

Minutes of the West Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Conor Room, City Hall
Monday, 20th February, 2017

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Brian Heading (Chair)	Breige Brownlee (Vice Chair)
	Claire Canavan
	Liz Groves
Statutory Designated Organisations	
Sharon Beattie, NIHE	Carol Carville, PBNI
Chief Inspector Norman Haslett, PSNI	Patricia Muldoon, YJA
Inspector Mike White, PSNI	
Locally Designated Organisations	
Michael George, Colin Neighbourhood Partnership	Karol McKee, Upper Springfield C. Safety Forum
Staff Present	Apologies
Alan Wardle, Safer City Co-ordinator	Councillor Matt Garrett
Rachel Fulton, Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Stephen Magennis
Denise Smith, Safer City Co-Ordinator	Paula Kerr, Upper Falls Community Safety Forum
	Eoin McShane

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the Meeting and noted the apologies provided.

2. Declarations of Interest

- 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 noted.

3. West Belfast DPCSP Minutes & Matters Arising

- i. The minutes of the Private Meeting held on 20th January, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
Proposed: Breige Brownlee
Seconded: Sharon Beattie
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update on the actions required from the previous meetings:

Action	Update
Safer City Coordinator to provide clarity on underspends from (D)PCSP being allocated for Lenadoon project	No additional underspends to be allocated to West Belfast DPCSP

Safer City Coordinator to provide project details at next meeting for proposed quotation exercises	SCC to circulate draft project briefs for four quotations and circulate for comment
Safer City Coordinator to draft letter to family of 72 year old individual who was attacked	SCC drafted letter and is sending once address is confirmed by Councillor Garrett
Safer City Coordinator to provide an update report from PCSP in regard to their drugs strategy, particularly in regard to heroin.	SCC presented on PCSP drugs strategy
NIFRS to provide update on Fire Investigation on Stewartstown Road	NIFRS unavailable

4. PCSP Drug Strategy Update

- i. The Safer City Co-ordinator - Belfast PCSP presented an update to members on the on-going strategy for drugs city-wide. She provided detail on the ' Drug Dealers Don't Care' campaign in 2016 which focused on three main elements:
 1. Enforcement
 2. Education/Awareness
 3. Reporting
- ii. She advised that these elements will continue to be a priority in the 2017/18 campaign, adding that there will be an extensive four week advertisement campaign, considering poly drug misuse.
- iii. The safer city co-ordinator further advised members that the launch of the Drug Dealers Don't Care Campaign will take place on 28th February in City Hall and invites would be circulated in due course.
- iv. She added that there would also be drug awareness raising sessions taking place across the city with representation from PSNI, Public Health Agency and Council.
- v. In relation to drug use, the safer city co-ordinator reported to members that there has been engagement with hostels throughout the City and have currently funded four organisations to support staff in dealing with incidents. She further advised that there is on-going communication with Belfast City Centre Management in relation to safe disposal training for retail staff, in which 25 individuals have come forward to receive the training.
- vi. The safer city co-ordinator introduced Kelly Gilliland, PHA who informed members of various programmes and support services that are available in relation to drugs. She advised that there have been issues with accessing addiction services and breaches of 9 weeks are occurring.
- vii. Kelly Gilliland highlighted that a key priority in relation to drugs is cleansing and safe disposal. She added that there are two drug disposal bins in each trust area.
- viii. Chief Inspector Norman Haslett questioned the statistics and success rate of the disposal bins in the west Belfast area as reports had suggested a nil return rate.
- ix. Kelly Gilliland advised that there are issues with data recording in relation to this. She stated that a model has been created and will be piloted in March, of desk bound connection providers within the PSNI and PHA to get consistent breakdown and regular data recordings of drug disposal bins across the City.

- x. The Chair requested an update on this progress to which Kelly agreed to provide in the April meeting.
- xi. The safer city co-ordinator advised members that as a result of locality planning in there is potential for two additional bins in West Belfast.
- xii. The Chair thanked Denise Smith, Safer City Co-ordinator and Kelly, Gilliland PHA.

