

Minutes of the East Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

East Belfast Network Centre
Thursday, 19th April, 2018

Political Members	Independent Members
Alderman Tommy Sandford	Michelle Bryans(Vice-Chair)
Councillor Aileen Graham	David Geddis
Councillor Carole Howard	Lisa McMaster
Designated Organisations	
Gary Ballantyne, NIHE	Dermot Magorrian, YJA
Yvonne Cowan, H&SCT	Chief Inspector David Moore, PSNI
Staff Present	Apologies
Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator	Councillor Sonia Copeland
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Jonathan Currie
	Councillor Mairead O'Donnell
	Michael Roberts, NIFRS

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Vice-Chair welcomed Members to the Meeting and noted the apologies provided.
- ii. She also welcomed Lorna Somers, Safer City Assistant Manager to the East Belfast DPCSP Meeting.

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 declared at the outset of the Meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes

- i. Yvonne Cowan requested her apologies be recorded in the Minutes of the last East Belfast DPCSP Meeting. She confirmed that her apologies had been submitted for notation.
- ii. The Vice Chair noted this request, and confirmed the Minutes to be updated accordingly.
- iii. Minutes of the East Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting held on 20th March, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
Proposed: Lisa McMaster
Seconded: Councillor Aileen Graham

4. Matters Arising

- i. The Vice Chair introduced Lorna Somers, Safer City Assistant Manager to the Partnership. She advised Members that Lorna would provide the Partnership will an update regarding changes to the operational structure of the Community Safety Unit.
- ii. The Safer City Assistant Manager advised Members that there had been recent changes within the Community Safety Unity and subsequently staff changes. She informed Members that a following a review of the Community Safety Unit, it had been noted that the workload placed on the Unit had increased immensely.
- iii. She advised Members that following a recruitment process, Denise Smith had been appointed as an additional Assistant Safer City Manager. She further commented that as part of the Unit review, it had been decided that the Unit would focus on two key areas;
 - Strategic Partnerships; and,
 - Council Operations.
- iv. The Safer City Assistant Manager advised Members of the new staffing structures within these new work areas.
- v. She advised Members that Glenn Thomas, East Belfast Safer City Coordinator would also oversee the work of the South Belfast DPCSP.

5. Chairs Update on PCSP

- i. The Chair had been unable to attend the Meeting of the East Belfast DPCSP and therefore no update had been provided.
- ii. Councillor Howard provided Members with a brief update on the Street Triage project proposal and the reasons for the inability to deliver on the project.

6. Updates from Statutory Partners

PSNI

- i. Chief Inspector David Moore provided Members with an overview of the Local Policing Plan 2018-2019.
- ii. He advised Members of the three key themes of the Local Policing Plan;
- iii. He commented that senior officers within the PSNI are keen to have one overarching Local Policing Plan for Belfast rather than district focused Plans.
 - Theme 1: Communication and Engagement;
 - Theme 2: Protection of People and Communities; and
 - Theme 3: Reduction in Offending.
- iv. Chief Inspector Moore also provided Members with an update regarding the Paramilitary Crime Task Force operation.

- v. He also informed Members of the review of PSNI structures and the impact this could have on Neighbourhood Policing Teams. He advised Members that the review still had to be confirmed.

NIHE

- i. Gary Ballantyne advised Members that following recent reports of drug activity in NIHE premises, a few properties had been searched.
- ii. He further commented that there had been no issues highlighted at present regarding bonfire sites within East Belfast.

7. 2017/2018 Action Plan Progress Report and Update

- i. Members were provided with a final overview of the 2017/2018 East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that an estimated underspend of approximately £5000 was anticipated from the 2017/18 budget.
- iii. He further advised Members that a full overview of the Action Plan and the associated budget spend would be provided to Members as part of the 2017/2018 annual report.
- iv. Members noted the contents of the report.

8. 2017/2018 Action Planning/ D/PCSP Funding Model Update

- i. The Safer City Co-Ordinator reminded Members that a 10% reduction in the 2018/2019 budget had been anticipated. However, he advised Members that confirmation of 2018/2019 budgets had been confirmed and East Belfast DPCSP had received an additional £6,209.
- ii. He suggested to Members that the additional funding could be re-profiled in to either ASB; Drugs and Alcohol or Small Grants Tranche 2.
- iii. Following a discussion, Members agreed for the additional funding of £6,209 to re-profiled in to Small Grants Tranche 2.
Proposed: David Geddis
Seconded: Councillor Carole Howard

10. Audit and Governance Arrangements

- i. The Safer City Co-Ordinator highlighted to Members the processes in place regarding audit and governance arrangements for the PCSP and DPCSPs.
- ii. He then stipulated the Council's procurement guidelines:
 - Expenditure of £2,999 or less – there is no requirement for formal quotations, however, it is recommended that Officers test the market to ensure they are obtaining value for money.
 - Expenditure from £3,000-£7,999 – three written quotations required.
 - Expenditure from £8,000-£29,999 – four written quotations required.

- Expenditure of £30,000 and above – locally advertised tender administered centrally by Belfast City Council's Procurement Unit.
- iii. Members noted the contents of the report.

11. Youth Initiatives Project Evaluation

- i. The Safer City Co-Ordinator outlined to Members the evaluation report submitted by Youth Initiatives regarding the delivery of the Merry Across the Mersey Project.
- ii. Members noted the contents of the report.

12. Emerging Issues and Open Floor Discussion

- i. The Safer City Coordinator circulated the Local Policing Plan 2018-2019 to Members.
- ii. He requested Members to review the Local Policing Plan 2018 and for any comments to be forwarded for submission to the Chief Inspector for consideration.
- iii. The Chief Inspector provided Members with an overview of ASB in East Belfast throughout the last year. He advised Members that the PSNI had been trying to establish a process where the focus had been specifically on vulnerable people who had been victims of ASB.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that Joanne Bunting, MLA had been in contact with the Safer City Unit Manager regarding ASB and subsequent allocated funding. He further advised Members that a response had gone to Joanne Bunting in which the shared desire on the part of the East DPCSP Members to have work of this nature commissioned earlier in the year was detailed, as was the fact that a quotation exercise was soon to be undertaken.
- v. Councillor Howard advised Members that she had spoken to Joanne Bunting regarding this, and she was content with the information provided.
- vi. Councillor Howard also highlighted the positive feedback that had been received regarding Pizza and Peeler events held in Newtownabbey. She commented that this was a good way of engaging with the community and especially for targeting hard to reach young people.
- vii. A Member asked if there been an operation plan developed for the forthcoming marching/parades season.
- viii. The Chief Inspector advised Members that there had been an operation plan developed and confirmed the PSNI would meet with individual organisations regarding forthcoming parades. He asked if Members had any concerns regarding parades within specific areas of East Belfast to forward them and they will be taken into consideration during the PSNI planning stages.
- ix. Chief Inspector Moore provided Members with an update regarding recent leaflet drops within East Belfast.
- x. A Member raised his ongoing concern regarding parking in the areas of Ravenhill/Cregagh estate.

13. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Members were reminded that the next meeting of the DPCSP would be on Tuesday, 29th May, 6.00pm in the East Belfast Network Centre, Templemore Avenue.