

Minutes of the Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Lavery Room, City Hall
Monday 12th June, 2017

Political Members

Councillor John Hussey (Chair)
Councillor Matt Garrett
Councillor Brian Heading
Councillor JJ Magee
Councillor Geraldine McAteer
Alderman Jim Rodgers
Alderman Tommy Sandford

Independent Members

Susan Russam (Vice-Chair)
Debbie Hammill
Mary Lambe
Carmel McKinney
Michael O'Hara

Designated Organisations

Chris Fee, NIFRS
Liz Arthur, PBNI
Patricia Muldoon, YJA
Helen Russell, NIHE
Chief Superintendent Chris Noble, PSNI

Staff Present

Denise Smith, Safer City Coordinator
Rachel Fulton, Partnership Support Officer

Apologies

John MacVicar
Councillor Janice Austin

1. Welcome and Apologies

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

2. Declarations of Interest

- i. The Chair advised Members that they were required to declare any material interests that they may have in relation to any items on the agenda.

3. Presentation- Belfast Drug and Alcohol Coordination Team

(Kelly Gilliland and Seamus Mullen, PHA attended in relation to this item).

- i. In relation to BDACT Seamus Mullen provided Members with a presentation which outlined the role of DACTS, their Membership consisting of statutory, community and voluntary organisations as well as the key priority areas for 17/18.
- ii. The four key priority areas were outlined as; injecting drug use, polydrug misuse, vulnerable young people and future search. Members were also informed of an increased focus on adults and young people with complex needs, with two pilot schemes namely; Street Triage and Integrated Service Pilots, launching in the latter part of the year.
- iii. Members were informed that the Street Triage Pilot would provide a service to individuals on streets who were presenting social or emotional crisis. The pilot would include a team of 2 paramedics, 2 PSNI Officers and 1 psychiatric nurse.

- iv. In terms of The Integrated Crisis Service Pilot, Members were informed that this would provide individuals with a service to help them deescalate from a current situation on a one to one basis with qualified personnel.
- v. Members were then provided with information on DACT Connections, their role and regional events and initiatives detailed as follows:
 - Northern Ireland Alcohol Awareness Week (19th-25th June 2017)
 - Polydrug Misuse Campaign in partnership with NIADA (Sept/Oct 2017)
 - Dry January (2018)
 - Medicines Misuse Campaign (Ongoing)
 - RAPID (Ongoing)
- vi. Members were then shown valuable information and signposting resources that were available to them.
- vii. Ms Gilliland and Mr Mullen thanked Members for the opportunity to present and welcomed any questions.

Questions from Members

- viii. A Member questioned how many RAPID bins were located throughout the City, to which Kelly Gilliland advised that there were currently 10, with a view to increase that number.
- ix. Members were advised that the next phase of the roll out would be in West Belfast.
- x. A Member questioned if there were testing procedures in place to identify the types of drugs that were disposed of, to which Ms Gilliland stated that testing and data recording had been an issue, but approximately 80-90% of drugs were prescribed medication.
- xi. Members thanked Kelly Gilliland and Seamus Mullen for their presentation.

4. Minutes

- i. The minutes of the Belfast PCSP Meeting held on 15th May, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator advised that all actions from the previous meeting had been completed.

5. Chair's Update

- i. The Chair provided Members with the following update:
 - Joint Briefing taking place on 26th June at 7pm in Banqueting Hall, Belfast City Hall.

6. Update from Designated Partners

PBNI

- i. Liz Arthur advised that a Graffiti Service has been launched and is now operational. She advised that it would be operating in the Holylands of South Belfast in the first two weeks of July.
- ii. In relation to the Aspire Project, she advised Members that under Recommendation B12 of the Fresh Start agreement, PBNI were leading on an initiative that will target young men at risk of involvement or further involvement in paramilitary activity and associated criminality in partnership with statutory and non-statutory organisations.
- iii. Liz Arthur stated that a detailed presentation on the Aspire project would be provided at the next meeting.

NIHE

- iv. Helen Russell advised Members of positive partnership working between housing solutions team and Simon Community, leading to very successful interventions that are helping young singles to move on into independent living or help return to the family unit.
- v. She stated that a presentation could be provided to Members on this type of intervention at a future meeting.

NIFRS

- vi. Chris Fee advised Members that there has been a major reduction on the number of attacks on fire fighters, stating that there were 3 in May.
- vii. He thanked Members for their ongoing support in relation to this issue.

