

# Minutes of the East Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

## Private Meeting

East Belfast Network Centre  
Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2018

<b>Political Members</b>	<b>Independent Members</b>
Councillor Mairead O'Donnell (Chair)	Michelle Bryans (Vice-Chair)
Alderman Tommy Sandford	David Geddis
Councillor Aileen Graham	Lisa McMaster
	Jonathan Currie
<b>Designated Organisations</b>	
Gary Ballantyne, NIHE	Dermot Magorrian, YJA
Chief Inspector David Moore, PSNI	Jane Lappin, PBNI
<b>Staff Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Suzanne Gowling, Safer City Coordinator	Michael Roberts, NIFRS
Andy Claydon, Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Carole Howard
	Councillor Sonia Copeland
	Yvonne Cowan, H&SCT
	Steven McMillen
<b>Also Attending</b>	
Niall McEvoy, PBNI	

### 1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the Meeting and noted the apologies provided.
- ii. She also welcomed Niall McEvoy from the Probation Board of Northern Ireland.

### 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. The Chair declared an interest in an item on the agenda and indicated she would be leaving the meeting when it was discussed by Members.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

- i. Minutes of the East Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting held on 29th May, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.

### 4. Matters Arising

- i. The Safer City Coordinator (SCC) issued Members with the requested information regarding the 'Next Door' tool as introduced by CI Moore at the previous Month's Policing Committee meeting.

- ii. In response to a Members suggestion relating to the advertisement of PACT meetings, the Safer City Coordinator informed Members that after a conversation with Corporate Communications, it had been agreed that the dates for the next 2 meetings will be advertised rather than the initial suggestion of 4.

## **5. Supervised Activity Orders**

- i. Niall McEvoy from PBNI introduced the Supervised Activity Orders as a new approach adopted by the board, following a successful pilot, as an alternative to Community Service.
- ii. Members were informed that there were currently 8 Probation Officers operating in Northern Ireland, 4 of which are assigned to Belfast.
- iii. Niall McEvoy continued by outlining the standards for the Supervised Activity Orders as where a fine is imposed at the point of sentence and the debtor requests an SAO, or where an SAO is imposed based on o/standing fine balances.
- iv. He continued by explaining that the Placements that come from the SAO's would be appropriate to the individual, provide tangible benefits to the local community and will be serviced by a locally-based Probation Service Officer who will liaise with the Placement provider to ensure a good match. Members heard that placements appeared to fall into the following categories:
  - Faith based
  - Sports based
  - Cross Community
  - Intergenerational
- v. N McEvoy asked Members to contact either himself, Jane Lappin or the respective Probation Service Officer if they have any suggestion for placements.
- vi. A Member commented on the virtue of the service and asked if it was possible to learn if recipients of the service had applicable skills that could be utilised when placed. N McEvoy responded by suggesting that this information would be picked up during an initial induction phase.
- vii. The SCC offered to promote the service on the PCSP Facebook site.

## **6. Chairs Update on PCSP**

- i. No update was provided.

## **7. Updates from Statutory Partners**

### Housing Executive

- i. Gary Ballantyne informed the Members that Bonfires were slowly becoming more of a priority and updated Members of the draft action plan regarding the decommissioning of Tower Blocks which has recently been released.

## **8. Response to Unsolicited Proposals**

- i. The SCC raised the issue of unsolicited proposals for funding and the constraints on the partnerships owing to fully allocated budgets. The SCC informed Members of the decisions taken by the PCSP and North DPCSP not to accept unsolicited proposals and outlined the recommendation for Members of the East DPCSP to do likewise. It was further recommended that unsolicited proposals be advised to seek funding through the auspices of the next round of Small Grants.
- ii. Members agreed to reject any unsolicited proposals in line with recommendations.

## **9. 2017/2018 Draft Annual Report**

- i. The SCC introduced the report to Members and asked for any queries or feedback.
- ii. An Independent Member commented on the lack of articles regarding the actions of the East DPCSP and added that they felt this had been a lost opportunity to inform the Community of the good work undertaken by the Partnership. The SCC agreed to pass the concern on to the SCC for East Belfast.
- iii. Members agreed the contents of the report.

## **10. Anti Social Behaviour Update Report**

- i. The SCC informed Members as to the recent division within the Community Safety Unit, with one half designated to support the work of the (D)PCSP's and the other half Operational work, to include Anti-Social Behaviour, on which they will be reporting monthly to the (D)PCSP's. The SCC introduced the first of these reports and asked that Members note the contents.
- ii. Members noted the contents of the report.

## **11. 2018/2019 East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan Implementation**

- i. The Chair declared an interest in the Policing Committee Application to be considered and thereby left the meeting.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator presented Members with the Policing Committee proposal from Short Strand Community Association, which has already satisfied the governance requirements. The request is for the funding of £2,000 for a Summer Fun Project.
- iii. Members agreed to fund £2,000 to Short Strand Community Association.

## **12. ASB Quotation Update**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the exercise was due to close next Friday (6<sup>th</sup> July 2018) and that Members would be informed of the successful applications.

### **13. Emerging Issues**

- i. Chief Inspector (CI) Davy Moore informed that he had met with the Short Strand in relation to the Somme celebrations and that screens would be put in place to avoid confrontation. CI Moore suggested that he would like this approach to be softened in future. He further stated that the Policing presence is of a similar level to previous years and that this was extremely resource intensive.
- ii. A Member spoke of a recent experience in which the PSNI had not responded to effectively to which CI Moore stated that he would look into personally and get back to the Member.
- iii. A Member enquired as to incidents of ASB at Belsonic. CI Moore responded that a significant level of incidents had taken place and were well managed. When asked as to the costs of policing the event, CI Moore advised that the PSNI committed very few officers to the event and that it was primarily managed privately by the event organisers.
- iv. The Chair reminded Members that there would be no meeting next month.

### **14. Date of Next Meeting**

- i. The next meeting of the East Belfast DPCSP will be on the 28<sup>th</sup> August 2018 in the Network Centre