

North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Conor Room, City Hall
Monday, 22nd October 2018

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Ryan Murphy (Chair)	Gerard O'Reilly (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Mary Clarke	Jennifer Cornell
Councillor Paul McCusker	
Alderman Guy Spence	
Designated Organisations	
Mark Cushnahan, NIFRS	Janet McClinton, PBNI
Declan Davey, YJA	Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT
Liam Gunn, NIHE	Inspector Paul Noble, PSNI
Inspector Laura Kelly	
Staff Present	Apologies
Alan Wardle, Safer City Coordinator	Harry Bradley, YJA
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Chief Inspector Kelly Moore
	Mark McBride, EA
	Councillor Nuala McAllister
	Catherine Patrick
	Gerald Solinas

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair, Councillor Ryan Murphy welcomed Members to the North Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting 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 made.

3. Minutes/Matters Arising

- i. Minutes of the North Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting, which was held on 20th September 2018, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.

4. Chairs Update from PCSP

- i. No update from the PCSP was provided.

5. Local Designated Consultation Structures

NIFRS

- i. Mark Cushnahan, NIFRS provided statistics on major and secondary fires across North and West Belfast.
- ii. He also advised Members that there had been 'zero' attacks on the Fire Service this month.

H&SCT

- i. Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT provided Members with an update regarding current services and examples of best practice delivered by the Trust.

NIHE

- i. Liam Gunn advised Members that there are currently 25 antisocial behaviour cases opened within North Belfast. He also informed Members that there had been two evictions pending and are currently being processed.
- ii. He provided Members with an update regarding a property in Shore Crescent. He advised Members that contact had been made with current residents and NIHE will continue to monitor the situation.

PBNI

- i. Janet McClinton provided Members with an update regarding the relocation of the PBNI North Belfast Office.
- ii. She further advised Members that in addition to the North Belfast PBNI team, a central PBNI Belfast team had been established.
- iii. Members were also informed that the Substance Misuse Programme had now begun, and to date 12 people had been involved in the programme.

YJA

- i. Declan Davy, YJA provided Members with an update on the delivery of the Banjaxed performances, which YJA had been involved with.
- ii. He also advised Members that the YJA had delivered a number of educational workshops to local schools throughout North Belfast, focussing on the following themes;
 - Cyber crime;
 - Interface issues; and,
 - Drugs/alcohol.

- iii. He also informed Members that Community Resolution Notices are still ongoing.
- iv. The Chair requested the work of the YJA to be included in the letters being circulated to local schools re: interfaces. Declan Davey requested for a draft copy of the letter to be forwarded to YJA for review before distribution to schools.
- v. The Vice Chair asked for an update on current funding available from the YJA. Declan Davey confirmed that he could forward information regarding current funding streams directly to the Vice Chair.

PSNI

- i. Inspector Paul Noble provided Members with an overview on police performance against the Local Policing Plan. Members noted that:
 - Overall crime had increased by 6.0%;
 - An increase of 19.6% had been recorded in relation to the total number of drug offences;
 - An increase of 19.5% had been recorded in relation to the total number of racist hate crimes;
 - An decrease of 7.8% had been recorded in relation to a reduction in the total number of burglaries;
 - An decrease of 7.2% had been recorded in relation to the number of crimes against older people; and,
 - An increase of 14.1% had been recorded in relation to the total number of crimes involving domestic motivation.
- ii. He advised Members that the increase in relation to the number of hate crimes reported, may be due to an increase in reporting.
- iii. Inspector Paul Noble further advised Members of the recent drugs find in the Glencairn area.
- iv. He informed Members that the PSNI ran a Road Safety Initiative throughout North Belfast during the month of October. He commented that the initiative had been well received by the local community.
- v. He also advised Members that there had been concern regarding arranged fights within North Belfast. Therefore, he advised Members that the PSNI would be focussing on anti-social behaviour specifically in the run up to Halloween.
- vi. The Chair requested letters to be circulated to schools within North Belfast, highlighting interface areas and urging young people to stay away from these areas.
- vii. Councillor Paul McCusker also highlighted his concern around the changing culture of young people within Belfast.
- viii. Following a discussion, Members welcomed for letters be circulated to local school re: interface areas.

