

Minutes of the Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Titanic One Suite, Clayton Hotel
Monday 16th April, 2018

Political Members

Alderman Brian Kingston (Acting Chair)
Councillor Claire Canavan
Alderman Jim Rodgers
Councillor JJ Magee
Councillor Matt Garrett

Independent Members

Debbie Hammill
Michael O'Hara
Mary Lambe
Carmel McKinney
Anne-Louise Toal
John Loughran

Designated Organisations

Harry Bradley, YJA
CS John Roberts, PSNI
Supt. Melanie Jones, PSNI

Jennifer Hawthorne, NIHE
Lynsey Branniff, EA
Liz Arthur, PBNI
AGC Stevie McDowell, NIFRS

Staff Present

Alison Allen, Safer City Manager
Lorna Somers, Safer City Assistant Manager
Denise Smith, Safer City Assistant Manager
Andy Claydon, Partnership Support Officer
Margaret Higgins, Senior Good Relations Officer

Apologies

Councillor Carole Howard (Chair)
John MacVicar (Vice Chair)
Susan Russam
Bryan Nelson, H&SCT
AGC Chris Fee

1. Welcome and Apologies

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and noted the apologies provided.

2. Declarations of Interest

- i. The Chair advised Members that they were required to declare any material interests that they may have in relation to any items on the agenda.
- ii. No declarations of interest were recorded.

3. Bonfire & Cultural Expression Programme Funding Proposal

- i. Margaret Higgins, Senior Good Relations Officer, introduced the Bonfire & Cultural Expression Programme which had been agreed by Council on the 9th April.
- ii. Members were informed that applications for the Programme would be welcomed from a wide range of groups and they would all be considered as long as the groups were constituted and they meet the criteria required.

- iii. She outlined the practical steps expected of successful applicants to ensure that their sites are managed appropriately:
 - No materials to be collected before 1st June 2018
 - Tyres and other hazardous materials should not be collected or burnt
 - Paramilitary flags or symbols should not be displayed at any bonfire sites
 - Bonfires should be sited in a clear unenclosed space at a safe distance from buildings and overhead cables
 - Groups should not burn or display any items such as flags, emblems or election posters which could cause offence or be considered a hate crime
 - Groups must comply with Council Health & Safety and Events Management guidance and meet relevant licensing and insurance requirements.
- iv. She confirmed the Council provision for the Bonfire programme as:
 - 10 Bonfire Beacons
 - Up to £1,750 for Community Events
 - A revised application process
 - Convene a review panel to consider participation of groups on the programme
- v. Opening date for applications will be Monday 23rd April, to run until close on Friday 11th May. Two information sessions have been confirmed:
 - Skainos Centre, Tuesday 24th April
 - Farset, Thursday 26th April
- vi. Members thanked Ms Higgins for the information she had provided and she left the meeting.

4. Belfast PCSP Minutes

- i. The minutes of the Belfast PCSP private meeting held on 12th March, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
- ii. In addressing the actions from the previous minutes:
 - Lynsey Branniff, from the Education Authority, discussed the disparity in Local Area Group Membership between West Belfast and other areas by suggesting that it was a direct result of the Authority being yet to adopt the new Council boundaries. Lynsey Branniff continued, informing Members that the EA was due to adopt the new boundaries in the very near future and new LAG memberships would be established as a result.

A Member enquired why this process had taken so long for the EA to undertake which Lynsey Branniff responded to by explaining the difficulties in bringing Districts in to line when they had all been run very differently.

The Member asserted his opinion that the process had been shambolic and that a perceived loss of confidence in the EA was understandable. The Member requested that their sentiments be made known to the EA Board.

Members were informed that the process was likely to be completed by September but that it would depend on the success of the recruitment process.

- Responding to the second action from the previous meeting's minutes, CS Roberts detailed the PSNI's powers to seize alcohol, explaining that their powers enabled them to seize alcohol from young people under the age of 18 but that they were restricted from seizing from Adults. CS Roberts further explained that PSNI Officers could request that the containers be surrendered and would subsequently have powers to arrest based on refusal.
- The Safer City Assistant Manager spoke to Members of the difficulties in securing City Hall meeting rooms for Partnership meetings. Members agreed suggested that the matter be referred to the elected Members to investigate.
- In response to a query, Members were advised that a letter was sent to the PHA. There was brief mention of the letter sent to the PHA on behalf of the PCSP regarding the failure of the Street Triage project but that no response had been received to date.

