

## North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

### Private Meeting

Conor Room, City Hall

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2019

<b>Political Members</b>	<b>Independent Members</b>
Councillor JJ Magee	Michael Murray (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Nuala McAllister	Jennifer Cornell
Councillor Mal O'Hara	Gerard O'Reilly
Alderman Guy Spence	Catherine Patrick
	Gerald Solinas
<b>Designated Organisations</b>	
Inspector Paul Noble	Gabi Mornhinweg, H&SCT
Liam Gunn, NIHE	Dermot Magorrian, YJA
<b>Staff Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Suzanne Gowling, Safer City Coordinator	Councillor Fred Cobain (Chair)
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Mark McBride, EA
	Emer Loughran, PBNI
	Chief Inspector Kelly Moore
	Councillor Ryan Murphy

### 1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Vice Chair, Michael Murray 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 25<sup>th</sup> June 2019, 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. A Member requested for the date the action was requested on to be detailed on the actions list and for all actions still to be completed to be detailed on the minutes until the action is completed.

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

- i. No update from the previous PCSP Meeting was not provided. This was due the Chair not being unavailable to attend the North DPCSP Private Meeting.

#### **5. Matters Arising**

- i. No matters arising were discussed.

#### **6. (D)PCSP Audit and Governance Arrangements**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Chief Executive of the NI Policing Board (NIPB) had written to all Councils highlighting a number of general observations of poor procurement practices that were found during the NIPB's verification audits relating to 2017-2018 expenditure. A copy of the letter had been circulated to Members for notation.
- ii. Members were advised that the observations were not specific to verification audits at Belfast City Council and were not specific to Belfast PCSP.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator also informed Members that Belfast City Council's Internal Audit Programme would be conducting a review of (D)PCSP procedures and expenditure for the 2018-2019 financial year during July/August 2019 as per the conditions of our Funding Agreement with Joint Committee.
- iv. A Member asked how do North DPCSP ensure that the appropriate number of quotes are provided? The Safer City Coordinator advised that in line with BCC's procurement processes, the applicant would tell PCSP how much a 'project' would cost. She also advised Members that if the level of funding available for the project is between £3,000 and £8,000, quotes must be invited from at least three suppliers and if the level of funding is between £8,000 and up to £30,000, quotes must be invited from at least four suppliers.
- v. Members noted the report provided.

#### **7. 2019/2020 Belfast PCSP Action Plan Implementation**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update on the progress for the North Belfast DPCSP Projects in the 2019/2020 Belfast PCSP Action Plan.
- ii. She advised Members that North Belfast DPCSP initially approved the projects presented and their budget allocation at the meeting on 12 March 2019. She further advised that Belfast PCSP gave retrospective final approval to the proposed projects, on 17 June 2019.
- iii. Members were advised that the proposed projects had completed due diligence and complied with the Belfast City Council's procurement policy and procedures.

The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with a detailed overview of the proposed projects, project descriptions and the cost requested from North Belfast DPCSP as detailed below:

##### **a. Feel Safer Theme:**

East, South and North Belfast District PCSP's Older and Vulnerable Adults Project

Supplier: CM Works  
 Cost to North Belfast DPCSP: £3,747

**b. Feel Safer Theme:**

East, South and North Belfast Hate Crime Awareness Raising Project  
 Cost to North Belfast DPCSP - £7,500

**c. Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse:**

East, South, North and West Belfast District PCSP's Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Awareness Raising and Training Project  
 Cost to North Belfast DPCSP: £1,875

- iv. Jennifer Cornell asked for clarification regarding the specifics of the Hate Crime Awareness Raising Project.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Hate Crime Awareness Raising Project would allow to:
  - amplify the # NoPlaceForHate campaign city wide;
  - support 3 Crime Steering Groups across the city;
  - promote the #NoPlaceForHate campaign citywide; and,
  - host and cater a citywide #NoPlaceForHate awareness raising and interactive information session in Belfast City Hall.
- vi. Alderman Guy Spence suggested for a mapping exercise to be completed to identify where work has been completed and gaps for where work needs to be done in relation to Hate Crime. Members welcomed this suggestion.
- vii. Following a discussion, Members agreed to allocate the funding requested to each of the proposed projects. Members also agreed for Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator to attend the next North Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting to provide Members with an in-depth overview of the Hate Crime Awareness Raising Project.
- viii. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members as previously discussed, the Post Primary School Project, to which the North Belfast DPCSP had allocated £5,000, would no longer be progressing during 2019/2020. She therefore recommended that the Partnership considered to reallocate this budget towards Small Grants. Members agreed to this recommendation.
- ix. As requested by Members at the last North DPCSP Meeting, the Safer City Coordinator presented to Members a model to address ASB in North Belfast:

Defined ASB	Recommended Intervention	Responsibility/DPCSP Procurement
Risk taking and nuisance behaviour from local young people	Intergenerational activities Positive use of time activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community led - fund through small grants and policing committee grants</li> <li>• EA core services</li> </ul>
	On street youth work – key times <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding</li> <li>• Mediation to reduce tensions</li> <li>• Support help seeking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA Area Projects</li> <li>• DPCSP funded – planned programme additional call off if the need is identified</li> </ul>

	<p>Addressing underlying issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up work with local youth services</li> <li>• Follow up work with local specialist support services*</li> </ul>	
<p>Risk taking and nuisance behaviour from young people not known to local residents</p>	<p>On street youth work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding</li> <li>• Mediation to reduce tensions</li> <li>• Support help seeking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA Area Projects</li> <li>• DPCSP funded – planned programme additional call off if the need is identified</li> <li>• Interface areas are of concern as young people seem to be attracted to them; however not for interface issues</li> </ul>
	<p>Addressing underlying issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up work with youth services where the young people are from</li> <li>• Follow up work with local specialist support services* where the young people are from</li> </ul>	
<p>Residents' fear</p>	<p>Intergenerational activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community led - fund through small grants and policing committee grants</li> </ul>
	<p>Resolved through policing and community safety networks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PACT Resources</li> <li>• NW Schemes</li> </ul>
	<p>On street reassurance work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding</li> <li>• Mediation to reduce tensions</li> <li>• Support help seeking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DPCSP funded – planned programme additional call off if the need is identified</li> </ul>
<p>Events that attract young people and have increased levels of risk taking behaviour e.g. concerts, events, parades, football fixtures that cause local clashes etc.</p>	<p>Safe spaces with harm reduction, crisis services, victim support and first aid</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DPCSP to work in partnership with funded providers to test safe space</li> </ul>
	<p>On street reassurance work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding</li> <li>• Mediation to reduce tensions</li> <li>• Support help seeking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of call off if the need is identified</li> </ul>

- x. Councillor Nuala McAllister welcomed the model detailed. She commented that the model would need to run in parallel with being reactionary as well.
- xi. A Member commented that young people are not just responsible for antisocial behaviour. He further commented that there are young people and adults fast tracking from soft antisocial behaviour to criminal activity. He commented that this is very evident in the Newlodge area. He also highlighted the ongoing issue with transient youth, and people coming from other areas to parts of North Belfast to engage in antisocial behaviour. He also commented that the community come under threat if they challenge the core of young people.

- xii. The Safer City Coordinator commented that the proposed model focuses on young people and not adults. She suggested that the Partnership may want to look at adults and antisocial behaviour.
- xiii. A Member commented that he believes what is currently in place to address issues such as antisocial behaviour is failing. He commented that due to this failing, vulnerable people in local communities are left to live with criminal activity.
- xiv. Alderman Guy Spence welcomed the proposed model and advised Members that he had recently attended a local PACT Meeting in Tigers Bay. He highlighted his concern that there is a fear that all the good work done in the area could be undone following recent antisocial behaviour at the interfaces. He also highlighted the good work done by people from local churches to help addresses anti-social behaviour.
- xv. Jennifer Cornell suggested when the North DPCSP antisocial behaviour model is launched, that the other work done by North Belfast DPCSP is also highlighted.
- xvi. A Member commented that he concerned with people delivering a model to address antisocial behaviour who were not professional youth workers with expertise in this field. He also commented that a model has been presented to address antisocial behaviour, however, antisocial behaviour has not yet been defined.
- xvii. Catherine Patrick commented that in order to address anti-social behaviour, there is a need to have community buy in. She further commented that there is a need to have integrated discussions and have local senior citizens involved.
- xviii. A Member commented that last year, youth workers did significant developmental work with young people in the Newlodge area and there were no bonfires.
- xix. Following a discussion, Members agreed to the proposed model and the associated budget.

## **8. Tranche 2 Small Grants**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that Tranche 2 of the PCSP's Small Grant had been launched on 29<sup>th</sup> April and closed on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2019.
- ii. Members were advised that a total of 28 applications were received for 2019/2020 Tranche 2 Small Grants, 9 of which were for activity in North Belfast.
- iii. Members were further advised that on the 5 August, Belfast PCSP agreed:
  - To hold 1 (D)PCSP Member Panel to include the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of each of the DPCSPs (or their nominated DPCSP representative);
  - To delegate authority to the (D)PCSP Member Panel to approve the Tranche 2 Small Grants for each Partnership;
  - That projects scoring above 50% will be deemed eligible for funding subject to budget availability, in line with the procedure used in previous years; and,
  - That the amended process will be used for all (D)PCSP Small Grants from this point forward.

- iv. Following a discussion, the Safer City Coordinator recommended that Members:
  - Confirm the Chair and Vice Chair, or their nominated representatives to participate in the Small Grant Member Panel.
  - Delegate authority to the (D)PCSP Member Panel to approve the Tranche 2 Small Grants for each Partnership
  - Note that projects scoring above 50% will be deemed eligible for funding subject to budget availability, in line with the procedure used in previous years.
  - Note that the amended process will be used for all (D)PCSP Small Grants from this point forward.
- v. Members were also advised that the Small Grants Members Panel would be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September, 12.00noon-2.00pm, 9 Adelaide.
- vi. Members noted the report and agreed to the recommendations provided.