6. Action Plan Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update regarding the current progress of the 2018/2019 Action Plan.
- ii. He advised Members that as of 15th October, the budget for the North Belfast DPCSP is detailed as follows:

Budget	Spent	Committed	Planned	Remaining	% Spent/ Committed/ Planned
£138,441	£97,272			£41,169	70%

- iii. He advised Members that a number of issues had been identified regarding some of the North Belfast DPCSP quotations. However, the ASB quotation had been awarded and further detail would be provided once the Letter of Offer had been signed.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members, that all budget lines in red within the report circulated are Citywide projects yet to commence or be committed.
- v. Councillor Guy Spence commended the Safer City Coordinator for all the work carried out to date and for the partnership approach adopted. He commented that the North Belfast DPCSP budget line looked healthy and he had no concerns regarding spend.
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members that a PCSP Budget Spend Review Meeting had taken place on Monday 10th October. He provided Members with an update on the meeting.
- vii. He also asked Members to note that a date will be circulated regarding Action Planning for 2019/2020. He also informed Members, of a potential 10% reduction on this year's budget for 2019/2020.
- viii. Councillor Paul McCusker queried if any budget is remaining towards the year of the financial year, how can this be utilised.
- ix. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Partnership had agreed not to support unsolicited applications and that all work conducted by North Belfast DPCSP had to be in line with the priorities of their Action Plan.
- x. Following a discussion, the Safer City Coordinator advised Members that projects may possibly be supported if they are developed with the Officer team, presented to the Partnership, are aligned to the priorities of the Action Plan and all due diligence procedures required can be completed.
- xi. Members noted the update provided along with the content of the report.

7. Joint Public Event Report

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with a report following the Joint Public Event which was held in the Spectrum Centre on 21st June.
- ii. Following a discussion, a Member highlighted the following points in relation to the report;
 - North Belfast Friendship Club to be added to the list of attendees;
 - Include a SWOT analysis re: evaluation of the format of the event;
 - Suggestion for cloud words to be replaced with full words as they are difficult to read/and repetitive; and,
 - Reference to be made if the outcomes of the event were achieved.
- iii. The Vice Chair commented that he thought the event had been a success and welcomed the format, in particular how the PSNI rotated around the tables.
- iv. Members noted the report provided.

8. Domestic Violence Project Proposal

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with further details in relation to the current proposal for Domestic Violence initiatives in North Belfast.
- ii. He reminded Members that the budget allocation for Domestic Violence of £8,000 was approved in April 2018. However, following a review of the budget, Members subsequently approved the reduction of the overall Domestic Violence budget to £6,000.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that through existing shared partnership agreements, Women's Aid had submitted a project proposal for Domestic Violence Awareness Sessions across North Belfast. He advised Members that the project would provide a number of sessions in North Belfast looking at domestic violence in relation to the following 4 areas;
 - Mental Health;
 - Physical Health;
 - Addiction; and,
 - Digital Abuse.
- iv. The Chair highlighted his concern regarding the reduction made to the Domestic Violence budget. He suggested for the Partnership to work with other organisations who have expertise in Domestic Violence, in order for the full budget to be utilised.
- v. Following a discussion, Members agreed to support the delivery of the project up to a total of £2,950.
- vi. Members also granted delegated authority to the Safer City Coordinator in conjunction with the Safer City Manager and/or Assistant Manager, to develop additional complimentary Domestic Violence projects/initiatives or to allocate the

remaining budget to other priority budget lines and report to the DPCSP on progress.

9. North Belfast Quotation Updates

- i. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members that North Belfast DPCSP had identified three themed quotations for the following pieces of work;

▪ Hate Crime	£10,403
▪ Youth Engagement & Diversion	£29,950
▪ Drugs & Alcohol	£8,000
- ii. He provided Members with an update on all three quotations.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that the Hate Crime response received was deemed to be ineligible, due to it being completed on the wrong documentation and therefore did not answer the specific questions posed in the original quotation. He further advised Members that he would meet with BCC procurement to explore next steps either to put the quotation out again or to initiate a self-delivery process.
- iv. He advised that the ASB quotation received one successful response. He advised Members that the successful group was Ardoyne Youth Enterprise. He further advised that a meeting had been held with the group to finalise the delivery model and Letter of Offer.
- v. He further advised that the Drugs and Alcohol quotation had been withdrawn by the Safer City Manager. All organisations invited to submit were sent correspondence to explain why the quotation had been withdrawn.
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that he would meet with the Safer City Assistant Manager to begin a process of engagement with other relevant partners to ascertain how the strategy for North Belfast could compliment a wider Belfast issue. An update on the process would be presented to Members at the next DPCSP Meeting.
- vii. Following a discussion, Members noted the content of the report provided.

