

Minutes of the North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Lavery Room, City Hall
Wednesday, 31st May, 2017

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Mary Clarke Alderman Guy Spence	Jennifer Cornell (Vice-Chair) Michael Murray Gerard O'Reilly Gerald Solinas
Designated Organisations	
Harry Bradley, YJA Inspector Laura Kelly, PSNI Inspector Paul Noble, PSNI	David McComiskey, NIFRS Malachy McKinney, NIHE Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT
Staff Present	Apologies
Richard McLernon, Safer City Coordinator Rachel Fulton, Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Mary Ellen Campbell Chief Inspector Steven Burns, PSNI Janet McClinton, PBNI Councillor Nuala McAllister(Chair)

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.
- ii. The Vice-Chair declared an interest in the Friendship Club.

3. Minutes/Matters Arising

- iii. Minutes of the North Belfast DPCSP Private held on 22nd March, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator recapped on the actions from previous meetings of the North Belfast DPCSP noting that:

Action	Update	By Whom
Further information on the Education Authority Youth Conference is to be circulated via email.	Completed	Education Authority
A meeting is to be scheduled between a local committee in Lower Castle who are dealing with drug related issues and DPCSP staff.	To be arranged	Safer City Coordinator
The Safer City Co-ordinator to seek clarification and approval of naming all members in meeting minutes.	To be discussed	Safer City Coordinator
The Safer City Co-ordinator agreed to seek clarification on a deputy attending principle PCSP meetings.	SCC to seek further clarification	Safer City Coordinator
Partnership to request a meeting with Education Authority to get clarity on funding issues.	SCC to email EA for clarification	Safer City Coordinator
Safer City Co-ordinator to send public meeting invitations to PPS, Judiciary, MLA's and National Crime Agency.	Completed	Safer City Coordinator
Safer City Co-ordinator to circulate notes from the public meeting to members.	Next Meeting	Safer City Coordinator
Information on the PCSP funded Extern project is to be circulated to Members when available.	To be circulated once available	Safer City Coordinator
Presentation regarding the NIHE Woodvale Peace Wall is to be provided at a future meeting.	Next Meeting	NIHE

- v. Jennifer Cornell proposed that all Members were named in meeting minutes.
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator advised that Members were not named for confidentiality purposes, however, stated that it was at the partnerships discretion if they wanted to be named.
- vii. After a lengthy discussion Members agreed to be named in meeting minutes.
- viii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members of a capacity building workshop in June

4. Members North Belfast Priorities and Emerging Issues

H&SCT

- i. Gabi Mornhinweg advised members of upcoming physical activity training in 2017/18 and agreed to circulate in PDF format to Members for their information.

Independent Member

- ii. Gerard O'Reilly, advised Members of numerous community safety and multi-agency meetings he had attended.
- iii. Mr O'Reilly advised that negative activity in interface areas was at a minimum and a lot of good work was on-going with young people in conjunction with PSNI.
- iv. He advised that applications from community groups may come forward for Policing grant funding, but raised his concerns around availability of Police Officers to engage in projects given current demand on officer time.
- v. Inspector Kelly commented that officers would be pushed to engage in such projects and she would ring-fence officers to enable such engagement.

Independent Member

- vi. Gerald Solinas advised members of ongoing work in Dunboyne area, commenting that a neighbourhood watch team had been set up, with new street lighting in place and an interface fence fixed.
- vii. He informed Members that there were increasing interface incidents, but commended help of PSNI in dealing with such issues.

Elected Member

- viii. Alderman Guy Spence advised that drugs continued to be a significant issue and alluded to issues of transient youth in green spaces such as Grove Playing Fields and Alexandra Park, where over 100 youths were gathering.
- ix. He commended the PSNI on their work to date with this issue but stated that there was a clear capacity issue within North Belfast.
- x. Alderman Spence advised that there is a significant gap, with the loss of North Belfast Partnership Board, which could cause numerous issues in the future.

NIHE

- xi. Malachy McKinney updated members on issue of vulnerable individuals coming through their system and stated that a lot of work had been done to try and deal with the issue, in which they were seeing some positive results.
- xii. He advised of on-going issues with drugs and ASB particularly within multi-storey flats.

Youth Justice Agency

- xiii. Harry Bradley advised of a strong focus on early intervention initiatives. He stated that their schools programme had finished and feedback was extremely positive.
- xiv. Mr Bradley informed members that they had funded a play in the works to produce a play on 'cuss the world' which incorporated relevant drug, alcohol and ASB issues in Parks. He commented that the play was delivered to over 500 students across the City and welcomed the opportunity to support more initiatives such as these.

