

**Minutes of the South Belfast District Policing and Community Safety  
Partnership**

**Private Meeting**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017, 5.00pm  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, Cecil Ward Building, Belfast**

<b>Political Members</b>	<b>Independent Members</b>
Councillor Geraldine McAteer (Chair) Councillor Deirdre Hargey	Aleksandra Lojek-Magdziarz (VC) Michael Boyle Aidan Hughes Richard Kennedy Paul McDonnell
<b>Statutory Designated Bodies</b>	
Gary Ballantyne, NIHE Anita Duff, EA Christine Hunter, PBNI	Dermot Magorrian, YJA Chief Inspector Robert Murdie SC Micheal Roberts, NIFRS
<b>Belfast City Council Staff Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Suzanne Gowling Safer City Coordinator Rachel Fulton Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Jeffrey Dudgeon Councillor Lee Reynolds Councillor Declan Boyle Councillor Emmett McDonough-Brown Yvonne McKnight, H&SCT

**1. Welcome & Routine Matters**

- i. The Chair welcomed the Members to the South Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting and noted the apologies provided.
- ii. The Chair introduced Rachel Fulton as the new Partnership Support Officer.

**2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

- i. The Chair asked Members to declare any material interests which they may have in relation to any item of business to be considered during the meeting.
- ii. No conflict of interest declarations were noted.

**3. Chairs Update**

- i. The Chair advised Members of recent meetings that she attended regarding issues with ASB on Lagan Towpath and noted that it is a Belfast wide issue and needs to be dealt with as such.
- ii. The Chair further updated Members on positive projects that are being funded through the partnerships from attending Belfast PCSP Private Meeting and ASB Public meeting which had taken place on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January in partnership with Northern Ireland Policing Board.

- iii. The Chair also noted that there are concerns around St Patrick's Day taking place on a Friday this year which could turn into a three day celebration. She also noted that local residents groups are planning to hold a 'Spring Gathering Festival' similar to last year, which is yet to be confirmed.

#### **4. Minutes and Matters Arising**

- i. Anita Duff requested an amendment to the Minutes of the Private and Public Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2016 to state that she was present.
- ii. Following the amended request, the Minutes of the Private Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, copies of which were previously circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.  
Proposed: Councillor Deirdre Hargey  
Seconded: Richard Kennedy
- iii. Following the amended request, the Minutes of the Public Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, copies of which were previously circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.  
Proposed: Dermot Magorrian  
Seconded: Councillor Geraldine McAteer (Chair)
- iv. The Minutes of the Private Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016, copies of which were previously circulated, were agreed as correct.  
Proposed: Paul McDonnell  
Seconded: Michael Boyle
- v. The Safer City Coordinator updated Members that due to high levels of sickness absence many of the actions from the previous meeting had not been achieved, but gave assurances that they would be picked up.
- vi. Members determined that Cllr. Boyle should meet with South Belfast Partnership Board about the Wider University Area Consultation Report to have any of its specific queries answered.

#### **5. Action Plan Update**

- vii. The Safer City Coordinator presented an update to members on reallocating monies to certain projects.
- viii. SCC advised that African Caribbean Society of Northern Ireland (ACSONI) had been allocated a small grant of £4,280 which had not been paid because they had not submitted monitoring from previous grants on time.
- ix. She had sought a revised project proposal as there are only two months left for delivery, as such she suggested that £2,000 is made available to operate a

similar but scaled back project which includes a workshop on conflict management, personal development and leadership in partnership with PSNI and Young People's Safety Campaign.

- x. Members agreed to reissue a letter of offer for a £2,000 small grant to enable ACSONI to deliver an appropriate project before the end of March 2017.
- xi. SCC advised members that Belfast PCSP has determined that £6,500 of underspend would be allocated to Beat the Burglar Project with 650 packs to be distributed in South Belfast. She further commented that packs are to be allocated based on need and distribution will be monitored accordingly.
- xii. SCC further advised that the remaining amount of underspend will be allocated to an enhanced Drug Dealers Don't Care Campaign; which could amount to £5,000.
- xiii. Following a discussion, Members agreed to the reallocation of funding requested to support the delivery of the projects.
- xiv. The chair highlighted the importance of ensuring that groups that are given funding for projects are capable of delivering efficiently and effectively going forward.

