

Minutes of the North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

9 Adelaide Street, Room AD1H
Thursday, 26th October, 2017

Political Members

Alderman Guy Spence
Councillor Mary Clarke

Independent Members

Jennifer Cornell (Vice-Chair)
Gerard O'Reilly

Designated Organisations

Chief Inspector Stephen Burns, PSNI
Inspector Kelly Moore
Janet McClinton, PBNI
SC Davy Harbinson, NIFRS
Inspector Paul Noble, PSNI

Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT
Harry Bradley, YJA
Malachy McKinney, NIHE
A Wilson, EA

Staff Present

Richard McLernon, Safer City Coordinator
Andy Claydon, Partnership Support Officer

Apologies

Councillor Paul McCusker
Councillor Mary Ellen Campbell
Gerald Solinas
Teena Patrick

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Vice Chair, Jenny Cornell, welcomed Members to the meeting and introduced guests, Gary McMichael from BDACT and Kelly Gilliland from PHA 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. No declarations of interest were made.

3. Minutes/Matters Arising

- i. Minutes of the North Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting which was held on 27th September, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
- ii. Jenny Cornell suggested that in future, both Independent and Political Members have their names underlined in the minutes of DPCSP meetings.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator asked Members to voice any objections to having their names recorded in the minutes. One Statutory Member declared their objection.

- iv. The Safer City Coordinator recapped on the actions from previous meetings of the North Belfast DPCSP noting that:

Action
The Safer City Co-ordinator reported no further clarification on deputisation at Belfast PCSP meetings.
The Safer City Coordinator has liaised with Michael McAvoy re. update on criminal gangs and paramilitarism.
Breakdown of hate crime incidents not yet complete
The e-mail re. small grants panel was circulated to Members and a panel established

4. Drugs and Substance Misuse Public Meeting Review

- i. The Safer City Coordinator outlined the report on the Drug and Substance Misuse public review and highlighting the initiatives undertaken by North DPCSP to address the issue.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator asked Members to agree to send a letter of thanks to each of the 4 panel members at the Girdwood Hub meeting. This was agreed by Members.
- iii. Councillor Guy Spence suggested the potential for a pilot scheme to introduce the use of NARCAN in North Belfast due to the increase of opioid addiction in the area.
- iv. Kelly Gilliland, PHA, asked Councillor Spence to contact Victoria Creasey regarding this issue as she is currently the lead on a similar project.
- v. CI Burns suggested that this would likely be a PSNI-wide decision, not just for the North of the city
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator informed the Partnership that this issue was of particular interest of the Chair of the North DPCSP, Councillor McCusker and suggested that it could be linked into Street Triage work.
- vii. Members discussed the recent North Belfast DPCSP Public Meeting, commenting on its success and the increased engagement from attendees. Highlighted were issues of service bottlenecks and the need to address identified problems at an earlier stage, however, it was also noted that currently systems do not exist to achieve this. It was suggested that the topic of Drugs and Alcohol is revisited at the next public meeting in March.

5. Domestic Violence presentation

- i. Jenny Cornell introduced Noelle Collins from the Belfast Area Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Partnership (BADSVAP)
- ii. Noelle Collins presented to the partnership, outlining the work done by the organisation. Members discussed the merits of the work, stressing the need for such work to be disseminated throughout mainstream education and highlighting how the nature of sexual and domestic abuses are changing, especially with the advent of social media.
- iii. Noelle Collins explained the organisations 2 funding requests, £3,500 to purchase emergency packs for use in North Belfast Refuge, and £7,791 to fund a scoping exercise on teen relationship violence.
- iv. Members discussed the notion of spreading awareness of sexual and domestic abuse into mainstream education.
- v. Noelle Collins thanked the Partnership for the opportunity to present
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator presented the proposals to Members:
 - ONUS NI Ltd, £5,880, Safe Churches
 - Belfast Area Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Partnership, £7,791, Scoping Project
 - Belfast Area Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Partnership, £3,500, Safety Pack Project
- vii. Members decided to take the documents away for further consideration before approving the funding requests via e-mail, with an agreement for the Safer City Coordinator to meet with the Chair and Vice Chair on the 3rd or 4th of November.
- viii. Inspector Paul Noble raised an issue regarding BADSVAP policy in their treatment of Males over 15, however, Members agreed to treat the issue as separate from their funding requests but to seek clarity on the issue which would be circulated by the Safer City Coordinator.

6. Members North Belfast Priorities and Emerging Issues

PSNI

- i. CI Burns raised the issue of Halloween and the use of Fireworks as a huge concern for both the PSNI and NIFRS.

NIFRS

- i. SC Davy Harbinson commented on the guidance that NIFRS have issued to the general public regarding Fireworks. SC Harbinson also clarified the NIFRS role in a recent gas explosion in the Ardoyne area.

EA

- i. Alan Wilson addressed an issue of job cuts, advising that there was no loss of service attached to the recent loss of 4 jobs as they had been attached to a scheme that had since ended.

NIHE

- i. Malachy McKinney reported an issue of prescription drugs being thrown from a block of flats into the playground of a Primary School which the Executive are attempting to resolve.
- ii. Malachy McKinney also commented on the potential of using a Pink Fluorescent light to address issues of transient youth which works by highlighting skin imperfections and is used in England to discourage youths from convening in residential areas.

7. 2017/18 DPCSP Action Plan Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator updated Members on the progress of the North DPCSP Action Plan.
- ii. Members were asked to grant delegated authority for projects under £3,000 in order to expedite the progress of smaller projects. The Safer City Coordinator suggested that a meeting would take place between himself and the Chair and Vice Chair to discuss each proposal which could also be circulated to Members for comment and allow 1 week for any Member feedback.
- iii. Members noted the contents of the update and agreed to grant delegated authority.

8. Hate Crime

- i. The Safer City Coordinator introduced the report on Hate Crime which outlines the growing issue of under reporting.
- ii. Members were informed of the need to nominate at least 2 people to attend a meeting on the 7th December to share current practice that is addressing Hate Crime and the Fear of hate crime. Nominees were to be confirmed by email.

9. Planning Process

- i. The Safer City Coordinator introduced the 5 scheduled OBA workshops that had been commissioned to assist the (D)PCSP's to develop their Action Plans. The topics for the 5 workshops are:
 - Building Confidence in Policing
 - Feeling Safer
 - Drugs and Alcohol
 - Anti Social Behaviour
 - Sexual and Domestic Violence
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator stressed the importance of Members attending as many of these workshops as possible.

10. Dates of next Meetings

- i. The next Meeting would be on Wednesday 29th November.
- ii. Members requested that future meetings be held in AD1H, 9 Adelaide St.