

West Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Room AD1H, 9 Adelaide
Monday, 18th February 2019

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Claire Canavan (Chair)	Liz Groves
Councillor Matt Garrett	
Councillor Brian Kingston	
Statutory Designated Organisations	
Harry Bradley, YJA	Inspector Clare McClelland, PSNI
Paddy Kelly, NIHE	Chief Inspector Gary Reid, PSNI
Paul O'Neill, H&SCT	Pauline Smart, EA
Staff Present	Apologies
Alison Allen, Neighbourhood Service Manager	Mark Cushnahan, NIFRS
Suzanne Gowling, Safer City Coordinator	Michael George, CNP
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Aisling Heath, Falls Council
Denise Smith, Safer City Assistant Manager	Paula Kerr, Upper Falls
	Cllr Brian Heading

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and noted the apologies provided.

2. Declarations of Interest

- 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 recorded.

3. Minutes

- i. The Minutes of the West Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting held on 19th November, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.

4. Matters Arising

- i. Members were advised that the relevant actions detailed at the last West Belfast DPCSP Meeting would be completed in due course.

5. Chairs Update from PCSP

- i. The Chair provided Members with an update from the Belfast PCSP Meeting held on Monday 11th February.
- ii. She advised Members that a discussion had taken place regarding the Belfast PCSP Action Plan 2019/2020. She further advised that Members further information regarding the discussion would be provided at Item 7.

6. Updates from Statutory Partners

NIHE

- i. Paddy Kelly, NIHE provided Members with an update regarding recent anti-social behaviour incidents reported via the Professional Witness Officer.
- ii. He advised Members of ongoing drug issues and the need for information to be provided to landlords.
- iii. Mr Kelly also advised Members on the need for statutory agencies to work coterminous and for information sharing to take place.
- iv. He also suggested a review of the Professional Witness post.
- v. A Member highlighted a concern regarding potential drug dealing in areas of West Belfast near Clanmill housing.
- vi. The Safer City Assistant Manager advised Members that Belfast PCSP had been working in partnership with a range of statutory agencies to put in a place a safe guarding agenda. She further advised that a review had been conducted of work done to date and a report would be provided in due course.

Education Authority

- vii. Pauline Smart, EA, advised Members of EA funding allocated to address antisocial behaviour. She commented that additional youth officers are deployed on Saturday and Sunday.
- viii. She informed Members that applications for EA funding for 2019/2020 is currently opened, she hoped that organisations that already avail of funding, reapply to ensure work continues into 2019/2020. She informed Members that this funding is 'extended funding'.

Youth Justice

- ix. Harry Bradley, YJA provided Members with an update regarding that the YJA had recently commissioned 'Strung Out', a new play by Spanner in the Works Theatre Company and the play had been performed in a number of venues across Northern Ireland.
- x. He further advised Members of the recent success of the YJA art exhibition in the Ulster Museum.
- xi. He provided Members with an update on the school programme.
- xii. Mr Bradley also informed Members that the YJA Duncairn Gardens Offices are due to close next month. YJA will relocate to Waring Street, Belfast.

PSNI

- xiii. Inspector Clare McClelland advised Members that the PSNI continue to work with other key agencies to ensure coordination of resources.
- xiv. She informed Members of the work the PSNI are delivering in local schools, in particular St Mary's and Christian Brothers Schools.
- xv. She further advised Members of the multi-agency work being undertaken to address car crime in the Divis area.

7. Belfast PCSP 2019/2020 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 11th February, The Director of City and Neighbourhood Services had requested that each DPCSP review the OBA projects 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.

Project	Short Description
Meetings	Private Meetings, Policing Committee Meetings, Joint Briefings and Public Meetings
DPCSP Commentary:	
No comments noted.	
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

