

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

## Private Meeting

East Belfast Network Centre  
Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2018

<b>Political Members</b>	<b>Independent Members</b>
Councillor Aileen Graham	Michelle Bryans (V Chair) Jonathan Currie Lisa McMaster Stephen McMillen
<b>Designated Organisations</b>	
Jane Lappin (PBNI) Pauline Smart (EA) Gary Ballantyne (NIHE)	Chief Inspector David Moore, PSNI Yvonne Cowan (H&SCT) Dermot Maggorian (YJ)
<b>Staff Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator Andy Claydon, Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Sonia Copeland Councillor Mairead O'Donnell Councillor Carole Howard Alderman Tommy Sandford Pauline Smart (EA)

### 1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Vice Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and noted the apologies provided. Apologies were received from Councillors Sonia Copeland, Mairead O'Donnell, Carole Howard and Pauline Smart.

### 2. Declaration of Interests

- i. Members were read the declaration of interest and reminded of its significance.
- ii. 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.
- iii. No declarations of interest were declared at the outset of the Meeting.

### 3. Approval of Minutes/Matters Arising

- i. The Safer City Coordinator outlined the actions emerging from the November meeting and updated Members on what had been done to address them.
- ii. Minutes were Proposed by L McMaster and Seconded by Cllr Graham

#### **4. Matters Arising**

- i. No Matters arising

#### **5. Chairs Update on PCSP**

- i. As neither the Chair, nor the Chair of the PCSP were present at the meeting, no update was given.

#### **6. Update from Statutory Partners**

##### **H&SCT**

- i. Yvonne Cowan mentioned the Domestic Violence workshop that she had attended earlier in the day and reminded Members of the Domestic Violence App, 'Haven', that had proven to be successful. The Safety City Coordinator agreed to forward any related information that Yvonne Cowan could provide to raise Members awareness of the App.

##### **PSNI**

- i. Chief Inspector Moore (CI Moore) updated Members on the ongoing work aimed at combatting burglaries in east Belfast commenting that it was showing signs of progress.

##### **PBNI**

- i. Jane Lappin commented on the significant budget cuts that were expected.

##### **NIHE**

- i. Gary Ballantyne informed Members of an ongoing issue regarding Car Parking around the High Rises in the Cregagh area, namely Woodstock House and Willowbrook House. The concern is the access problems that emergency vehicles, especially from the Fire service would have if attending incidents, when the surrounding area is used by patrons of Ulster Rugby matches for parking their cars.
- ii. Michael Roberts from the NIFRS informed Members that there was an issue with parking in general for fire trucks attending fires in residential areas and appliances will often take an alternative route in order to gain access to a particular street.
- iii. G Ballantyne made mention of some of the suggestions that had been made around addressing this issue such as, more double yellow lines.
- iv. A Member informed the Partnership that although the situation still needed to be addressed, it had improved. They reported that there had been more yellow lines introduced, as well as resident's permits and ticketing adding, these approaches had not been successful. A suggestion had been made to employ a recovery vehicle to remove cars causing an obstruction, but this option had been shelved due to a lack of locations to temporarily house vehicles removed. The Member also noted that the Kingspan Stadium management had worked hard to alleviate the effects of this issue by offering free buses to fans attending games and using signs asking fans to be respectful of residents.

- v. G Ballantyne raised the issue of an individual who had recently moved into the Albertbridge road area and had become 'a menace' to the Housing Executive office to the extent that he had been banned from both attending those offices and phoning them. Both Y Cowan and CI Moore asked for the individuals details to be shared at the end of the meeting in order to allow them to try and assist with the issue.
- vi. There was a brief discussion surrounding the issue of Bonfires during which the Safer City Coordinator explained that he was unable to discuss plans for 2018 owing to the ongoing investigation of last year's activities. The Safer City Coordinator agreed to inform Community Safety senior management of the partnerships frustrations and update Members of any further progress.

## **7. 2017/2018 Action Plan Progress and Update**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator updated Members as to the progress of the East Belfast DPCSP, Action Plan, explaining the following reallocations:
  - £8,000 plus remaining in Older/Vulnerable People budget had been reallocated to Beat the Burglar
  - £10,000 in Alcohol & Drugs had been moved to Drug Dealers Don't Care campaign.
  - £10,000 remaining in Reactionary fund had been reallocated to ASB Signage
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator explained that there would likely be other underspends from monies unspent by ongoing projects adding that there were underspends across all of the Partnerships.
- iii. Members had previously agreed the aforementioned changes at a previous meeting and noted the report.

## **8. Small Grants Tranche 1 2018/19 update**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that the small grants panel were due to meet on the 20<sup>th</sup> March at the Network Centre but that it would be useful to have another Member on the panel to guarantee a quorum for that meeting.
- ii. Members discussed changes to the dates and times of future meetings due to a request from an Elected Member who was unable to attend on Tuesday evenings. After a vote, Members agreed to meet on alternate Tuesdays and Thursdays starting with the March meeting on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>. Members also agreed to move the times of future meetings back to 6pm.
- iii. A Member requested in advance to record their apologies for all future Thursday meetings due to an ongoing commitment. The request was noted accordingly.

## **9. Draft 2018/19 Action Plan report**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator explained that the 2018/19 action plan has been pulled temporarily whilst amendments were made to the finances.
- ii. A Member requested that plans for the successful ASB project be brought forward to ensure it runs at a time of year when its provision is more in demand and proposed that

the budget be ready for April/May to accommodate this. The Safer City Coordinator responded by assuring the Member that the OBA process should ensure that this time frame would be achievable however as with all financially supported projects it was subject to the monies being released by the DOJ having first agreed the partnerships Action Plan.

#### **10. Radius Housing Association, Project Evaluation**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator shared the evaluation report with Members, commenting on its success and advised that in future the partnership would receive a cross section of project evaluations as a means of assuring Members of work carried out as well as informing future planning.
- ii. Members noted the report.

#### **11. Drugs and Alcohol quotation update**

- i. A Member updated the Partnership on to the progress of the Drugs and Alcohol project outlining three programmes planned by partner organisations participating in the projects delivery:
  - A play, study visits and a training course are being delivered by Short Strand Community Forum
  - An Alcohol Awareness session with young families and use of a breakfast cart is being delivered by East Belfast Alternatives
  - A play at Short Strand Cinema is being delivered by the Walkway Area project.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator agreed to forward details of the events to Members to enable them to attend if possible.

#### **12. PACT Update**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator outlined the dates and locations for the forthcoming PACT Meetings and Members discussed possible locations for the Lisnasharragh meeting, with Downshire Hall in the Cregagh area suggested. The Safer City Coordinator agreed to confirm its suitability with the Chair of Lisnasharragh PACT.

#### **13. Emerging Issues**

- i. Gary Ballantyne commended CI Moore for being proactive in response to a threat to one of the Housing Executives Contractors.
- ii. CI Moore assured Members that even though Council Employees were unable to discuss plans for tackling Bonfires, the PSNI were currently discussing plans and were clear on their role.
- iii. A Member informed the Partnership of three upcoming events as detailed below:
  1. Community Convention on Drugs and Alcohol on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March
  2. Community listening exercise on the 20<sup>th</sup> March in Skainos
  3. An event on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March at the Network Centre called 'Inspire Youth'.

**14. Date of next meeting**

- i. The next meeting of the East DPCSP will be on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at the East Belfast Network Centre at 6pm.