

# Minutes of South Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

## Policing Committee

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2018, 5.15pm

AD1H, 9 Adelaide

<b>Political Members</b>	<b>Independent Members</b>
Councillor Donal Lyons	Richard Kennedy (Vice Chair)
Councillor Geraldine McAteer	Paul McDonnell
Councillor Jeffrey Dudgeon	Michael Boyle
Councillor Deirdre Hargey	
<b>Statutory Designated Bodies</b>	
Deirdre Grant, PBNI	Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick, PSNI
Paul McCombe, NIHE	Inspector Barry Hamilton, PSNI
Melissa Spence, PBNI	
<b>Belfast City Council Staff</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Suzanne Gowling, Safer City Coordinator (SCC)	Aidan Hughes
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Alexsandra Lojek

### 1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair welcomed all Members to the Policing Committee Meeting of the South Belfast DPCSP and noted 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. No declarations of interest were declared.

### 3. Minutes/Matters Arising

- i. The Minutes of the Policing Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2017, copies of which were previously circulated, were agreed as correct.

### 4. Performance against the South Belfast District Policing Plan

- i. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick introduced Sergeant Barry Hamilton to the Partnership. He advised Members that Sergeant Hamilton was the new Neighbourhood Sergeant for Botanic.
- ii. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick provided an update to the Members on the performance against the South Belfast District Policing Plan.
- iii. Members noted that:
  - Overall crime had increased by 0.7%;
  - Burglary had decreased by 12%;
  - Number of racist hate crimes had decreased by 2.7%
  - An increase of 12.7% in relation to the number of anti-social behaviour incidents;

- An increase of 20.5% in the number of drug seizures;
  - An increase of 33% in the number of drug offences; and,
  - An increase of 32% in the number of drug arrests.
- iv. Chief Inspector Kirkpatrick also advised Members that engagement with landlords and universities had already commenced regarding St Patrick's Day 2018. He advised Members with an overview of PSNI operations which will commence the week before St Patrick's Day.
  - v. A Member requested for an update to be provided to the Partnership regarding events (policing events in particular) to be circulated in advance regarding St. Patrick's Day. The Safer City Coordinator and PSNI to review this and provide an update at the next DPCSP Meeting.
  - vi. Following a discussion regarding recent burglaries in the upper Ballynafeigh area, the Safer City Coordinator advised Members that following a public meeting in the Parador Hotel, local residents had highlighted the need for a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme within their area. The Safer City Coordinator commented that the PSNI and South Belfast ASB Officer would assist local residents to establish a NHW Scheme.
  - vii. Cllr McAteer also commented that local residents within her constituency area would like to establish a NHW scheme. The Safer City Coordinator agreed to send the NHW information pack to Cllr. McAteer and asked her to forward details on for follow up.
  - viii. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick advised Members that PSNI review all incidents reported in the previous 24hours and that these incidents dictate how police resources are utilised.
  - ix. A Member advised the Partnership of a short documentary commissioned by the South Belfast Partnership Board. He commented that the documentary focused on life in the Holylands. He suggested for the Partnership to watch the documentary at the next DPCSP Meeting.
  - x. Following a discussion regarding the documentary, Members welcomed the suggestion and agreed (if possible) for the documentary to be shown at the next DPCSP Meeting. The Safer City Coordinator will contact South Belfast Partnership Board.
  - xi. A Member asked for an update from the PSNI regarding a recent armed robbery which had been detailed on social media.
  - xii. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick advised Members that there had been three recent armed robberies in premises on the Lisburn Road. He advised Members that the PSNI are reviewing CCTV footage and are continuing their investigations into the robberies.

## **5. Date of Next Meeting**

- i. Members noted that the next South Belfast Public Meetings would take place on:
  - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, Holiday Inn, Hope Street Belfast; and
  - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March, Malone House, Barnett's Demesne

## **6. Close**

- i. The Chair thanked the Members for attending.