5. 2018/19 (D)PCSP Funding Model Update

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager informed Members of the structural changes within the Unit leading to two distinct workstreams. Members congratulated the newly appointed Safer City Assistant Manager, Ms Smith, who will be the Council Operational lead. Members were advised that as part of the restructuring, North and West DPCSP's will be managed by Alan Wardle and the South and East DPCSP's will be managed by Glenn Thomas. A Member expressed his concern that this could lead to added pressure on the shoulders of the Coordinators. The Safer City Assistant Manager assured Members that the new structure would afford the Coordinators good support from the 4 Project Officers combined with better planning and streamlined governance.
- ii. A Member requested an e-mail be distributed to Members outlining the new structure.
- iii. The Safer City Assistant Manager advised the Partnership that the Joint Committee had confirmed that it had agreed to protect the overall PCSP budget for 2018/2019. She advised however that, the Joint Committee had updated the Funding model to include the revised 2017 NI Multiple Deprivation Measure and Population estimate which are used in the formula calculation and that the actual cut to the budget for 2018/19 will be 5.6% rather than the expected 10% and accordingly she outlined the following recommendations:
 - That the PCSP ring-fences £201,732 (£177,732 Joint Committee and £24,000 BCC) of its budget to the PCSP for strategic projects and towards the development of a number of Citywide projects/initiatives which have a local focus.
 - That the PCSP allocates its remaining £392,594 of its total Joint Committee budget across the 4 DPCSPs on a proportional basis based on a similar funding model used by the Joint Committee for the PCSPs. This model provides a (30%) basic allocation equally to all DCSPs and then additional allocations based on (45%) population and (25%) deprivation.
 - The PCSP allocates its remaining BCC contribution equally across the four DPCSPs providing £24,000 of funding per DPCSP.
 - Breakdown of budget as follows:

Partnership	Joint Committee Budget	BCC Budget	Total Budget	60% Budget
Belfast PCSP	£177,732	£24,000	£201,732	£121,039
North Belfast DPCSP	£114,441	£24,000	£138,441	£83,064
South Belfast DPCSP	£75,419	£24,000	£99,419	£59,651
East Belfast DPCSP	£96,841	£24,000	£120,841	£72,504
West Belfast DPCSP	£105,892	£24,000	£129,892	£77,935
Total Budgets	£570,325	£120,000	£690,325	£414,195

- The PCSP delegates authority up to a maximum of £2,999 to the Safer City Manager/Assistant Manager and delegated authority to the Safer City Manager/Assistant Manager, PCSP Chair and Vice Chair for any funding over £2,999. Funding will only be released upon completion of all governance/due diligence requirements and will be retrospectively reported back to the next available PCSP meeting.

iv. Members agreed the aforementioned recommendations as presented in the report.

6. 2018/2019 Belfast PCSP Action Plan

- The Safer City Assistant Manager presented the 2018/2019 PCSP Action Plan to Members highlighting the increased PCSP budget of £201,732 and the subsequent unallocated figure of £8,258.
- Members were informed that, as well as the Bonfire and Cultural Expression Programme (BCXP) funding request of £15,000, the SOS Bus had also declared an interest in receiving funding from the PCSP.
- The Safer City Assistant Manager advised Members that the original 2018/2019 PCSP budget had been fully allocated to projects and that only £8,258 remains unallocated due to the revised budget.
- The Safer City Assistant Manager went through the agreed budget in an effort to establish where a surplus could be utilised to fund BCXP. Following discussion, the Members agreed to allocate £15,000 to the BCXP to include the £8,258 which remained unallocated. The Members acknowledged that this decision would result in an overspend of the PCSP budget but this decision was agreed on the basis that the Safer City Assistant Manager would monitor and notify any underspends from which this project could be reallocated.
- In relation to the SOS Bus proposal, Members agree to defer any decision to enable Officers to seek a funding proposal from the SOS Bus which Members could consider at a future meeting. Furthermore, Members requested that the SOS Bus be advised that the Partnership's 2018/2019 budget had been fully allocated and that the submission of a proposal was not an indication of funding.
- Furthermore, in relation to the content of the 2018/2019 PCSP Action Plan, the Members approved the content including the initial approval and authorisation to Officers to develop the following projects:

