

Minutes of the East Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Specially Convened Policing Committee Meeting

Room 1C, Cecil Ward Building, 4-10 Linenhall Street, Belfast
Tuesday 31st May, 2016

Political Members

Councillor Aileen Graham
Councillor Tommy Sandford

Independent Members

Mr David Geddis (Vice-Chair)
Mrs Michelle Bryans
Mr Jonathan Currie
Ms Lisa McMaster
Mr Steven McMillan

PSNI Representative

Chief Inspector David Moore

Staff Present

Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer

Apologies

Councillor Carole Howard (Chair)
Councillor Deirdre Hargey

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Vice Chair welcomed Members to the Meeting and noted the apologies provided.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that following Niall O'Donnghaile's recent appointment he would no longer attend DPCSP Meetings. He advised Members that Niall would be replaced on Partnership in due course.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- i. The minutes of East Belfast DPCSP Policing Committee Meetings held on 27th April, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
Proposed: Councillor Aileen Graham
Seconded: Mr Stephen McMillen

3. Declaration of Interests

- i. Members were reminded of the need to declare any material interests which they may have in relation to any item of business to be considered during the meeting.
- ii. No declaration of interests were noted.

4. Area Commanders Update on Policing

- i. Chief Inspector David Moore provided Members with an overview on police performance against the Local Policing Plan. Members noted that:
 - The total number of anti social behaviour incidents had decreased by 6.7%;
 - The number of violent crimes where alcohol is a factor had decreased by 17.5%;

- The number of non domestic violent crimes involving injury had increased by 0.2%;
 - An increase of 8.5% had been recorded in relation to the number of domestic burglaries and robberies which older persons had been victims;
 - A decrease of 1.5% had been recorded in relation to the outcome rate for sectarian hate crime; and,
 - An increase of 14.9% had been recorded in relation to the outcome rate for hate crime.
- ii. Chief Inspector Moore also provided Members with an overview of key initiatives being delivered in partnership with the East Belfast DPCSP to reduce domestic burglaries and to remove drugs for the community.
 - iii. A Member highlighted their concerns regarding community safety issues in Nettlefield Park. She asked if the PSNI had been made aware of these ongoing issues. Chief Inspector Moore commented that he had not been aware of this incidents, however he would review the situation in Nettlefield Park.
 - iv. A Member asked if there had been a pattern noted in relation to who had been involved in supply of drugs. Chief Inspector Moore commented that both local and foreign nationals had been involved.

5. Policing Committee Application

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that an application had been received from East Belfast Area Youth Project.
- ii. He provided Members with an overview of the project and detailed the total request for funding had been £1,000.00.
- iii. He further advised Members that the project had been endorsed by the PSNI.
- iv. Members commented that the delivery of the project would be beneficial to the young people of East Belfast and would allow young people to gain lifelong skills.
- v. Following a discussion, Members agreed to fund the proposed project.
Proposed: Councillor Tommy Sandford
Seconded: Councillor Sonia Copeland

6. Emerging Issues/AOB

- i. A Member asked if the PSNI had given any special considerations to the fan zone area in the Titanic Quarter for the forthcoming Euros.
- ii. Chief Inspector Moore advised Members that the PSNI had reviewed the fan zone area and had hoped there would be no issues at the screening of football matches.
- iii. A Member also highlighted their concern regarding on street drinking at parades. The Safer City Coordinator commented that through joint enforcement with the PSNI, Council try to manage on street drinking. The Safer City Coordinator further commented that there are any difficulties faced when policing street drinking.

- iv. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members of the 'It's About The Battle, Not The Bottle' campaign due to be delivered by the Orange Order. He advised Members that this campaign may be of interested to the East Belfast DPCSP.
- v. A Member informed the Partnership that the Cregagh Bonfire site had been cleared of all unwanted bonfire material. She thanked all who had assisted with the clear up.

7. Date of Next Meeting

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that next meeting of the Policing Committee would be held on Tuesday 26th July 2016 at 5.30pm, Conor Room, City Hall, Belfast.