

## North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

### Private Meeting

Conor Room, City Hall  
Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019

<b>Political Members</b>	<b>Independent Members</b>
Councillor Ryan Murphy (Chair)	Gerard O'Reilly (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Mary Clarke	Jennifer Cornell
Councillor Paul McCusker	Catherine Patrick
<b>Designated Organisations</b>	
Mark Cushnahan, NIFRS	Mark McBride, EA
Liam Gunn, NIHE	Inspector Paul Noble, PSNI
Emer Loughran, PBNI	Chief Inspector Kelly Moore
<b>Staff Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Ryan Black, Neighbourhood Service Manager	Declan Davey, YJA
Suzanne Gowling, Safer City Coordinator	Janet McClinton, PBNI
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Ald. Frank McCoubrey
Denise Smith, Safer City Assistant Manager	Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT
	Michael Murray

#### **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
- ii. He advised that Suzanne Gowling would be the Safer City Coordinator supporting North Belfast DPCSP for the foreseeable future.

#### **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. Presentation from Ardoyne Youth Providers Forum re ASB Project**

- i. Shane Whelehan, Director, Ardoyne Youth Enterprise provided Members with an overview and the delivery of the North Belfast Youth Outreach and Diversion Strategy.
- ii. He advised Members of what is currently being delivered by Ardoyne Youth Enterprise, whom they are working with, where the work is taking place and the timeframe for the delivery of the project.
- iii. Mr Whelehan provided Members with an in-depth overview of the programmes previous outcomes. He advised Member's that the current project would be evaluated and a report would be provided accordingly.

- iv. The Chair thanked Mr Whelehan for his presentation and commended the work of Ardoyne Youth Enterprise. He commented that North Belfast DPCSP would be supportive of engaging with Ardoyne Youth Enterprise in the future.
- v. A Member also thanked Ardoyne Youth Enterprise for the work they have delivered throughout North Belfast. He also highlighted that North Belfast DPCSP should play a role in ensuring that all youth workers are trained appropriately and protected when delivering outreach work.
- vi. The Vice Chair also thanked Ardoyne Youth Enterprise for their work. He commented that an incident had occurred recently regarding a suicide attempt. He asked if Ardoyne Youth Enterprise had seen an increase/trends in these incidents.
- vii. Mr Whelehan commented that he was not sure there had been an increase in these incidents, as he believed the issue is always there. He commented that in order to try to address this issue, a need to target the cohort group to change lifestyles and life choices.
- viii. A Member asked for an overview of the number of youth workers based in North Belfast (Ballysillan). Mr Whelehan advised that seven youth workers are allocated to North Belfast. He also confirmed that if required, these youth workers can work outside this area if required.
- ix. Mr Whelehan advised the information regarding the names/contact details/location of work for all youth workers are shared on social media.
- x. The Safer City Assistant Manager thanked Mr Whelehan for his presentation and commended the work of Ardoyne Youth Enterprise. She also welcomed a follow up meeting with Ardoyne Youth Enterprise.
- xi. The Chair thanked Mr Whelehan for his attendance at the North Belfast DPCSP Meeting and for the presentation provided.

#### **4. Minutes/Matters Arising**

- i. Minutes of the North Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting, which was held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 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. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Operational team had been advised of a request to include Duncairn Partnership in meetings relating to Alexander Park.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that Intercomm has been commissioned to deliver the No Hate Here project and the steering group met last week. An update was circulated to Members for information.

- v. She also advised Members that through delegated authority, the following projects had been approved:
- £2,570 to Limestone United to fund a good practice visit for 7 volunteers, 2 leaders and 1 PSNI officer to explore current good practice related to young people at risk and to apply that learning to activities on their return;
  - £1,440 to New Lodge Youth Centre at the Ashton Centre for a residential which pulls together their Natural High's Project and a Pizza and Peeler night which took place as part of the Stay Safe Sunday project which DPCSP also fund. This project will further develop the trust between the PSNI and these young men to consider how they address the policing and community safety challenges they face together. This project is due to start on **Monday 18 February** and PSNI have been detailed to attend parts of the residential;
  - £2,999 to Shankill ACT to deliver their School Crossing Safety project in 4 primary schools in North Belfast – one of which must be the St. Vincent De Paul Primary School.