**9. 2019/2020 North Belfast DPCSP Action Plan Progress Report**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update of progress against the 2019/2020 Belfast (D)PCSP Action Plans from 1 April, 2019 – 25 July, 2019.
- ii. She advised Members that as of the end of July, the North Belfast DPCSP Budget was as follows:

North DPCSP Budget	Spent	Committed	Planned	Remaining	% Spent/ Committed/ Planned
£126,049	£17,518	£1,878	£11,253	£93,400	24.3%

- iii. The Safer City Coordinator further advised Members that following project approvals at this Meeting, %Spent/Committed/Planned would increase significantly.
- iv. A Member asked if threats are made to people in North Belfast, who funds the networks that support this? Members were advised that it would be the Northern Ireland Office who support such organisations.

**10. Update from Statutory Partners**

PSNI

- i. Inspector Paul Noble provided Members with an update regarding Operation Upbolt to address antisocial behaviour over the summer months.
- ii. He commented that there are still ongoing issues in North Belfast that the PSNI will continue to address with enhanced resources.
- iii. Members were advised that there had been a decrease in the number of burglaries; a total of 595 burglaries had been reported.
- iv. Inspector Noble advised Members of the recent paramilitary style attack in the Ardoyne area. Members were advised that an investigation was still ongoing.

- v. Members were also informed that since 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019, there were 6 drug related deaths in North Belfast.
- vi. Inspector Noble also advised Members that 2,726 calls had been received by the PSNI for concerns regarding missing people.
- vii. A Member asked for information to be provided regarding what action had been taken against people who had been involved in recent incidents in the Newlodge area. He asked for a breakdown regarding number of people arrested, charged and being brought to Court.
- viii. Inspector Noble commented that following recent incidents in the Newlodge area, video evidence has identified approximately 60 people who were involved.
- ix. A Member highlighted his concern regarding ongoing antisocial behaviour in the areas of the Oldpark/Hillview. He commented that although the PSNI vehicles are there with cameras, local residents are asking why are the PSNI not doing anything to address the situation. He further commented that the PSNI need to have additional resources deployed in the area before a young person is seriously injured.

#### NIHE

- i. Liam Gunn, NIHE advised Members that there are currently 39 live antisocial behaviour cases managed by the NIHE, with 3 cases being presented at Court for eviction.
- ii. Mr. Gunn commented that due to the difficult summer, he would anticipate further cases being presented.
- iii. He advised Members that following recent events in the Newlodge area, parents have been spoken to regarding tenancy agreements and the impact of a young person's involvement in antisocial behaviour could lead to a breach of tenancy agreements.

#### Youth Justice Agency

- i. Dermot Magorrian, Youth Justice Agency, provided Members with an update on the Community Resolution Notification (CRN) Pilot. He advised Members that key statistics are not available yet for circulation as they had not been externally verified.
- ii. He further advised that the letters had been circulated to schools inviting them to participate in the school intervention programme.
- iii. He also advised Members that there had been a number of young people that had been referred to the Youth Justice Agency regarding involvement in antisocial behaviour in the Newlodge area.

#### H&SCT

- i. Gabi Mornhinweg, advised Members the Street Triage project will now be delivered. She informed Members that the project is currently being developed and an update on project implementation will be provided at the next North Belfast DPCSP Meeting.
- ii. Councillor Magee welcomed this news and that is a positive more forward.

- iii. Councillor O'Hara also welcomed this news. He also asked what were the Trusts processes for information being circulated in the public domain in the case of sudden deaths. He commented that information regarding the death by suicides in the last ten years had incorrect statistics.
- iv. Catherine Patrick commented that she felt the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service should be attending DPCSP Meetings. She commented that 82 ambulances had recently been called to the University area, and that this information should be presented at North Belfast DPCSP Meetings.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator confirmed that the Designated Members are set down in the legislation and the NI Ambulance Service is not currently included. However, to inform planning for next year, efforts would be made to get relevant statistics and information from them.

#### **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. Members noted the report provided.

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

- i. Jennifer Cornell commented that she had received an email, dated 25<sup>th</sup> August, regarding Waterloo Neighbourhood Watch. She advised Members that information had not been circulated from the PSNI since May 2019, as it was believed the PSNI officer had moved role.
- ii. Inspector Paul Nobel advised that he had been aware of this, as the PSNI had received the same email. He advised that this had been followed up by the local Neighbourhood Policing Team and they will link directly with the resident.

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

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the provisional date for the next North DPCSP Private Meeting would be Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
- ii. Members were also advised that a Public Meeting and a Network Meeting would be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 5.30pm, Clifton House. Agenda be circulated to Members in due course.