

North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Policing Committee

Conor Room, City Hall
Tuesday, 25th June 2019

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Fred Cobain (Chair)	Gerard O'Reilly (Vice-Chair)
Councillor JJ Magee	Jennifer Cornell
Councillor Mal O'Hara	Michael Murray
	Gerald Solinas
Designated Organisations	
Chief Inspector Kelly Moore	Inspector Jonathan Graham
Staff Present	Apologies
Suzanne Gowling, Safer City Coordinator	Councillor Nuala McAllister
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Councillor Ryan Murphy

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair, Councillor Fred Cobain welcomed Members to the North Belfast DPCSP Policing Committee 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

- i. Minutes of the North Belfast DPCSP Policing Committee Meeting, which was held on 19th February 2019, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.

4. Matters Arising

- i. No matters arising were noted.

5. PSNI's Belfast DCU PCSP Nine Month Report

- i. Chief Inspector Kelly Moore provided Members with an overview on police performance against the Local Policing Plan for the period 01 April – 17 June 2019. Members noted that:
 - Overall crime had increased by 8.8%;
 - ASB had decreased by 4%;
 - Overall burglaries have decreased by 9.7% during the first 3 months of the year in North Belfast and the outcome rate had increased by 6.2%;
 - Decrease of 25% in relation to the number of Race Hate crimes reported in North Belfast; and,
 - An increase of 35.1% had been recorded in relation to the total number of drug offences.
- ii. Chief Inspector Moore also advised that there had been 17,500 calls for service in North Belfast. She further commented that only 24% of these service calls were related to crime.
- iii. The Vice Chair highlighted the need for further engagement between the PSNI and the local community. He also commented that the PSNI had not attended local community meetings, and this would inevitably have an impact on confidence in policing.
- iv. Chief Inspector Moore commented that due to budget cuts, it is difficult for the PSNI to resource everything. She advised Members that the PSNI, where possible, would aim to attend local meetings.
- v. Councillor Magee also reiterated that confidence with the PSNI in the local community is very low. He advised Members of an incident that requested for PSNI attendance, it took over five hours for the PSNI to respond to the request.
- vi. Chief Inspector Moore acknowledged the importance of managing public expectations and linking with local community representatives/elected members.
- vii. Michael Murray asked if the information provided in relation to racist hate crime, if this included LGBT. Chief Inspector Moore advised Members that she would request a breakdown on the information presented and would provide an update when available.
- viii. Following a discussion regarding hate crime, Chief Inspector Moore advised that a wider overview of hate crime statistics would be presented at future meetings.
- ix. Councillor O'Hara asked if a breakdown on the types of drugs seized could be provided at DPCSP Meetings.
- x. Chief Inspector Moore advised Members that the majority of drugs would be poly drugs.
- xi. Michael Murray asked for an update on the delivery of the Street Triage project. The Safer City Coordinator noted this request and an update would be provided at the next DPCSP Meeting.
- xii. Mr Murray also highlighted his concern regarding joyriding in the Shore Road/Duncrue area. Chief Inspector Moore commented that she had not been aware of these incidents and would review.

6. Policing Committee Grants

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members North Belfast DPCSP had allocated £20,000 towards Policing Committee Grants during 2019/2020.
- ii. She further commented that to date, no applications have been received, however staff have been in contact with a number of groups in order to support project development.
- iii. Members were provided with copies of the policing committee application and guidance notes.
- iv. Following a discussion, Members were asked to:
 - Promote Policing Committee Grants within their communities and wider networks;
 - Agree to extend the delegated authority to a Members Panel for awarding Policing Committee Grants for time-bound projects to working group of 5 Members, to include a PSNI representative, with a quorum of 3 voting Members (Political and Independent) required to approve decisions. Funding will then be reported retrospectively at subsequent Policing Committee meetings; and,
 - Review the level of funding allocated towards Policing Committee Grants in November 2019, and reconsider as appropriate.
- v. Members noted and agreed the recommendations.

7. Public Meeting

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a Public Meeting of the North DPCSP is due to be held in September 2019.
- ii. Gerald Solinas advised Members that he had received complaints regarding public meetings and their format.
- iii. Following a discussion, Members agreed to include a presentation on the police performance for 2018/19. Other themes for the public meeting to be agreed.
- iv. Date, time and venue of the next Public Meeting to be circulated to Members when confirmed.

8. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Date and venue of the next Policing Committee Meeting to be circulated to Members when confirmed.