopardise a person's identity.
 - d) Question: Does the Police Ombudsman have access to the footage captured by the body worn cameras?
Answer: Yes.
 - e) Question: Can a member of the public request for the body worn camera to be turned on?
Answer: Yes, but the scenario may dictate whether the body worn camera is activated.
- vi. The Vice Chair thanked Chief Inspector Rachel Shields, Chief Inspector Gary Smyth and Inspector Paul Jackson for their attendance at the North Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting and for their very informative presentation on body worn cameras.

5. Chair's Update on the Belfast PCSP

- i. The Safer City Manager provided Members with an update from the previous PCSP Meeting. She advised that at the last meeting, Members of the PCSP had been presented with a RAG Rated (Red/Amber/Green) Progress Report from each of the DPCSPs in order to clearly show which projects were complete (green), which were currently being delivered (amber) and which had not commenced or were not at a developed stage (red).
- ii. She noted that this had identified large underspends across the Districts and that staff had since met with Chairs and Vice-Chairs to discuss the financial situation of each of the Partnerships. She added that the PCSP was requesting an update from each area on how they would be utilising their budget and warned that claw-back of unallocated spend would be possible if evidence was not produced before late November or early December.
- iii. The Vice Chair advised Members that she attended a meeting organised by the Joint Committee for Chairs and Vice Chairs of the (D)PCSP's on the 19th September. She informed Members that a report had been presented at the meeting providing a overview from outgoing Chairs/Vice Chairs perspectives on the functionality of the DPCSP's.

6. Members North Belfast Priorities and Emerging Issues

- i. A Member commented that following recent antisocial behaviour incidents in Girdwood, Marrowbone and Cavehill Country Park, Councillor McCusker had requested that a 'Use It, Don't Abuse It' Campaign be developed and implemented to address antisocial behaviour within the Ardoyne/Marrowbone area, with the potential to roll out to other areas of North Belfast. The Member requested that the DPCSP would support the development of banners and

leaflets to assist with the delivery of this campaign. Members welcomed this suggestion and agreed to support the development of banners and leaflets to support the Campaign up to the value of £1,000.

- ii. A Member advised that the Ulster Orchestra had funding available which community groups may avail off to help facilitate events within local parks. She commented that community groups might use this funding to try and encourage families to use the parks within North Belfast more.
- iii. Members requested the Safer City Coordinator to contact the Ulster Orchestra to obtain further information on the funding available.
- iv. David McComiskey, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service advised Members of the operational plan for the forthcoming Halloween celebrations. He asked Members to reiterate to the public the safe use of fireworks and the dangers that they impose.
- v. Harry Bradley, Youth Justice Agency advised Members that there are more repeat offenders involved in projects in North Belfast than any other district. He further advised Members that YJA had been directly linking with Northern Ireland Housing Executive in relation to the ASBO's.
- vi. Following a discussion, Members agreed to facilitate a single agenda meeting in December to discuss anti-social behaviour/reporting within North Belfast.

7. 2016/2017 North Belfast DPCSP Action Plan and Progress Report

- i. A Member commented that on reviewing the North Belfast DPCSP Action Plan 2016/2017, a substantial amount of funding still remained uncommitted/spent.
- ii. The Safer City Manager advised Members that North Belfast DPCSP have a total of £118k to allocate to the delivery of projects in 2016/2017.
- iii. A Member asked how where groups identified to deliver projects. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a range of groups had been identified who could deliver the services required within North Belfast. The Safer City Coordinator invited Members to identify any new groups who could be approached to deliver services within North Belfast.
- iv. A Member highlighted his concerns regarding how groups are identified to deliver services within North Belfast. He commented that best practice would involve a process whereby groups would apply to an open application process for funding.
- v. The Safer City Manager advised Members of the procurement procedures that Council implement and adhere too. She further advised that where any required services had a budget of £3,000 or over, that this service would go out to tender. She reassured Members that when an organisation had been identified by an Officer to lead on a project, that the Officer would present to her a rationale to as

why the organisation identified would be best placed to deliver the service that had been required.

- vi. A Member asked how new organisations that are not known to the Partnership get the opportunity to avail of funding. The Safer City Coordinator commented that Council Officers know the majority of organisations that operate within North Belfast and if any new organisations emerge, Officers would rely on Members/Partners to inform them about new organisations within the area.
- vii. The Safer City Manager provided Members with an overview of how services are commissioned and the safeguards Council have in place to ensure that all services procured are managed correctly. She also advised Members of internal audit procedures.
- viii. Following a discussion, a Member requested for a copy of the paper presented to DPCSP's detailing how services are commissioned to be circulated to the Partnership.
- ix. A Member suggested for Councils website to be utilised more to advertise information regarding possible funding opportunities and the work of North Belfast DPCSP. Members noted and welcomed this suggestion.
- x. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members on the delivery of the 2016/2017 Action Plan and the associated budget spend against each Strategic Priority

Strategic Priority 1:

- Members agreed to defer discussing the allocation of the requested budget of £3,000 within PR and Communication to the North Belfast DPCSP Meeting in December;

Strategic Priority 2:

- A Member highlighted her concerns regarding the budget allocated to Small Grants as the budget had not been utilised fully. The Safer City Coordinator advised that in order for an application to receive funding, it had to meet the agreed criteria set by Council. He further advised Members that Officers are available to work with low capacity groups to assist the completion of funding applications.