S01		
Consult & Engage	DPCSP Citywide Consultation	£20,000
	Neighbourhood Watch	£1,500
Effectiveness	PCSP Private/Public/Policing Committee Meetings	£6,000
S02		
Feel Safe	Preventative Safeguarding Projects	£20,000
	Cyber Safety Project	£4,000
Feel Safe – At Home	Home Security Service	£10,000
	Christmas Safety Event	£1,700
Feel Safe – Young People	Post Primary School Project	£1,000
	Road Safety Programme	£2,000
	RADAR Project	£1,500
Feel Safe – Complex Needs	Dual Diagnosis Project	£35,000
	SISS	£15,000
Sexual Violence & Domestic Abuse	DV Awareness Raising & Training	£10,000
	Crisis Support Project	£5,000
Alcohol & Drugs	Sharps Removal Contract	£15,000
	E-Pub	£800
	Support A& D Programmes & Initiatives	£7,474
ASB	Transient Youth Project	£10,000
	Tasking Programme	£5,000
	YES	£1,000
Business Crime	Cyber Awareness for Retailers	£5,000
	Retail Crime Watch	£1,500
S03		
Confidence in Policing	PCSP Small Grants	£15,000

7. Dual Diagnosis, Rough Sleeper Funding Proposal

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager (D Smith) introduced the Dual Diagnosis, Rough Sleepers funding proposal.
- ii. In response to a query from a Member, The Safer City Assistant Manager (D Smith) agreed to recirculate the 2016/2017 evaluation document to evidence the level of success of the project and clarified that the Partnership could approve the allocation but not release any funding until a more detailed costing is received.
- iii. Supt. Melanie Jones addressed the opportunity to achieve economies of scale when funding projects of this nature and suggested more joined up thinking amongst groups to achieve a wider impact.
- iv. Jennifer Hawthorne, NIHE, expressed the need for the client groups to be more clearly defined and commented on the effectiveness of the Dual Diagnosis project as a means to getting people to the health need service instead of a waiting list.
- v. When asked about how much the Public Health Agency (PHA) was committing to this project, the Safer City Assistant Manager (D Smith) stated that the funding details would be clarified when the paper came back to the Partnership in June and highlighted the fact that Dual Diagnosis was a project that had been funded by the partnership for the past 2 years with significant success.

- vi. Members had a brief discussion around Suicide Awareness and established that if any specific funding was to be made available it would require the budget to be refined. Lynsey Branniff, EA, outlined the work undertaken by the Youth Service in addressing Mental Health issues for Young People, including a series of Mindfulness Programmes that were being rolled out after pilot sessions with the PHA. She informed Members that Youth Workers had been appointed specifically for mental health issues and suicide awareness.
- vii. Following further discussion, Members approved in principle the allocation of £35,000 to the Dual Diagnosis Project and agreed that a final report on the project would be presented for Members final approval at the Partnerships meeting in June.

8. Street Injecting Support Services

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager (D Smith) introduced the Street Injecting Support Services project and the scoping exercise undertaken by Extern which provided the evidence to justify it.
- ii. Members were informed that the total budget to deliver the service is £34,000 from July 2018 to March 2019, part of which had already been secured from the PHA. Members were asked to approve an allocation £15,000 towards this project.
- iii. Members discussed the impact of the project and the level of funding was questioned by a Member.
- iv. Supt. Jones questioned how the service located the drug users, highlighting the difficulties the PSNI have in finding them.
- v. Members agreed to defer a decision on approval pending a representative from PHA attending the next meeting to provide a presentation on PHA's project proposals to support people with Complex Needs.

