

## North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

### Private Meeting

Conor Room, City Hall  
Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018

<b>Political Members</b>	<b>Independent Members</b>
Councillor Ryan Murphy (Chair)	Gerard O'Reilly (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Mary Clarke	Jennifer Cornell
	Michael Murray
<b>Designated Organisations</b>	
Mark Cushnahan, NIFRS	Janet McClinton, PBNI
Declan Davey, YJA	Chief Inspector Kelly Moore
Mark McBride, EA	Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT
Anthony McKenna, NIHE	Inspector Paul Noble, PSNI
<b>Staff Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Alan Wardle, Safer City Coordinator	Liam Gunn, NIHE
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Alderman Frank McCoubrey
	Councillor Nuala McAllister
	Catherine Patrick

### 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 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update on the Actions following the last North Belfast DPCSP Meeting.
- iii. Councillor Clarke asked if alternative locations had been identified for additional drug bins.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that he had spoken with BDACT in relation to the location of drug bins, specifically reviewing the possibility of drug bins being located in Upper North Belfast.
- v. Following a discussion regarding the Vice Chair attending meetings when the Chair is unavailable, Jennifer Cornell requested that the Safer City Unit Manager highlights to legal the length of time that this issue has been going on for and yet to be resolved.

#### **4. Chairs Update from PCSP**

- i. The Chair provided Members with an update from the PCSP.
- ii. He advised Members that the last Belfast PCSP Meeting a lengthy discussion had taken place regarding an application being approved.
- iii. The Chair further commented that the group in question received funding via delegated authority. He commented that Members of Belfast PCSP queried the process how the group had received funding.
- iv. He further advised Members that a Special Meeting of Belfast PCSP was due to be held to review the funding of this application and the processes applied.
- v. The Chair commented that an update Members on the Special Belfast PCSP Meeting would be provided at the next North Belfast DPCSP Meeting.

#### **5. Update from Statutory Partners**

##### NIFRS

- i. Mark Cushnahan, NIFRS provided Members with an update on key statistics for the last reporting period.
- ii. He advised Members that there had been 61 major fires this month.
- iii. He also advised that there had been five attacks on the NIFRS during October.

##### H&SCT

- i. Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT provided Members with an update regarding the setup of the new Taskforce.

##### NIHE

- i. Anthony McKenna, Assistant Area Manager advised Members that the two evictions currently pending are due to be presented to the High Court in December/early January for decision.
- ii. A Member asked if a person is evicted from a property, how long they remain off the housing waiting list. Anthony confirmed that anyone evicted from a property would remain off the housing waiting list for a period of two years.

##### PBNI

- i. Janet McClinton provided Members with an update regarding the ongoing work with PSNI, NIACRO (Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders) and Extern.
- ii. The Vice Chair asked if PBNI have a role in the Base 2 NIACRO programme. Janet advised that individuals could directly make referrals to Base 2 without PBNI being involved.
- iii. Following an in depth discussion regarding housing allocation and the associated points system, in particular for offenders, a Member advised that if a person is convicted of anti-

social behaviour, current legislation states they are off the housing waiting list for two years.

### YJA

- i. Declan Davy, YJA provided Members with an update regarding the work currently being undertaken by the Youth Justice Agency.
- ii. He advised Members that the Community Resolution Notices are still ongoing with approximately 70 young people currently involved in the programme.
- iii. He also advised Members that from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November the Restorative Justice week would be held. He advised Members that as part of the Restorative Justice week, an event would be held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, in the YJA Duncairn Gardens Offices at 11.00am. He welcomed all Members to attend.
- iv. The Vice Chair thanked the Youth Justice Agency for the early prevention work they do with young people.

### 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 5.2%;
  - An increase of 23.8% had been recorded in relation to the total number of drug offences;
  - An increase of 21.1% had been recorded in relation to the total number of racist hate crimes;
  - An decrease of 11.1% had been recorded in relation to a reduction in the total number of burglaries; and,
  - An increase of 12.2% had been recorded in relation to the total number of crimes involving domestic motivation.
- ii. He advised Members that a number of antisocial incidents in the City Centre, particularly in Custom House Square and Writer Square are being reported to the PSNI.
- iii. He also informed Members that the Restorative Justice Project had commenced in North Belfast.
- iv. Inspector Noble also informed Members of the number of suspected drug related deaths in North Belfast. He commented that the coroner's report is still to be received.
- v. The Vice Chair highlighted his concern regarding ongoing incidents in the Newlodge. In particular, an incident whereby the gas supply to a house had been cut off and how the tenant had been left with no heating. He commented that the tenant advised that for the gas to be reconnected a substantial fee would have to be paid.
- vi. Chief Inspector Kelly Moore advised Members that the PSNI had recently put a lot of effort in to the Newlodge area and subsequently arrests had been made. Unfortunately, those arrested had been released and this is a frustration to the PSNI.

- vii. She reassured Members that the PSNI would continue to focus to address the ongoing issues within the Newlodge area. She suggested for a partnership approach to be adapted to try to address the issues affecting the Newlodge area.
- viii. The Chair suggested for local councillors to contact the gas supplier on behalf of the tenant to try to get the gas reconnected free of charge. He also suggested for the tenant to speak to a local solicitor for advice regarding the possibility of a criminal damage claim.