8. North Belfast DPCSP Domestic Violence Initiative

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Partnership agreed previously to allocate £10,000 to a Domestic Violence quotation. He informed Members that it would be proposed to use the existing budget to fund the following activity:
 - Development of an Action Plan to address Domestic Violence in North Belfast – up to £3,000;
 - Local awareness raising and information sessions across North Belfast – up to £5,000; and,
 - Safe Church Pilot – up to £2,000.

- ii. He further requested for Members to agree the allocation of additional spend to the following projects:
 - Additional Spend – Crimestoppers Campaign – up to £5,000 (This project would be an extension of the previously run domestic violence campaigns within North Belfast);
 - Additional Spend – Mens Advisory Partnership – up to £3,000 (The Safer City Coordinator advised Members North Belfast DPCSP has been approached by the Mens Advisory Partnership with a request for support for the ongoing work they undertake in North Belfast. This would include promotional materials and equipment).
- iii. Members noted the report and approved the allocated the requested funding to get of the detailed project proposal.

8a. Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse (Safe Churches)

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of the Domestic, Sexual Violence and Abuse (Safe Churches) – Project Proposal.
- ii. He advised Members that the project proposal would be delivered by Onus and the total amount of funding requested to deliver for the project had been £1,120.
- iii. Members noted the project proposal and agreed to allocate £1,120 to the delivery of the project.

9. North Belfast DPCSP Suicide Prevention Initiative

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the North Belfast DPCSP Action Plan identified suicide prevention as a priority.
- ii. He advised Members that in order to continue North Belfast DPCSP's support for work to address suicide prevention in North Belfast it is proposed to issue a quotation for the procurement of an organisation or partnership of organisations that will coordinate the development of an action plan to promote suicide prevention in North Belfast.
- iii. He further advised Members that the specification would include the delivery of wellbeing and awareness raising events across North Belfast. The specification would include the delivery of 20 sessions of suicide prevention training to groups across North Belfast who represent a cross section of those affected by suicide.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator proposed to allocate £20,000 of the Emerging Issues Budget towards the North Belfast Suicide Prevention Initiative.
- v. Members noted the request and agreed to allocate £20,000 to the delivery of the project.

10. North Belfast DPCSP Drugs and Substance Misuse Initiative

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the North Belfast DPCSP Action Plan identified drugs and substance misuse as a priority.
- ii. He advised Members that following numerous meetings with key representatives from agencies, he proposed that a quotation is developed to commission services in relation to addressing drugs and substance misuse in North Belfast.
- iii. A Member requested for checks to be conducted to ensure that no duplication is completed in relation to the services that are procured.
- iv. Following a discussion, Members agreed to approve the issuing of a quotation to commission services in relation to addressing drugs and substance misuse in North Belfast up to the value of £10,000.

11. North Belfast DPCSP Hate Crime Initiatives

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the North Belfast DPCSP Action Plan identified hate crime and cohesion as a priority.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Hate Crime Working Group regularly review progress against a Hate Crime Plan for North Belfast. The Safer City Coordinator recommended that up to £6,000 be allocated to the rollout of the No Hate Here Campaign, which had launched successfully in the Houben Centre with the Justice Minister, two Junior Ministers, and Chair of the NI Policing Board in attendance. A further £3,000 was recommended to be allocated to the development of the North Belfast Friendship Club.
- iii. Following a discussion, Members agreed to allocate the requested funding to the delivery of hate crime initiatives.

11a. Exploring Identity and Change Project

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of the Exploring Identity and Change – Project Proposal.
- ii. He advised Members that the project proposal requested a total of £2,725 to deliver for the project.
- iii. Members noted the project proposal and agreed to allocate £2,725 to the delivery of the project.

12. North Belfast DPCSP Small Grants

- i. The Safer City Coordinator presented to Members a report on the Autumn Small Grants (October 2016-March 2017).

- ii. He advised Members that North Belfast DPCSP had allocated £20,000 to Small Grants 2016/2017. He informed Members that a total of £8,790.50 from the overall budget had been allocated to the delivery of projects.
- iii. He asked Members to note that a total of £8,000 from the remaining budget within Small Grants 2016/2017 had been reallocated to the Domestic Violence element of the North Belfast DPCSP Action Plan.
- iv. Members noted the content of the report.

13. North Belfast DPCSP Equality Scheme and Disability Action Plan

- i. The Safer City Coordinator presented to Members the North Belfast DPCSP Equality Scheme and Disability Action Plan.
- ii. He advised Members that Sinn Fein Elected Representatives had collectively raised some points for consideration across the Partnerships around two points:
 - a. They support the Equality Coalition's recommendation that public authorities remove the following good relations 'impact' question from screening: 'To what extent is the policy likely to impact good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?';
 - b. They support the Equality Coalition's recommendation that the screening question on consideration of steps to better promote good relations be maintained, but qualified to be exercised without prejudice to the equality limb of the duty, as intended by the legislation.
- iii. Members noted the points raised by Sinn Fein.
- iv. A Member requested if any further amendments are made to either the Equality Scheme or Disability Action Plan that they are brought to the Partnership for review. The Safer City Coordinator confirmed that that the Partnership would be informed of any changes to either the Equality Scheme or Disability Action Plan.

14. Date of Next Meetings

- i. Members noted that the next North Belfast DPCSP Meeting would be held on Wednesday 23rd November.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Meeting would be a Public Meeting and the venue would be confirmed in due course.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator requested for Members to grant delegated authority to support the spend of the DPCSP Action Plan 2016/2017. He advised Members that all spend would be agreed through the Chair and Vice Chair.
- iv. The Vice Chair commented that given the concerns highlighted by Members regarding budget spend to date, recommended that a working group be

convened to review any additional spend. Members agreed to this recommendation.