9. Summer Small Grants Panel Update

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager updated Members on the progress of Tranche 1 of the Summer Small Grants Programme which closed on 12th January.
- ii. Members were informed that 2 applications had been assessed, but only 1 of them (ASCERT) was ultimately successful.
- iii. The Safer City Assistant Manager outlined the nature of Ascerts application and Members were asked to note that a grant of £5,000 had been awarded to ASCERT by the PCSP Small Grants Panel as per previous delegated authority.
- iv. Members noted the report.

10. (D)PCSP Audit and Governance Arrangements

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager introduced the Audit and Governance report to Members, highlighting the requirement of the (D)PCSP's to adhere to the highest standards of governance and accountability.
- ii. Members noted the report.

11. Chairs Update

- i. The Chair discussed the upcoming Icelandic Model Workshop and informed the Members that there were still spaces available.
- ii. The Chair acknowledged the PSNI recognition event on the 26th April to which Chairs and Vice Chairs were invited to attend.

12. Update from Designated Partners

Education Authority

- i. Lynsey Branniff informed the Partnership that the Education Authority (EA) had received funding to address Youths in Risk Taking Behaviour. This would involve Youth Workers receiving training in different methods to engage with Youths at risk and teaching them to respect lawfulness in their areas.
- ii. Members also heard how the EA had appointed Youth Workers to concentrate on mental health in a dual role between training other Youth Workers and engaging Youths in their areas.
- iii. L Branniff also commented on the EA review of Local Advisory Groups and the upcoming recruitment campaign for Membership.

NIHE

- i. Jennifer Hawthorne requested clarity from Members as to what information they would expect to receive as part of the NIHE update. The Safer City Assistant Manager suggested that the update should include news of any ventures that were being undertaken by the Executive that they believed would be relevant to or could be supported by the Partnership.

Youth Justice

- i. Harry Bradley informed Members that Youth Justice were currently working with 2 Young people who were at risk of paramilitary attack and that they had been cooperating with the PSNI.

NIFRS

- i. Stevie McDowell spoke briefly about the STOP campaign and highlighted the Strategic Targeted Areas of Risk.
- ii. Members were informed of a 27% increase in cases of deliberate ignition of major fires.

PBNI

- i. Liz Arthur introduced a number of current initiatives being undertaken by the PBNI or its Partners:
 - ASPIRE
 - Engage
 - Problem Solving Court
 - Supervised Activity Orders
 - Working Well

- Get Real

PSNI

- i. CS J Roberts introduced the significant events of note:
 - Parades during Easter in West Belfast involving individuals in Paramilitary style dress
 - The launch of DVADS in March 2018
 - The significant rise in levels of ASB incidents in North and West Belfast.
 - An attempted shooting in Ballysillan
- ii. Members were informed of the following recent incidents of note:
 - Male charged with murder in Titania Street
 - Assault charges including an attack on Paramedics
 - 2 Drug offense charges for incidents on Ravenhill Road and Global Crescent.
 - Burglary offences including a case of aggravated burglary in Edlingham Street
- iii. CS J Roberts discussed the 2018-2019 Policing Plan, outlining the desire for a single plan to cover the whole city as opposed to 4 separate regional plans.
- iv. Members were informed that the Plan will adhere to themes common across the city including Confidence in Policing, Anti Social Behaviour and Drugs. He agreed to circulate the draft Plan to Members for comment.
- v. A Member addressed the Paramilitary style parades in Lurgan and West Belfast and commented on the actions of the Parades Commission in not labelling the parades as 'sensitive'.

13. 20017/2018 DPCSP Budget Spend Report

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager provided a brief update in relation to the DPCSP budget spend.
- ii. Members were asked to approve the retrospective release of funding for the following projects, the governance for which is completed:
 - North DPCSP – ASB Signage, £10,000
 - South DPCSP – Online Social Media Behaviour Training, £380
 - West DPCSP - St Galls Community Safety Day, £660
 - Holy Trinity St Patricks Diversion, £890
 - Footprints Womens Centre Training, £1,000
- iii. Members approve the release of the aforementioned requested funds.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 14th May 2018 at 5.30pm, in **Lavery Room, City Hall**