5. Small Grants Report

- xiii. The safer city co-ordinator discussed on-going success of West Belfast in obtaining small grants funding. He proposed that going forward members agree to the allocation of £20,000 to summer small grants tranche and £20,000 to autumn small grants tranche.
- xiv. Members agreed to this allocation of monies.
Proposed: Breige Brownlee
Seconded: Claire Canavan
- xv. The safer city co-ordinator further advised members that a small grants verification panel is required to meet, with delegated authority and requested volunteers. He stated that the panel would be convening on 14/15 March. Councillor Heading, Liz Groves, Claire Canavan and Sharon Beattie provisionally volunteered.
- xvi. The safer city co-ordinator agreed to circulate request to all members and confirm panel members in due course.

6. Chair's Update from PCSP

- xvii. The Chair advised Members that at the last Belfast PCSP Meeting, a presentation had been given by the PSNI, Public Protection Branch. It was agreed that the presentation be circulated to members for information.
- xviii. The Chair also provided members of a brief document from researcher, Dr Kathryn Higgins, titled 'The Challenge of Young Lives Affected By Drugs And Alcohol' and requested the permission of members to invite Dr Higgins to next meeting to discuss her research.
- xix. Members agreed to invite Dr Higgins to the next DPCSP in March/April.

7. Statutory Partner Update

YJA

- i. Patricia Muldoon updated members on continuing issues around paramilitary threats and shootings. She stated that YJA are working closely with PSNI and youth to provide support to individuals and their families.
- ii. She advised members that early intervention transformation 'mind games' play had been very successful and thanked those who attended.
- iii. Patricia Muldoon informed members that a new play 'Cuss the world' is being rolled out, with a purpose of highlighting the dangers of getting into trouble.

PBNI

- iv. Carol Carville informed members of issues surrounding on-going community shootings. She reiterated that priority is supporting and ensuring safety of individuals.
- v. She added that drug mis-use is also a key concern, particularly Heroin use and raised her concerns around the lack of available support services and the waiting lists to access such services.

NIHE

- vi. Sharon Beattie updated members on the Building Successful Community Programme, acting as the main catalyst for local regeneration. She added the pilot area concerning West Belfast is Lower Falls.
- vii. She also added that there is an on-going organisational restructure.

PSNI

- viii. Chief Inspector Norman Haslett informed members of paramilitary attacks, stating that there is an increase of PSNI footprint in West Belfast. He further added that the challenge is getting public to report incidents and welcomed community leaders to come forward in media to condemn attacks going forward.
- ix. In relation to drugs, Chief Inspector Haslett commented that prescription drugs, mixed with alcohol are a huge issue and require health services support in order to control and combat the issue.

Other

- x. A discussion took place regarding the public response to the off road vehicle mis-use signage and the campaign itself. Members were shocked at response and condemned any threats to individuals in relation to the campaign.
- xi. The Chair commended the actions of Michael George in relation to publicly condemning the negative response.
- xii. Chief Inspector Norman Haslett also welcomed the actions of Michael George and alluded to the good news stories in West Belfast
- xiii. The Chair discussed an initiative that the Partnership supported in the last financial year and requested that members agree to the continuation of supporting the Internet safety programme into the next financial year, as feedback from all schools involved had been very positive.
- xiv. Members agreed to continue funding this initiative in the next financial year.

8. Action Plan Update

- i. The Safer City Co-ordinator provided Members with an update on the delivery and financial spend against the West Belfast DPCSP Action Plan 2016/2017.
- ii. He advised Members that there are no issues fulfilling expenditure.

9. Emerging Issues

- iii. Chief Inspector Norman Haslett informed members that he would be taking up a new role within the PSNI as Superintendent for operations. He advised members that his successor would be Inspector Kelly McMillen and thanked the partnership for their work and all good working relationships with individuals throughout his time.
- iv. All members thanked Chief Inspector Haslett for his hard work and wished him every success in his new role.

10. Date of Next Meeting

- i. The Safer City Co-ordinator advised Members that the next meeting of the West Belfast DPCSP would be a public meeting on Monday, 20th March, 2017.