PSNI

- xv. Inspector Paul Noble stated that a lot of youths gathering are not involved in criminality and there is positive engagement between youths and neighbourhood teams.
- xvi. He advised that there is clear differentiation between drug user groups within parks, commenting that during the day criminal gangs seem to be the main issue and on evenings and weekends youths would be more visible.

NIFRS

- xvii. David McComiskey stated that calls were steady in the current period, but commented on a peak during recent good weather.
- xviii. He informed members that as of 1st June, crews would be out at bonfire sites carrying out usual inspections.

5. 2016/17 Action Plan Review

- i. The Safer City Co-ordinator provided last financial year's action plan alongside project evaluation documents for Members information.
- ii. Jennifer Cornell commented on the lack of options provided in the equality monitoring forms, particularly in the categories of marital status and religion. She requested if these could be amended.
- iii. The Safer City Co-ordinator agreed to raise the issue with management to make such amendments.

6. 2017/18 Action Plan Update

- i. Members noted the information within the Action Plan and agreed on the content.

7. PCSP Funding Model

- i. The Safer City Co-ordinator informed members that the report was for their information, advising that the PCSP had agreed to authorise the release of funding to DPCSPs in staged payments upon written request at its monthly meetings.
- ii. Members noted the contents of the report.

8. Audit and Governance Arrangements

- i. The Safer City Coordinator drew Members attention to the audit and governance arrangements in place for the Belfast PCSP and DPCSPs.
- ii. Members noted the contents of the report and supported its implementation.

9. Unwanted August Bonfires

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members to note contents of the report, stating that Belfast PCSP had agreed that each DPCSP would match fund any identified groups to a sum of £500.
- ii. He advised that in the past 2 groups were funded which would mean the funding of £1,000 from the partnership.
- iii. Members agreed and noted the contents of the report.

10. Hate Crime 2017/18 Update

- i. The Safer city co-ordinator advised that the initiative had been launched last year, in which the Migrant Centre NI were tasked with developing a plan for its progression in consultation with the working group and other relevant stakeholders.
- ii. Members were asked to approve the expenditure of up to £1,000 on the development of a No Hate Here action plan, to be undertaken by the Migrant Centre NI and a further £1,000 on the Extension of the North Belfast Friendship Club.
- iii. After a lengthy discussion members rejected the proposal in relation to the no hate here action plan and agreed to bring them back to the no hate here working group for further discussion.

11. ASB Project Proposal

- i. The Safer City Co-ordinator asked members to consider the contents of the report and to agree to the application of a quotation exercise equating to the sum of £25,000.
- ii. Members were made aware of the need for youth provision, diversionary/intervention projects in North Belfast to compliment ongoing initiatives in North Belfast.
- iii. Members approved sum of £25,000 and the application of a quotation exercise.

12. Dates of next Meetings

- i. The Safer City Co-ordinator advised Members that the next Partnership Meeting was a Public Meeting on 28th June.
- ii. Jennifer Cornell raised her concerns of holding such a meeting with short turnaround and proposed the postponement.

- iii. After a discussion Members agreed to postpone a public meeting until September and have the next Private meeting on the 28th June.

**North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership
Private Meeting – Wednesday, 22nd March 2017**

Actions

Action	Date Due	By Whom
Explore potential of amending project evaluation forms to include more options within 'marital status' and 'religion'.	Next Meeting	Safer City Coordinator
A meeting is to be scheduled between a local committee in Lower Castle who are dealing with drug related issues and DPCSP staff.	Next meeting	Safer City Coordinator/Alderman Spence
Meeting to be organised with ASCERT prior to beginning of work	Next Meeting	Safer City Coordinator
The Safer City Co-ordinator agreed to seek clarification on a deputy attending principle PCSP meetings.	Next Meeting	Safer City Coordinator
Email to be sent to Education Authority to get clarity on funding issues.	Next Meeting	Safer City Coordinator
Safer City Co-ordinator to send public meeting invitations to PPS, Judiciary, MLA's and National Crime Agency.	On-going	Safer City Coordinator
Breakdown of costs and debrief report on St Patrick's day operations to be provided.	Next Meeting	Safer City Coordinator/PSNI
Information on the PCSP funded Extern project is to be circulated to Members when available.	April, 2017	Safer City Manager
Presentation regarding the NIHE Woodvale Peace Wall and murals is to be provided at a future meeting.	Next Meeting	NIHE
Evaluation Report on friendship club to be circulated.	Next Meeting	Vice-Chair