10. Equality Scheme

- i. Members were provided with copies of the Equality Scheme for the North Belfast DPCSP.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator requested Members to approve the content of the North Belfast District PCSP Equality Scheme.
- iii. Jennifer Cornell highlighted her concern regarding the terminology used within the report. She commented that the terminology used had been unclear, especially in relation to 'how opportunities and need would be created'

- iv. Members noted the report and approved the contents of the Equality Scheme for the North Belfast DPCSP.

11. Rapid Drugs Bin Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator presented Members with an update in relation to the development and delivery of RAPID Drugs Bins within North Belfast.
- ii. He reminded Members that a total of £1,000 had been allocated to RAPID Drug Bins within North Belfast.
- iii. He further reminded Members that BDACT and Extern are responsible for the process for the installation of bins.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that after a number of local consultations, BDACT have recently installed a bin within ASDA, Shore Road, with a launch date to be confirmed. He informed Members that details of the launch would be circulated in due course.
- v. He advised Members that additional funding could be allocated to this work area, however, due to the length of time associated with securing a site/installation of a drug bin, additional monies allocated would be at risk.
- vi. The Chair proposed to allocate an additional £2,000 to drug bins. He proposed for additional drug bins to be allocated in the Ardoyne area, including Ballygomartin, Ballysillan and Ligoneil.
- vii. The Vice Chair welcomed the use of drug bins throughout North Belfast. However, he commented that he felt the use of drug bins will only be a short term fix and there is a requirement for further discussions to be held with statutory agencies.
- viii. Councillor Paul McCusker highlighted his concern regarding his request for a drug bin to be placed in Ligoneil.
- ix. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members the local community had highlighted their concern regarding a drug bin to be placed in Ligoneil, in particular with regards the PSNI emptying the bin.
- x. He advised the Partnership that he would get an update from BDCAT regarding the possibility of a drug bin being allocated to the suggested areas and advise Members at the next DPCSP Meeting.
- xi. Following a discussion, Members agreed to:
 - increase the budget allocation to drug bins (up to £2,000); and,
 - the Safer City Coordinator to review with BDACT new proposed sites and update Members accordingly.

12. Beat the Burglar Process and Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator updated Members and provided further details in relation to the processes for distribution and progress of the Beat the Burglar (BTB) Initiative.
- ii. He reminded Members that North Belfast DPCSP had allocated a total of £8,000 to support the delivery of the Beat the Burglar Initiative.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a new process for the distribution of the Beat the Burglar packs had to be implemented due to the introduction of GDPR.
- iv. He further advised Members that the new distribution process would ensure legal indemnification of the DPCSP/Council against any further risk, both reputational and financial through residents' use of the kits.
- v. He informed Members, the BTB resource is financed through the DPCSPs but will be distributed by the Operational Team's District ASB Officer and the PSNI Crime Prevention Officers as an engagement and confidence tool.
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that to allow for this new approach, the delivery process had to be recently amended to facilitate this consideration. For this amended distribution process, the following key elements have had to be considered:
 - DPCSP's and Council are required to indemnify themselves from future risk, through use of the resource. This has meant that a legal indemnity form has been utilised which must be signed by the householder/recipient in person and not by a third party. The Council's Legal Department has advised that unless somebody is an actual legal attorney of another person, they could not sign up to these liabilities on behalf of that person.
 - Those authorised to distribute the kits would preferably do so through the delivery of community based partnership events, which would include information and advice from other services such as Police, NIFRS, NIHE etc.
 - The above considerations have also had to take into account the requirements of GDPR which has dramatically changed the way we record, store and use personal information on an event by event basis.
 - On the rare occasion that an individual resident cannot legitimately attend an event, an ASB or CPO can be tasked to deliver a kit and advise on its use. This would only be carried out in exceptional circumstances, due to the length of time an Officer could potentially spend delivering the resource, therefore having a negative impact on other demands.
- vii. He reminded Members that PCSP projects are delivered following the OBA process and therefore the distribution of these packs should be directed by the DPCSP based on need. He provided Members with an overview of the burglary

statistics for North Belfast on a ward basis for year to date compared to previous year to date to assist Members with their decision on a distribution of need.