## **5. Chairs Update from PCSP**

- i. The Chair provided Members with an update from the PCSP Private Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February.
- ii. He advised Members that the last Belfast PCSP Meeting a lengthy discussion had taken place regarding proposed project delivery and budget allocation for 2019/2020. He advise Members this would be discussed under Item 7.

## **6. 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 54 major fires this month.
- iii. He also advised that there had been four attacks on the NIFRS this month.

### NIHE

- i. Liam Gunn, NIHE advised Members that two cases had been presented at Court, and the outcome has assisted with managing other housing issues.
- ii. He further commented that preliminary meetings had commenced regarding local bonfires.
- iii. The Vice Chair advised Members of the positive work being undertaken in partnership with NIHE in the Newlodge area.

### PBNI

- i. Emer Loughran, PBNI advised Members that PBNI are currently working with 280 clients.
- ii. She also advised Members that PBNI are relocating to Duncairn Gardens.

## Education Authority

- i. Mark McBride, EA provided Members with an update regarding the work of the Education Authority.
- ii. He advised Members that there had been an increase in antisocial behaviour throughout Belfast. He advised Members that when addressing antisocial behaviour, an element of displacement occurs. He further commented that recently antisocial behaviour had been reported in Falls Park, and subsequently when addressed, the issue was displaced to the Springfield Dam.
- iii. Mr McBride provided Members with an overview of EA funding. He commented that two Fresh Start workers have been recruited and are now in post. He also advised Members that the EA are in the process of recruiting staff for their FLARE initiative.
- iv. Following a discussion, Members highlighted the importance and need for open/safe spaces for young people.
- v. Members also agreed for a more coordinated approach to be adopted by statutory agencies regarding working with young people.

## **7. 2019/2020 Belfast DPCSP Action Plan**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an overview of the Belfast PCSP 2019/2012 Action Plan.
- ii. Members were advised that following the last Belfast PCSP Meeting, held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February, Belfast PCSP had requested for each DPCSP to review the project proposals in the context for their own Partnership. Information received from each DPCSP will be detailed at the next PCSP Meeting in order to assist with how funding will be allocated to each DPCSP in 2019/2020.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Short Description</b>
Meetings	Private Meetings, Policing Committee Meetings, Joint Briefings and Public Meetings
<b>DPCSP Commentary:</b> No comments.	
Strategic Assessment and Action Plan 2020	Taking the findings from the March 2019 resident survey and comments from the public consultation on the strategic assessment to form a Strategic Direction for Belfast PCSPs
Cyber Safety Project 2020	Provide information/training sessions to local groups about staying safe with appropriate on line behaviours and to be confident in reporting any concerns Advertised in City Matters Spring Edition

Home Security Service 2021	On referral from PSNI to undertake a home safety assessment and install the necessary equipment. Primarily for victims of domestic burglary and adults at risk of harm
RADAR Project 2020	Every primary school in Belfast is offered the opportunity for pupils in P7 to attend RADAR
Consent Project 2020	Provide information/training sessions to local groups of young people about sexual consent and to be confident in reporting any concerns Advertised in City Matters Spring Edition
Crisis Support Project 2020	Develop an appropriate course, train and mentor those delivering it to support women in hostels to increase their future success and build their confidence, particularly in relation to parenting
Stewarding Project 2020	Provide training to local groups so they are better able to “steward” their events, particularly in relation to managing drug and alcohol misuse
Sharps Removal Contract 2022	Remove sharps from public spaces across Belfast
<b>DPCSP Commentary:</b>  No comments noted.	
Policing Committee Grants	Up to £2K for groups to respond to local policing and community safety issues; rolling programme for a timely response which is likely to include positive use of time activities.
Community Safety Small Grants	Up to £5K for groups to manage local policing and community safety issues; available twice each year.
<b>DPCSP Commentary:</b>  No comments noted.	
Preventative Safeguarding	Promote relevant policing and community safety campaigns including using the Safer Belfast Website and App
Neighbourhood Watch	Support local NHW coordinators with networking meetings and live information sessions on relevant topics
Drug and Alcohol Support Services	Increase the capacity of organisations currently engaged to deliver these types of services with appropriate clinical governance and specialist expertise. People will be referred from PCSP Members to ensure the local policing and community benefit of the project
Improving Policing and Community Safety in the City Centre	Practical projects to improve policing and community safety in the City Centre
Dual Diagnosis/SISS	Support for rough sleepers in the City Centre
Christmas Safety Event	Event in City Hall to raise awareness of Christmas Safety
<b>DPCSP Commentary:</b>	

A Member asked who delivered the Dual Diagnosis Project. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that Extern had delivered this project for the last two years on behalf of the Partnership.