## **6. Emerging Issues**

- i. SCC advised members that the Spring Gathering Festival Committee had requested support in funding security costs for their Spring Gathering Festival.
- ii. Members agreed to allocate up to £3,000 from the Support for St Patrick's Day line in the Action Plan, towards the security costs for the Spring Gathering, subject to confirmation from Wider University Area PACT.
- iii. A member highlighted an on-going issue with ASB and crime on Saturday nights in the Lower Ormeau area. She further commented about the need for an effective plan to engage with young people and stressed her concern about youth's first experiences with the PSNI as negative.
- iv. The member stated further that there are ideas in which to engage young people such as graffiti projects, however, the issue is getting young people to come to meetings in order to become involved in such activities.
- v. Chief Inspector Robert Murdie noted the members concerns around PSNI and young people first engagements. He advised that the public order unit assigned to the area are trying to soften their approach but there is a need for social guardians in the area to work in tangent with officers to make engagements more effective.
- vi. Anita Duff, EANI advised that the ongoing consultation with young people across south Belfast to identify their policing and community safety concerns

had received 184 questionnaire responses and facilitated 4 focus groups with local young people.

- vii. In order to start to address the young people's concerns South Belfast DPCSP's Policing Committee's Public Meeting in March would be targeted at young people from 14 – 18years and would start to address some of the identified concerns.
- viii. Chief Inspector Murdie commented that when resources are focused into the Lagan Walkway area, the result is young people moving into residential areas and the problem continues.
- ix. A member commended on-going work in Lagan walkway, but highlighted the need for greater PSNI response as residents do not know how to deal with the issue alone. She reiterated it is a city-wide issue and needs escalated.
- x. Following a discussion on the on-going issue with ASB in the Lagan Walkway, the Chair agreed to raise the issue at the next Belfast PCSP meeting, requesting a greater degree of civic leadership.
- xi. SCC updated members that the PCSP agreed to fund a transient youth programme, with the South Belfast focus area being along the Lagan Walkway.
- xii. The Chair commended the work of youth providers in South Belfast and was very supportive of their on-going work in the area.

## **7. Partner Updates**

- i. Dermot Magorrian, YJA advised members that 'Mind Games', a Spanner in the Works Theatre Company production was taking place on Monday, 30th January at 6pm in the Black Box, Belfast with all members invited to attend.
- ii. Christine Hunter, PBNI updated members on their draft Corporate Plan 2017-2020 which is being published following a consultation process of priorities going forward. Themes as a result of the consultation were noted as;
  - 1. Importance of communities, and working with them, to achieve a reduction in reoffending
  - 2. A greater focus on services for victims is required
  - 3. Mental health of offenders
  - 4. Cross departmental (not just agencies) cooperation
  - 5. The need for more innovative solutions to address crimes against the vulnerable.

**8. Date of Next Meeting**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the next South Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting will be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March.
- ii. SCC advised that the next public meeting will take place on 7th March 2017 at 7pm, following South Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting; it will link with the updated Drug Dealers Don't Care Campaign
- iii. The next Policing Committee Public Meeting will take place at RADAR and will focus addressing the policing and community safety issues of young people across south Belfast in an effort to improve relationships with PSNI.
- iv. The Chair thanked all for attending.

**South Belfast DPCSP Meeting - Summary of Actions**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017, 5.00pm  
Private Meeting**

<b>Actions to Follow Up</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>By Whom</b>
SCC to provide Members with NIFRS report on the attendance at bonfires	Date of Next Meeting	SCC
WUA Working Group to meet with Nigel Grimshaw	Tbc	SCC