

# Minutes of the North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

## Policing Committee Meeting

Lavery Room, City Hall  
Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2017

<b>Political Members</b>	<b>Independent Members</b>
Councillor Mary Ellen Campbell Alderman Guy Spence Alderman Frank McCoubrey Councillor Mary Clarke	Jennifer Cornell (Vice-Chair) Michael Murray Gerard O'Reilly Gerald Solinas Teena Patrick
<b>Designated Organisations</b>	
Harry Bradley, YJA Chief Inspector Steven Burns, PSNI Mark McBride, EA	David McComiskey, NIFRS Malachy McKinney, NIHE Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT
<b>Staff Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Richard McLernon, Safer City Coordinator Rachel Fulton, Partnership Support Officer	Janet McClinton, PBNI

### 1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair welcomed members to the meeting, noting 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. Jenny Cornell declared an interest in the Friendship Club.

### 3. Minutes and Matters Arising

- i. With regards to actions from the previous meeting, the Safer City Coordinator advised that;
  - There is ongoing discussion with PSNI with regards to visit to Tennent Street and it was agreed that Members would provide a suitable date within the coming week.
  - There had been issues getting the Chairs signature for letter to injured PSNI Officer, to which it was agreed that given the delay it would be more appropriate for a letter to be written offering ongoing support from the Partnership.
  - Safer City Coordinator advised that in relation to St Patricks Day Operational Costs and feedback; there had been an FOI put in and would seek permission to release this information to Partnership once available. He also advised that there was an internal briefing document that he would also seek permission to circulate.

- ii. The minutes of the North Belfast DPCSP Policing Committee held on 31<sup>st</sup> may, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.

#### **4. Update on Policing**

- i. Chief Inspector Stephen Burns updated the Members on the performance against the North Belfast District Policing Plan.
- ii. Members noted that:
  - a. There were reductions in overall crime and domestic motivated crime
  - b. There were increases in burglaries, particularly residential burglaries mainly due to residents leaving windows open. Chief Inspector Burns added that there had been an operation to reduce these numbers which proved successful.
  - c. There were also increases in drug seizures and arrests, which had been due to an increase in postal interceptions.
- iii. Members were provided with information in relation to initiatives involving Officers, Community Groups and Partner Agencies such as engaging with Polish Community in Tigers Bay, Dean Clarke Foundation and Shankill Extra Newspaper.
- iv. Chief Inspector Burns also advised that there would be a dedicated Officer to the area around UUU expansion with a view of combating ASB and general crime prevention. He also advised that a heat map had been produced which helped target specific ASB hotspot areas in North Belfast.
- v. It was agreed that the heat map would be circulated to all Members for information.
- vi. Members were also provided with information on initiatives and interventions that Officers were involved with, aimed at reducing harm by caused by drugs, such as One Pill Can Kill campaign, drug workshops and education and programming with staff at DePaul Stella Maris Homeless Hostel.
- vii. In relation to Drug arrests, Members noted various incidents of seizures detailing estimated value costs.
- viii. A discussion took place around issues with PSNI attending incidents in Mater Hospital, to which Chief Inspector Burns advised that it was a Catch 22 situation as Officers had to attend such incidents otherwise situations could escalate causing more Officers to be detailed to the area.
- ix. Gerald Solinas raised his concerns regarding illegal raves in the Hillview area to which 500 young people were gathering in a warehouse at an interface.
- x. Chief Inspector Burns advised that he was aware of the situation, had met with the organiser and assured Members that a planned event within the next month would not be taking place until appropriate licenses are sought.

- xi. In relation to concerns regarding drug taking within shopping centres and various other areas, Gerard O'Reilly questioned whether PSNI have provided advice to security staff on dealing with the issue.
- xii. Chief Inspector Burns stated that advice from PSNI Officers is given to security staff, more so from The Neighbourhood Team.
- xiii. Alderman Frank McCoubrey raised his concerns in relation to drugs and questioned if there could be a breakdown of seizures provided as well as any intelligence on criminal gangs.
- xiv. Chief Inspector Burns advised that he would provide a breakdown of drug seizures at the next meeting. In relation to intelligence on criminal gangs, he stated that there was a C1 organised crime team that deals with local and international gangs and that they were on PSNI radar.
- xv. In relation to a question from Alderman Guy Spence regarding if the value of amounts of drugs seized was increasing, Chief Inspector Burns agreed to find out figures and bring back to the Partnership at the next meeting.
- xvi. Teena Patrick raised her concerns about CCTV cameras not working at Workman's Avenue gate, to which the Chief Inspector commented that he had not been made aware of any issues, but would look into it and provide an update.

**5. Date of Next Meeting**

- i. Members were reminded that the next Policing Committee Meeting would be held on Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> May.

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Policing Committee – Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2017**

**Actions**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Date Due</b>	<b>By Whom</b>
A letter to be sent to injured PSNI Officer offering ongoing support from Partnership.	Next Meeting	Safer City Coordinator
Chair/Vice Chair to agree date to visit Tennent Street Station and circulate	Next Meeting	Safer City Coordinator & Chair/Vice Chair
Permission to release internal briefing document and FOI in relation to overall cost of St Patricks Day operation to be sought	Next Meeting	Safer City Coordinator
ASB Heat Map to be circulated to Members	Next Meeting	Partnership Support Officer

PSNI to provide breakdown of drug seizures	Next Meeting	PSNI
PSNI to provide figures in relation to value amounts of drugs seized	Next Meeting	PSNI
PSNI to follow up on any issues regarding CCTV cameras at Workman's Gate	ASAP	PSNI