No further comments noted.

DSVA Awareness Raising and Training	Provide information/training sessions to local groups to raise awareness of domestic and sexual violence and abuse, and be confident in reporting any concerns. Sessions will also provide signposting to localised support services
Post Primary School Project	Provide a coordinating resource to develop a universal policing and community safety programme in schools across the city; particularly building on the work of YJA
Feel Safer Project	Support local groups of adults at risk of harm to feel safer and have confidence in PCSP Member organisations
Conversation Piece	Support local groups of young people to explore confidence in policing and embedding a “culture of lawfulness”
Hate Crime Projects	To implement the recommendations of a review of hate crime and fear of hate crime projects across Belfast
ASB Project	Coordinate with local services to source and deliver consistent outreach youth work and enhanced services at key dates, particularly school holiday Local small scale activities to divert young people should tensions arise Support youth workers to provide a consistent approach to young people across the city

**DPCSP Commentary:**

The Vice Chair highlighted his concern that he felt resources are being taken away from North Belfast and being allocated to citywide. He commented that each district is unique to their own individual areas. He further commented that an equitable split of funding among all districts would not be viable as areas with higher levels of social deprivation would lose out. He reiterated his concern that if additional funding is allocated to Citywide, North Belfast will lose out.

The Chair also highlighted his concern that if additional funding is profiled into citywide projects, North Belfast will have less funding to deliver local projects.

A Member made reference to the level of domestic violence that occurs in North Belfast. She asked if funding is allocated to domestic violence, would North Belfast get an increased amount due to the fact the North Belfast have the highest levels of domestic violence across Belfast.

The Safer City Coordinator commented that she understood Members concerns regarding the need for local delivery. She explained that citywide delivery would involve staff managing one service provider for the entire City. They would deliver services in each of the districts, so that the benefit of the projects would be felt by local groups in North Belfast, but they would not be put under the burden of applying for funding, recording and reporting performance and submitting claims.

The Chair advised Members that he attended the OBA Planning Workshop for ASB. He commented that he had concerns as there was a project proposal developed and presented at this workshop before any consultation with Members had taken place.

The Safer City Coordinator assured Members that in preparation for the OBA Workshops, every project had been reviewed for its Policing and Community Safety benefit and recommendations for future activity made. Each workshop had a review booklet, which was shared, with all Members of all PCSPs in advance of the meeting, which was in line with the process that Belfast PCSP agreed in October 2018.

The Vice Chair commented that citywide projects would have an impact on districts but at different levels.

A Member asked for an update in relation to getting recommendations for the Hate Crime and Fear of Hate Crime programme of work. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that Glenn Thomas was the Officer responsible for overseeing this work area on behalf of Belfast PCSP and that she understood he was liaising with groups funded by (D)PCSPs for hate crime work as well as with the PSNI Hate Crime lead.

The Chair welcomed the delivery of the Drugs and Alcohol project on a Citywide basis, as he believed the impact that project was meant to have at a local level didn't happen.

The Chair commented that previously North Belfast were able to deliver a number of projects through Small Grants/Policing Committee. He commented that if North Belfast DPCSP were to fund the same number of projects next year again, they would have no other funding to support the delivery of any other projects. He reiterated his concern if North Belfast DPCSP support the delivery of citywide projects, less funding would be allocated at a district level.

The Safer City Coordinator commented that through the delivery of citywide projects, work would be different not less and services would be available that local groups could avail off.

## **8. 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 Safer City Coordinator was asked to confirm how Elected Members responses are recorded on FLARE
- iii. Members noted the report provided.

## **9. Emerging Issues**

- i. No emerging issues were noted.

## **10. Date of Next Meeting**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the next North DPCSP Private Meeting would be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019.
- ii. The Chair confirmed that the agenda would largely be informed by the funding allocation agreed by Belfast PCSP on the 11 March and there would be much to discuss. As such, it was agreed to hold the meeting in Adelaide Exchange as it was more conducive to planning type meetings.