- viii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a number of events had been requested by individuals or community/voluntary groups which have occurred or been committed. He also provided Members with details of additional requests that have been made by individuals or community/voluntary groups but no commitments have been made:
- 3 x further Groups in Ligoniel (e.g. Older Persons History Group);
 - Intercomm/Antrim Road area;
 - Newington Housing Association; and,
 - Cliftonville area.
- ix. Following a discussion, the Safer City Coordinator asked Members to agree the distribution of the BTB Packs in the following order of priority:
- 4 x Events which have been committed to and dates booked; and,
 - 1 event per area based on the residential burglary statistics in priority order until the packs run out with the exclusion of the areas which have already had a dedicated event/committed event.
- x. Furthermore, he asked Members to consider the additional requests and decide whether or not to agree to these requests based on the information provided and the burglary statistics provided.
- xi. The Chair highlighted his concern that even though events would be hosted in the local community, vulnerable people may not be able to attend the events, and therefore are unable to avail of the opportunity to get a Beat the Burglar pack.
- xii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that individuals who receive a pack must sign for the pack to confirm that they understand the usage of the pack. He advised Members that on a rare occasion, Operational Staff/Crime Prevention Officers would attend the home of a person who may be unable to attend an event. He further commented that we are trying to ensure everything is done equitably and in line with all legal requirements.
- xiii. The Vice Chair suggested for the title of the pack to be changed to 'Help Beat the Burglar'.
- xiv. Councillor Paul McCusker highlighted his concern that through the distribution method being discussed, people who need to be reached are being excluded. He requested for this concern to be addressed higher within Council
- xv. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members that the Operational Team within Community Safety are responsible for the distribution of Beat the Burglar packs and that it is a DPCSP resources not a Council resource.
- xvi. Members agreed and noted the recommendations as discussed.

13. Belfast City Council's Antisocial Behaviour Report

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with a North Belfast update on Belfast City Council ASB Issues and local district hotspots.
- ii. He advised Members that the figures presented in the report are Council statistics.
- iii. The Vice Chair highlighted that in relation to Alexander Park and ASB, Duncairn Partnership had not been involved. He asked if clarification could be provided regarding Duncairn Partnership inclusion.
- iv. Members noted the report provided.

14. Emerging Issues

- i. The Safer City Coordinator presented to Members a project proposal – SAMHI (Suicide Awareness and Mental Health Initiative) Strategic Planning.
- ii. He advised Members that the purpose of the planning session was to explore the role of the forum, its place in North Belfast and Citywide structures and how best to utilise the knowledge with partner organisations.
- iii. He further advised Members of the format of the planning session.
- iv. The Chair highlighted his concern as he was informed previously that the Partnership would not support the delivery of mental health initiatives, as this was the remit of the Health and Social Care Trust.
- v. The Vice Chair commented that when the Partnership identified its priorities, mental health had been identified as a potential work area, however at the time in question mental health had not been a priority for North Belfast DPCSP.
- vi. The Chair requested for other similar organisations to SAMHI be invited to the planning session.
- vii. Jennifer Cornell highlighted the importance that SAMHI is made aware of the Support Hub (as referenced in the Programme for Government).
- viii. Following a discussion, Members agreed to support the delivery of the SAMHI Strategic Planning event and confirmed a total of £732.00 for the project.
- ix. Jennifer Cornell requested for an update regarding the Vice Chairs attendance at PCSP meetings when the Chair is unavailable to attend. She requested an update to be provided in writing.

15. Date of Next Meeting

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the next North DPCSP Private Meeting would be held on 15th November 2018, 5.15pm, Conor Room, City Hall.