

Minutes of the East Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Park Avenue Hotel, Belfast
Tuesday, 2nd October, 2018

Political Members	Independent Members
Alderman Tommy Sandford (Chair) Councillor Sonia Copeland Councillor Aileen Graham	Lisa McMaster (Vice-Chair)
Designated Organisations	
Gary Ballantyne, NIHE Superintendent Melanie Jones, PSNI Jane Lappin, PBNI	Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT Chief Inspector David Moore, PSNI
Staff Present	Apologies
Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator Katharine McCrum, Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Carole Howard Councillor Mairead O'Donnell Michelle Bryans Jonathan Currie David Geddis Dermot Magorrian, YJA Nick Thompson, NIFRS

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting, in particular Superintendent Melanie Jones, PSNI, and noted the apologies provided.

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 noted.

3. Approval of Minutes

- i. The minutes of the East Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting held on 28th August, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
Proposed: Cllr A. Graham
Seconded: L. McAteer

4. Matters Arising

- i. In relation to the actions from the previous meeting, the Safer City Coordinator advised Members that;
 - the Statutory Designated update proforma had been circulated for information,

- The Safer City Assistant Manager in charge of Community Safety Operations would provide an update regarding CCTV once this is reviewed,
- Meetings are ongoing regarding bonfires within Council. Members were asked to delay convening further meetings until these had taken place,
- An update regarding Small Grants would be provided at a later point on the agenda.

5. Chairs Update on PCSP

- i. The Chair provided Members with an update from the last PCSP Meeting:
 - Members were asked to note the Public Consultation Dates, 2 of which were scheduled to take place after the East Belfast DPCSP event:
 - South Belfast DPCSP, Malone House, 3rd October, 7pm
 - West Belfast DPCSP, Sally Gardens, 4th October, 7pm
 - Members were also reminded about the following PCSP Events:
 - Finance Review Meeting (all Members) 15th October, 7pm, Clayton Hotel
 - Road Safe Road Show, 16th and 17th October, City Hall
 - Chair/Vice Chair Training: 18th October (Chairs from 3pm-6.30pm, Vice-Chairs from 5pm-8.30pm) Waterside Tower, Clarendon Dock
 - Christmas Safety Event: 4th December, City Hall
 - 10 groups submitted ARCS applications to Belfast PCSP. These have been sent on to the Department of Justice for scoring after which a discussion will take place regarding staffing resources required for supervision of the successful applications.
 - Tranche 2 of the DPCSP Small Grants is oversubscribed by approximately £30,000 across the 5 Partnerships. The issue will be reviewed by the PCSP at their next meeting and at the Financial Review Meeting on 15th October.
 - As well as the Private Meeting on 10th September, the PCSP hosted a Joint Briefing for all Members on the PSNI/NIPB Public Consultation which dealt with the Local Policing Review for 2018 and the Prioritisation Simulator.
- ii. The Vice-Chair advised that she had attended the Joint Briefing and completed the Prioritisation Simulator which she described as a challenging exercise.
- iii. A Member asked how much notice would be taken of public input or the consultation was designed to demonstrate the challenges involved in balancing the PSNI budget.
- iv. Superintendent Jones advised that it was designed to challenge thinking, look at emerging issues and open conversations with communities about what their needs are.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator added that PCSP funding could be directed in such a way as to free up police resources, for example through the Dual Diagnosis programme.

6. Updates from Statutory Partners

PBNI

- i. Jane Lappin outlined the role of PBNI in dealing with offenders leaving prison and those on Court Orders and described the positive working relationship that they had with the

PSNI. She advised that funding for preventative measures was welcomed in order to lessen the impact of serious offenders.

- ii. The Chair commended the work of the organisation.

Housing Executive

- iii. Gary Ballantyne informed the Members that work was ongoing regarding fire safety in tower blocks and provided dates for community consultations.
- iv. He also advised that intimidation cases were being reported to NIHE on a monthly basis with cases involving issues such as abuse, drug dealing, domestic violence and mental health issues.
- v. Members discussed the complexity of the issue, including how genuine cases are distinguished from those who are simply seeking improved housing, as well as community frustrations at 'problem' families being moved from place to place.

