

Minutes of the East Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

East Belfast Network Centre, Templemore Avenue, Belfast
Tuesday, 30th October, 2018

Political Members	Independent Members
Alderman Tommy Sandford (Chair) Councillor Sonia Copeland Councillor Aileen Graham	Lisa McMaster (Vice-Chair) Michelle Bryans Jonny Currie David Geddis
Designated Organisations	
Gary Ballantyne, NIHE Jane Lappin, PBNI Dermot Magorrian, YJA	Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT Chief Inspector David Moore, PSNI Alan Wilson, EA
Staff Present	Apologies
Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator Katharine McCrum, Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Carole Howard

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and noted the apology 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 and Public Consultation, both held on 2nd October, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
Proposed: Cllr A. Graham
Seconded: D. Geddis

4. Matters Arising

- i. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. Chairs Update on PCSP

- i. The Chair provided Members with an update from the last PCSP Meeting.

- ii. Members were reminded about the PCSP Christmas Crime Prevention and Safety Event on 4th December in City Hall.
- iii. The Chair provided an overview of 2 police incidents which took place in East Belfast as reported to the PCSP on 8th October.
- iv. Members were advised that as of 8th October, 77% of the overall (D)PCSP Budget for 2018/2019 had been allocated to projects, and that funding of £57,032 had been approved for additional projects on an 'at risk' basis, £3,508 of which was to support Small Grants in East Belfast.
- v. A Member commended the Public Consultation Event which was held on 2nd October, advising that it had opened her eyes to the challenges facing policing.
- vi. Chief Inspector David Moore, PSNI, noted that it was one of the best attended events that had been held as part of the consultation. The Safer City Coordinator advised that the event was held alongside a Neighbourhood Watch Event which had helped to promote the consultation to an invested audience.

Unsolicited Application

- vii. The Chair advised that a late application was discussed by the PCSP at its October meeting, contrary to the decision not to fund unsolicited applications, and that delegated authority was granted to the Chair, Vice-Chair and Unit Manager regarding whether or not to fund the project. He also explained that a lengthy conversation had taken place regarding what, if any applications had been made to staff regarding the project. He stated that he was unhappy with the decision to fund the fireworks project given the previous decision regarding unsolicited applications and that he would be raising the issue again at the PCSP Meeting on 5th November.
- viii. A Member asked for clarity as to whether fireworks were deemed as eligible expenditure. The Chair advised that there was no rule within the PCSP about this.

6. Updates from Statutory Partners

Housing Executive

- i. Gary Ballantyne informed the Members about a number of intimidation related housing issues, as well as issues involving domestic violence and mental health concerns. He advised that NIHE continued to work with the PSNI and Health and Social Care Trust regarding such cases.
- ii. He also advised that consultations regarding the Tower Block Strategy were coming to an end, with 2 more in East Belfast at Carnet House and Clarawood House with the aim of asking residents for their views on the future of the tower blocks.

H&SCT

- iii. Gabi Mornhinweg advised that the Health and Social Care Trust had been contacted by the Council's ASB Officer in East Belfast regarding a vulnerable resident, and as a result this person was now tied back in to support services.

- iv. Members were provided with an update on new elective care centres which would run regionally in order to cut waiting lists by 2020/2021 in line with government targets.

EA

- v. Alan Wilson advised Members that additional funding for detached youth work provision covering the Christmas period was now available with a closing date of 8th November.
- vi. Members were also provided with updates regarding a number of youth clubs;
 - A new entrance has been built for young people at Cregagh Community Centre,
 - The latest inspection of Ardcarnet Youth Centre had improved from average to good, and it is hoped that the centre will soon move to full time hours,
 - There are plans for a second floor to be built at Doyle Youth Club.
 - Conversations were ongoing regarding a new centre in East Belfast. Once a bid is developed, a public consultation will be organised.
- vii. Jonny Currie suggested he link in with the Education Authority regarding the DPCSP funded ASB Street Outreach Project.