PSNI

- viii. Chief Superintendent Noble advised that a detailed summary would be provided at the policing committee meeting but informed Members that Operation Tanerg was proving to be very successful.
- ix. He also informed Members that Bonfire site inspections had taken place across the City, in partnership with statutory agencies, in response to the findings of toxic substances on sites.

7. 2016/2017 PCSP Action Plan- Final Progress Report and Monitoring Evaluation Reports

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with a final Progress Report for the PCSP which provided a breakdown of the delivery of projects detailed in the 2016/2017 PCSP Action Plan.

- ii. Members noted the contents of the report and supplementary monitoring and evaluation reports.

8. DPCSP Spend Update

- i. Members were provided with an update in relation to DPCSPs current budget spend and were asked to approve the release of additional monies detailed below:
 - 1. South Belfast DPCSP-£3,000
 - 2. East Belfast DPCSP-£26,950
 - 3. West Belfast DPCSP-£1,000
- ii. Members were also asked to grant delegate authority to Chairs/Vice-Chairs to approve projects that were currently going through due diligence processes and would be ready for approval within the next 2 weeks, prior to the beginning of the summer period.
- iii. Members granted delegated authority to Chairs/ Vice-Chairs to approve projects and approved the release of additional monies to South, East and West DPCSPs.
- iv. A Member raised their concerns around the governance processes, alluding specifically to the line 'monies released and due diligence not completed'.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator assured Members that no monies were released without due diligence processes being completed. It was agreed that an amendment to the text should be made to state 'Monies earmarked with due diligence not completed'.

9. Transient Youth Project

- vi. Members were reminded of three commissioned pieces of work in relation to the issues linked to 'Transient Youth' in the city.
- vii. The Safer City Coordinator provided detail on the pieces of work namely;
 - 1. **S3 Solutions**- commissioned to complete a process of engagement and consultation with organisations in Belfast that work with young people and would have knowledge or understanding of the issues surrounding 'Transient Youth'.
 - 2. **Active Communities Network**- commissioned to carry out a desk based analysis of existing best practice in regards to 'Transient Youth' across the UK. This piece will identify similar interventions and strategies to work with young people at various levels, particularly if it included multi-agency approaches.
 - 3. **Sport Changes Life** - commissioned to carry out work that would aim to engage with 'Transient Youth' identified at two hotspot areas, Lagan Towpath and Falls Park. Engagement focused on the reason that young people were congregating, how safe they felt and also establish their point of origin within the city.
- viii. Members were invited to form a working group to progress the recommendations from the work that had been commissioned. The Safer City Coordinator advised that the first

meeting would be organised for Monday 19th June and details would be circulated in the coming days.

- ix. Five Members stated their willingness to be part of the working group, namely;
 - 1. Susan Russam
 - 2. Michael O'Hara
 - 3. Debbie Hammill
 - 4. Patricia Muldoon
 - 5. Cllr Matt Garrett

10. Homelessness Strategy Project Proposal

- x. Members were reminded that the PCSP supported a unique project with Extern as part of its work to address Rough Sleeping Multi-Disciplinary Support to the sum of 10,000 in partnership with PHA.
- xi. The Safer City Coordinator advised that the project provided an opportunity for intense one on one work with those most vulnerable and in need as well as offering a 'strategic case conference/management' approach that brought about positive outcomes for those engaged in the project.
- xii. Members were also advised that project had been extremely innovative in its approach as many of the services working in the homeless field, struggle to get support for 'dual diagnosis' clients which prolongs the process of getting individuals into the proper support services. This project helps to address such issues by taking a 'dual diagnosis approach'.
- xiii. Members were asked to delegate authority to procure the services of a competent organisation to deliver the proposed model which would enable services to continue over the next financial year.
- xiv. Members granted delegated authority to Officers to procure the services of a competent organisation to deliver proposed model.

11. SHARPs Removal Contract Proposal

- i. Members granted delegated authority to Officers to procure the services of a competent organisation to deliver proposed model.