PSNI

- vi. Chief Inspector David Move provided Members with an overview of policing in East Belfast. Members were advised that between 90-130 calls for service are received each day, or 700-800 per week, 300 of which are classified as priority or emergency calls. He noted that many of the calls related to vulnerability rather than crime.
- vii. Chief Inspector Moore explained that overall crime was down by 4% when compared to last year however burglary remained a concern in the area.

H&SCT

- viii. Gabi Mornhinweg advised that the Health and Social Care Trust advised that their consultation was ongoing and that the new Maternity/Children's Hospital build was developing.

Members Comments

- ix. A Member asked for praise to be passed on to an Officer involved in a recent Road Traffic Accident, for both a good response and follow up to the incident.
- x. A Member raised concerns regarding drug litter issues on the Castlereagh Road. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Community Safety Unit operated a sharps collection contract which was available 24 hours a day. He also undertook to advise the Officer dealing with sharps about the area of concern.

7. Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Update Report

- i. Members were presented with a report relating to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and hotspots within East Belfast. The Safer City Coordinator noted key points and action taken to date at Avoniel Playpark/Flora Street, Orangefield Park/Dixon Playing Fields, Finvoy Street Playpark, Clonduff Park and Altcar Court.
- ii. Members were also provided with a breakdown of service requests by type of ASB and lifts of drug paraphernalia at Ravenhill Rest Gardens and Station Street underpass.

- iii. Members asked for clarity regarding the location of Ravenhill Rest Gardens as it did not appear on maps.

8. Spend Approvals Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that an update on projects approved by both the PCSP and East Belfast DPCSP was provided within the papers for information.
- ii. Members noted the contents of the report.

9. East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan Update

- i. Members were presented with an Action Plan Progress Report detailing the each of the projects within the Plan. The Safer City Coordinator advised that the report was colour coded to demonstrate which projects were complete, ongoing, approved, or not yet started.
- ii. Members noted the contents of the report.
- iii. A Member asked for details for one of the Small Grants recipients who were undertaking work in the Braniel area. The Safer City Coordinator agreed provide contact details.

10. 2018/2019 Belfast PCSP Action Plan, Quarter 1 Project Performance Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with a copy of the East Belfast specific 2018/2019 Belfast PCSP Monitoring Form for quarter 1 which was submitted to the Joint Committee alongside the financial return.
- ii. Members discussed the need to advertise PACT meetings more widely, as well as to explain the role of the group to communities.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator advised that staff advertised the meetings through posters and via Facebook however audiences were never very big. He also noted that the issues discussed at the various groups varied hugely from area to area.
- iv. Members noted the contents of the report.

11. Small Grants Tranche 2 Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised that the Members panel had met on 12th September to approve Tranche 2 of the Small Grants. He advised that 5 applicants had met the score necessary to be funded however due to a shortfall of approximately £3,500, only 4 could be given Letters of Offer at this time.
- ii. Members were further advised that the remaining group would be issued with a holding letter and if further funds were approved by the PCSP, may be supplied with a Letter of Offer in the coming weeks.
- iii. Members noted the report, including the reallocation of a further £667 from the Policing Committee budget towards Small Grants.

12. ARCS Funding Update

- v. The Safer City Coordinator referred to the update provided by the Chair under item 5 of the agenda. He noted that 10 groups had submitted ARCS applications to Belfast PCSP and that the Department of Justice would score these before discussions take place regarding staffing resources required for supervision of the successful applications.
- vi. Members noted the contents of the report.

13. Emerging Issues – Equality Schemes

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with copies of the East Belfast DPCSP Equality Scheme. He advised that these had been approved by the Equality Commission following their request to refer to PCSP rather than Belfast City Council policies.
- ii. Members approved the Equality Scheme
Proposed: Lisa McMaster
Seconded: Councillor Aileen Graham

14. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Members were advised that the next meeting of the East Belfast DPCSP would be on Tuesday, 30th October 2018 in the Network Centre.