PBNI

- viii. With regards to domestic violence, Jane Lappin advised that PBNI were working with adjudicated offenders however with research showing that up to 35 incidents of violence could occur before a victim seeks support, there should be concern around silent victims, particularly in the run up to Christmas.
- ix. Members discussed the impact of fear on reporting and how the DPCSPS could promote the message that support is there once a report is made.
- x. The Safer City Coordinator advised that the PCSP had developed a number of projects alongside the Belfast Area Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Partnership and undertook to circulate details to the Partnership.

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 Grampian Avenue Playpark, 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 Middlepath Street.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator advised that the South and East Belfast ASB Forum was currently discussing the behaviour of 9 people in East Belfast.
- iv. A Member questioned whether there was adequate lighting at Finvoy and Middlepath Streets. The Safer City Coordinator undertook to raise the issue with the Parks Department but suggested that such measures may simply displace the problem.
- v. Members noted the contents of the report.

8. East Belfast DPCSP Action Plan/Budget Update

- i. Members were presented with an Action Plan Progress Report detailing 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. He advised that a number of the projects had developed since the report was produced and undertook to circulate an updated version to Members via email.
- iii. He noted that the Plan was progressing well however underspends were still likely to emerge as the year progressed.
- iv. A Member questioned whether planning for July bonfires had commenced within Belfast City Council. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members that he had asked this question in August following the DPCSP's request to establish a sub-group but had been advised to hold off for now.
- v. A Member suggested that enough time had now passed and it was time to progress with meetings now, both internally and with bonfire builders.
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator agreed to feed this back to the Neighbourhood Services Manager and to establish the meeting as requested. The following Members volunteered: Councillors Sonia Copeland and Aileen Graham, David Geddis, Chief Inspector David Moore and Gary Ballantyne, NIHE.
- vii. In response to a query as to what the remit or terms of reference for the group would be, the Safer City Coordinator suggested that this would be agreed upon at the first meeting and discussions held with the Neighbourhood Services Manager to ensure that conflicts were avoided. It was suggested that bonfires not on the Council's Bonfire and Cultural Expressions Programme should be the focus.

9. 2018/2019 Belfast PCSP Action Plan, Quarter 2 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 2 which was submitted to the Joint Committee alongside the financial return.
- ii. Members noted the contents of the report.

10. Beat the Burglar Process Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator outlined changes which had been made to the process by which Beat the Burglary Kits are supplied to members of the public.
- ii. He explained the requirement for recipients to complete a legal indemnity form, the preferred method of delivery through community based partnership events, and the requirements of GDPR which have changed how personal information is stored. He also advised that on the rare occasion that an individual resident cannot legitimately attend an event, an ASB or Crime Prevention officer can be tasked to deliver a kit and advise on its use.

- iii. Members were asked to refrain from giving any undertakings to individuals or groups around the distribution of packs, and instead speak to Officers about planned events or need in other areas.
- iv. Members noted the update and agreed to the request regarding the distribution of packs.

11. Emerging Issues

- i. A Member thanked the Safer City Coordinator and Crime Prevention Officers for their work and support over the last number of months.
- ii. Another Member advised of a number of events which could be of interest to the Partnership. The Partnership Support Officer agreed to circulate the details to Members.
 - Young People and the Justice System - 14th November, 2-4pm, East Belfast Network Centre. The event will include the Attorney General and representatives from the Public Prosecution Service.
 - East Belfast Networking Event, Community Capacity Network – 22nd November, 9.30-1.30pm, East Belfast Network Centre. The theme is the Belfast Agenda, Community Planning and the impact on East Belfast.
- iii. The Chair commended East Belfast Community Counselling on their recent Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

12. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Members were advised that the next meeting of the East Belfast DPCSP would be on Monday, 26th November 2018 in the East Belfast Network Centre.