DPCSP Commentary:	
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.
DPCSP Commentary:	
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
DPCSP Commentary:	
<p>The Safer City Coordinator recommended to Members for the above projects to be delivered on a citywide basis in order to ensure that the desired impact would be achieved.</p> <p>A Member advised the Partnership that he had attended the last Belfast PCSP Meeting and he believed that the information presented at the Meeting had been reported incorrectly.</p> <p>He commented that the budget associated with the projects presented at the PCSP Meeting had not been correct and subsequently would have a direct impact on the work of the sub groups throughout West Belfast.</p> <p>He commented that West Belfast DPCSP could not provide an accurate commentary regarding the projects detailed without having a budget aligned to each project proposal. He further commented that the funding model used by the Northern Ireland Policing Board is based on population and need, and therefore this model should to be applied to distribute funding being allocated to the DPCSP's.</p> <p>He highlighted that the 2019/2020 operating budget for West Belfast DPCSP needed to be made available to the Partnership. In doing so, this would allow Members to consider and discuss project proposals for delivery in 2019/2020.</p> <p>The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that Belfast PCSP had requested commentary from each DPCSP regarding the project proposals to determine a funding model which could be applied across all districts.</p> <p>A Member commented that the funding model used previously had been based on need and population. He commented that if the same model is not applied in 2019/2020 to allocate funding, both North and West Belfast would lose out considerably with regards the amount of funding being allocated to their areas.</p>	

The Neighbourhood Services Manager advised Members that all commentary provided by West Belfast DPCSP would be communicated back to Belfast PCSP.

Following a discussion regarding the implementation of projects, Members were advised that project delivery would always be discussed with Members in advance. She also commented that Members could assist with the development of specifications in relation to the delivery of projects.

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:

A Member, on behalf of the Education Authority, highlighted her concern regarding the possibility of duplicate funding in relation to the anti-social behaviour project. She commented that all funding allocated should be addressing gaps in local communities and ensuring that the appropriate provision is provided. She further commented that the Education Authority is not currently funding anything within the City Centre.

The Safer City Coordinator commented that funding already secured needed to be referenced in all specifications. She also highlighted that information regarding partnership working should also be detailed.

A Member highlighted his concern if specific services are required at certain times of the year within West Belfast, West Belfast DPCSP may not be able to provide support for these services if the wrong funding model is applied in relation to determining 2019/2020 budget allocations.

The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that community groups could utilise Small Grants for planned projects at key dates and Policing Committee Grants as a reactionary fund, when required.

A Member commented that he recognises the rationale for the delivery of citywide projects. However, he highlighted the need for local community groups to be involved with the delivery of projects. He further commented that a correct balance needed to be achieved to ensure this happens. He agreed with comments made previously, that if there is no local buy in, the delivery of projects could become disconnected.

The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that in relation to the delivery of larger projects, organisations with expertise in specific areas could be appointed to deliver these projects and could offer local organisations the opportunity to learn from their experience.

A Member reminded the Partnership that they agreed in previous years to support the West Belfast Community Strategy to deliver services on behalf of West Belfast DPCSP. The Member highlighted the need for reassurance to be provided regarding the West Belfast Community Strategy.

The Safer City Coordinator suggested that Members revisit the West Belfast Community Safety Strategy when funding had been allocated to West Belfast DPCSP.

The Neighbourhood Service Manager provided Members with an overview of the tender process and how a tender process could allow projects to become sustainable. She further commented that key to the tender process is identifying the right specification and delivering the right model. She welcomed Members feedback on the importance of projects, how projects had been delivered to date, the delivery model used and if a consortium, approach had been applied.

The Safer City Coordinator provided an overview of the commentary that West Belfast DPCSP would like to be relayed to Belfast PCSP in relation to project proposals:

- Need for a balance to be achieved between the delivery of citywide and local provision;
- A partnership/joint working approach to be adopted across Districts (where applicable);
- Allocation model and funding allocation; and,
- West Belfast Communication Strategy.

A Member also requested West Belfast DPCSP to have the ability to work on the ground and deliver the Action Plan as an autonomous body. He also highlighted the importance of sub groups and their ability to deliver on behalf of the Partnership.

8. West Belfast Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Report

- i. Members were provided with an overview of the West Belfast Antisocial Behaviour Report.
- ii. A Member commended all officers involved in addressing antisocial behaviour incidents throughout North and West Belfast.
- iii. A Member advised that the Youth Justice Agency – Community Resolution Notices, for a trail period, had been expanded to include other incidents such as criminal damage and public disorder.

9. Emerging Issues

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update in relation to the ARCS funding and details of projects that have received funding in West Belfast.
- ii. Details of projects who received ARCS funding to be circulated to Members.

10. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Members were advised that the next meeting of the West DPCSP would be Tuesday 19th March, 5.30pm. Venue TBC.