

Minutes of South Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Policing Committee

Tuesday 20th March, 2018, 6.00pm

Lavery Room, City Hall, Belfast

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Lee Reynolds	Richard Kennedy (Vice Chair)
Councillor Donal Lyons	Paul McDonnell
Councillor Geraldine McAteer	Michael Boyle
Councillor Jeffrey Dudgeon	
Councillor Deirdre Hargey	
Statutory Designated Bodies	
Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick, PSNI	Paul McCombe, NIHE
Dermot Magorrian, YJA	
Belfast City Council Staff	Apologies
Suzanne Gowling, Safer City Coordinator (SCC)	Melissa Spence, PBNI
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Deirdre Grant, PBNI

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 Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update on the actions noted at the last South Belfast DPCSP Policing Committee Meeting.
- ii. She advised Members that the South Belfast Partnership Board had been contacted regarding the PCSP's request to view the Holyland documentary. South Belfast Partnership Board has determined that the first viewing of the documentary will be at its launch and all members of the DPCSP will be invited to attend.
- iii. The Minutes of the Policing Meeting held on 31st January 2018, copies of which were previously circulated, were agreed as correct.

4. Performance against the South Belfast District Policing Plan

- i. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick provided an update to the Members on the performance against the South Belfast District Policing Plan.
- ii. Members noted that:
 - Overall crime had increased by 0.1%;
 - Burglary had decreased by 7.6%;
 - Number of racist hate crimes had decreased by 10%;

- An increase of 12% in relation to the number of anti-social behaviour incidents;
 - An increase of 35% in the number of drug seizures;
 - An increase of 25.4% in the number of drug offences; and,
 - An increase of 33.8% in the number of drug arrests.
- iii. A Member asked if any trends had been noted with regards to sexual assault and rape crime statistics recorded in Belfast in comparison to other parts of the UK.
 - iv. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick commented that he would review those statistics in other parts of the UK and provide an update at the next DPCSP Meeting.
 - v. Following a discussion regarding crime statistics with in South Belfast, Members requested a member of the sexual assault and rape crime specialist unit to attend a future DPCSP Meeting to give an overview of key issues.
 - vi. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick also provided Members with an overview of how policing teams within South Belfast had been working within communities to identify issues through engagement and interaction and how the PSNI had been working collaboratively to resolve them. He also provided an update on social media and public theme events that the PSNI had delivered within South Belfast.
 - vii. He also provided Members with an initiatives being delivered by the PSNI with the aim of reducing the number of antisocial behaviour incidents in South Belfast.
 - viii. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick also provided Members with an overview of work undertaken by the PSNI with the aim of reducing the number of victims associated with burglaries.
 - ix. A Member commented that there had been a spike in the number of burglaries within Finaghy area.
 - x. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick advised Members that previous experience showed that a gang would normally target one area. He further commented that once police presence within an area is increased, displacement would normally occur meaning burglaries would happen in other places throughout the City.
 - xi. A Member commented that the PSNI had ran a successful campaign focusing on the prevention of burglaries last summer and asked if the PSN would be running a similar campaign again. Chief Inspector Kirkpatrick advised Members that he could not confirm if this campaign would run again but would confirm in due course.
 - xii. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick also provided Members with an update on initiatives being delivered in partnership with key agencies to support victims of hate crime and interventions aimed at reducing the harm caused by drugs.
 - xiii. A Member requested a breakdown regarding the type of drug activity, what types of drugs had been seized by the PSNI and if any patterns regarding drug substances had been evident within South Belfast.
 - xiv. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick commented that he would provide Members with an overview of the information regarding drugs at the next DPCSP Meeting.
 - xv. Following a discussion regarding interventions aimed at reducing the harm caused by drugs, Members requested for a single agenda meeting regarding drugs to be held.

5. South Belfast Policing Plan 2018/2019

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members on the South Belfast Policing Plan 2018/19.

- ii. She advised Members that once the final Policing Plan is finalised, a copy of the Plan would be circulated to Members for review. She further advised Members that if the Partnership had any suggested amendments to the Policing Plan, if they could forward them on and subsequently she would forward them on for consideration.

6. Emerging Issues

- i. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick provided Members with an update on St. Patrick's Day.
- ii. He advised Members that 16 arrests had been made on St. Patrick's Day.
- iii. A Member asked if any of the arrests had been students. He advised Members that he could confirm that three out of the 16 arrests had been students.
- iv. A Member congratulated the PSNI on their pro-activeness within the Holyland area on St. Patrick's Day.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator advised the Partnership that an e-mail had been received from the Chair of the Wider University Association, thanking all involved and for all the efforts put in place for St. Patrick's Day.
- vi. A Member asked if the PSNI could review cycling on pavements as he had received a number of complaints.
- vii. Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick advised the Partnership that he would review this and request for some operations around this to be put in place in South Belfast.

7. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Members noted that the next South Belfast Policing Committee Meeting would take place on Wednesday 30th May, venue TBC.