#### Education Authority

- i. Mark McBride, EA provided Members with an update regarding the staffing structure within the youth units of the Education Authority. He advised Members of projects currently being delivered with young people.
- ii. He also advised Members of the restructuring of the youth provision within North Belfast. He commented that a staff member would remain in Glencairn and the Hammer. However, due to a reduction in funding, the post based in Mountcollyer would become a part time post.
- iii. The Vice Chair commented he was disappointed to hear that the post based in Mountcollyer had become a part time post.
- iv. Mark also provided Members with update on reports of young people gathering in areas of North Belfast. However, he advised Members that information provided by the detached teams suggests that the number of young people gathering in areas of North Belfast is lowering. He further commented that indicators suggest that it is best to start youth programmes at the beginning of March.
- v. The Chair asked why had youth programmes been scheduled for the period January – March, if evidence indicated that there are less young people involved in antisocial incidents during this period.
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator advised that Council statistics show that ASB incidents are consistent throughout the year.
- vii. Mark informed Members that through discussions with young people, young people have suggested that it is easier to get drugs in North Belfast than alcohol.
- viii. Mark also advised Members that Education Authority currently have funding available whereby organisations can apply to the EA for funding to deliver initiatives with young people. He advised that the deadline for applications is Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **6. 2018/2019 North Belfast DPCSP Action Plan Spend 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 5<sup>th</sup> November, the budget for the North Belfast DPCSP is detailed as follows:

Budget	Spent	Committed	Planned	Remaining	% Spent/ Committed/ Planned
£138,441	£129,578			£8,864	92%

- iii. He advised Members that the Hate Crime quotation was scored today and was appointable.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that work is currently being undertaken with key stakeholders in relation to identifying best practice of utilising the funding allocated to drugs and alcohol.
- v. Members noted the update provided along with the content of the report.

#### **7. 2018/2019 Belfast PCSP District Spend Approval as of 5<sup>th</sup> November**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update in relation to Belfast PCSP District Spend Approval as of 5<sup>th</sup> November.
- ii. Members noted the content of the report provided.

#### **8. Domestic Violence Budget Proposal**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with further details in relation to a proposed contribution from North Belfast DPCSP towards the delivery of a PCSP Crisis Support project.
- ii. He reminded Members, at the last North DPCSP Private Meeting, it was agreed delegated authority to be given to the Safer City Manager to re-profile the remaining Domestic Violence budget to similar DV projects if required.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of the project proposal - Crisis Support Project, which will directly benefit DV victims in North Belfast and confirmed that associated budget for the delivery of the event, would be £2,500.
- iv. Following a discussion, Members noted the content of the report provided and approved the project including the requested budget.

#### **9. North Belfast Quotation Updates**

- i. Members were provided with further details in relation to the current position regarding the delivery of thematic quotations within North Belfast.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Hate Crime quotation was scored today and an organisation was identified as a potential delivery partner. Once the organisation has been notified, Members will be updated with further details on the successful organisation.
- iii. He reminded Members that at the last Private Meeting that the Safer City Coordinator had confirmed the successful appointment of a delivery partnership for the ASB themed quotation - Ardoyne Youth Enterprise (AYE)

- iv. He advised Members that following discussions with AYE, it has been agreed to begin delivery in January 2019, which will allow the available budget to be utilised to provide outreach resource up to and over St Patrick's Day 2019.
- v. Members noted the content of the report provided.

#### **10. D(PCSP) Showcase Event Proposal**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with details in relation to a proposed stakeholder best practice showcase event.
- ii. He advised Members that the purpose of the event would be to reassure Members that we are doing everything we can to support local community groups in their pursuit of funding from Belfast PCSPs.
- iii. He further commented that the event would also be an opportunity to build the capacity of local community groups by explaining what evidence of need is and how to get it, what information we will ask them to give us during the life of the project and what evaluation returns look like and how to claim full funding.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator commented that the timing of the event would be crucial as PCSP Small Grants close at 12 noon on Friday 11 January 2019. He therefore advised Members that the proposed date for the event would be the Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 12.00 – 2.00pm, Reception Hall, City Hall.
- v. Members welcomed this event and requested that events like this should be done on a regular basis.
- vi. Members noted the content of the report.

#### **11. 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. The Vice Chair requested that the Duncairn Partnership to be invited to any meetings regarding Alexander Park. The Safer City Coordinator noted this request.
- iii. Members discussed the ongoing concerns regarding ASB incidents in the Cavehill Country Park. Members also welcomed the signs that had been erected in the Country Park.
- iv. Members noted the report provided.

#### **12. Emerging Issues**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members of the forthcoming Beat the Burglar events:
  - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – 10am – 12.30hrs – Hammer Community Centre – Age Friendly Event. (41 delivered);
  - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 2pm – 5pm – Newlodge Community Centre. Ongoing Christmas Events;

- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – 11am – 2pm – Ardoyne Community Centre – Pensioners Event;
  - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – 11am – 2pm – Girdwood Complex – Pensioners event;
  - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 11am – 2pm – Concorde Community Centre - Pensioners Event; and,
  - Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 –2pm – 5pm – Duncairn Community Centre – Pensioners Event.
- ii. Jennifer Cornell thanked the PSNI for their intervention regarding recent ASB incidents in Kanas Avenue.
- iii. She also advised Members that a recent Greater Shankill Community Network Meeting, it had been highlighted that there had been a breakdown in the communication between the PSNI and youth workers. She commented that the local community were no longer aware whom to contact within the PSNI if they needed some intervention to take place.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator advised that the terms and conditions of the ASB quotation would stipulate that the contractor provide the PSNI with information regarding who is the key local contact within the community.

### **13. Date of Next Meeting**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the next North DPCSP Private Meeting would be held in February 2019. Time and venue to be confirmed.