12. "Its still about the battle, not the bottle" Campaign Proposal

- i. At this point two Members declared an interest, Alderman Rodgers and Alderman Sandford, both of which left the meeting for the discussion.
- ii. Members were advised that a proposal had been submitted equating to £11,810. However, Members were reminded that funding of £10,000 had been agreed at the last partnership meeting towards the "It's still about the battle, not the bottle" campaign.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator asked Members to review Action Plan based on £10,000 that had been agreed previously and see where they wanted the monies to be drawn from.
- iv. After a brief discussion Members agreed that the Safer City Coordinator would review the Action Plan and decide where the monies would be taken from.

- v. A Member reinforced that a similar project proposal around attitudinal change throughout unwanted August Bonfires season is delivered.
- vi. Members noted this request.

13. Unwanted August Bonfires Proposal

- vii. The Safer City Coordinator advised that this would be dealt with under item 16.

14. UR Zone Cage Deployment

- i. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members of the PCSP resource that was purchased in 2014 through ARCS funding, with the intention of providing a multi-element mobile sports facility that would encourage young people to use “contested spaces” in a positive way through the medium of sport.
- ii. Members were advised that the cage was currently not in use and were asked to note the contents of the report and grant delegated authority to officers to explore and progress options for the permanent deployment of the cage and supporting dome.
- iii. Members were content to note the recommendations and allow officers to progress with potential options in relation to permanent deployment. However, Members raised their concerns that the cage was not being utilised and delivering upon its original objectives.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator stated that she would revisit original application and clarify objectives, detailing age profiles and outcomes of the initiative and provide a report to Members at the next partnership meeting.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator acknowledged the urgency in progressing the initiative and suggested that Members would be kept informed via email in relation to any developments made.
- vi. A Member raised their concerns regarding the lack of utilisation of the car simulator, to which the Safer City Coordinator stated a full report on its usage would be provided at the next meeting.

15. 2017/2018 PCSP Action Plan Progress Report

- i. Members were updated on the progress in relation to the delivery of the 2017/2018 PCSP Action Plan.
- ii. Members were reminded that the Action Plans had been coded using a traffic light system and outlined as follows:
 - Green – Spent, project completed
 - Amber – Project in delivery, letter of offer signed and req written
 - Purple – Project approved however delivery is not yet underway/include quotation exercises
 - Red – Monies have not been allocated or project not progressed
- iii. Members noted the information provided.

16. 2017/2018 DPCSP Action Plan Progress Reports

- iv. Members were updated on progress in relation to the delivery of the 2017/2018 DPCSP Action Plans and spend to date for each Partnership.
- v. A Member raised their concerns at the budget allocations given to each district, stating that an equal amount should be allocated to all DPCSPs.
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator advised that budget allocations for each DPCSP were agreed at the last meeting and were based on a proportional basis of (30%) basic allocation equally to all DPCSPs and then additional allocations based on (45%) population and (25%) deprivation.
- vii. Another Member highlighted her disapproval of the budget allocations to the DPCSPs.
- viii. A Member raised their concerns on why organisations outside of the Belfast City Council boundary are funded to deliver programmes. He stated that groups within the City struggle to obtain funding and sought further clarification on this.
- ix. The Safer City Coordinator advised that clarification would be sought from Central Grants in relation to the query.
- x. After a short discussion, Members then noted the content provided in the Action Plans.

17. (D)PCSP Audit and Governance Arrangements Report

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

18. Date of Next Meeting

- i. The Chair reminded Members that there would be a Joint Briefing on the 26th June at 7pm and the next meeting of the PCSP would be held on Monday, 14th August in the Conor Room, City Hall.

Belfast PCSP Meeting - Summary of Actions Private Meeting Monday, 12th June, 2017

Action Agreed	By When	By Whom
BDACT Action Plan to be circulated via email	14 th August	Safer City Coordinator
Identify within Action Plan where monies for Orangefest and similar proposal for unwanted August Bonfires to come from.	14 th August	Safer City Coordinator

Report to be provided on Car Simulator	14 th August	Safer City Coordinator
Chair/Vice Chair meeting to be organised in relation to project approvals	TBC	Partnership Support Officer
Transient Youth Sub-Group Meeting to be organised	19 th June	Partnership Support Officer
Proposals for SHARPS contractor to be completed	TBC	Safer City Coordinator
Procurement proposal on Homelessness strategy to be completed	TBC	Safer City Coordinator
Clarification from Central Grants Unit on why Groups from outside City Council boundaries are funded	14 th August	Safer City Coordinator
Legal to be consulted in relation to Cage Deployment	TBC	Safer City Manager/ Safer City Coordinator