

Minutes of South Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Private Meeting

Wednesday 21 August 2019, 5.30pm

Room AD1H, 9 Adelaide, Belfast

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Emmett McDonough-Brown (Chair)	Richard Kennedy (Vice Chair)
Cllr Sarah Bunting	
Cllr Aine Groogan	
Cllr Geraldine McAteer	
Cllr Gary McKeown	
Statutory Designated Bodies	
Chief Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick, PSNI	Anita Duff, EA
Harry Bradley, YJA	Paul McCombe, NIHE
Belfast City Council Staff	Apologies
Glenn Thomas, Safer City Coordinator (SCC)	Michael Boyle
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Declan Davey, YJA
	Stephen Robinson, NIFRS
	Melissa Spence, PBNI

1. Welcome & Routine Matters

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the South Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting, he introduced the new Members and noted the apologies provided.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

- i. The Chair asked Members 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 conflict were noted.

3. Minutes Matters Arising

- i. The Minutes of the Private Meeting held on 25th June, copies of which were previously circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.

4. Matters Arising

- i. No matters arising were noted.

5. Chairs Update

- i. Members were advised that the Chair did not attend the last PCSP Meeting.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the outworking's of the PCSP are presented in the reports cards (Item 10b).

6. Update from Statutory Partners

YJA

- i. Harry Bradley, YJA provided Members with an update on the Community Resolution Notice (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.

EA

- i. Anita Duff, EA advised Members that the summer intervention work had been completed and an overview on the programme will be provided at the next Meeting.
- ii. She also advised Members that she was moving onto a new role temporarily and Paddy Gallagher would be attending future meetings as the EA Representative.
- iii. The Chair thanked her for her positive contribution to the South Belfast DPCSP.

NIHE

- i. Paul McCombe, NIHE advised Members that there had been no major incidents during the 12th July.
- ii. He further advised Members that a number of events were being delivered by ACT and Alternatives in the Village and Donegall Pass. He invited Members to attend the events.

7. 2019/2020 Belfast PCSP Action Plan Implementation

- i. The Safer City Coordinator updated Members on the progress of DPCSP Projects in the 2019/2020 Belfast PCSP Action Plan.
- ii. He advised Members that South Belfast DPCSP initially approved the projects listed in the report and the budget allocation at the meeting on 14th March 2019. He further advised that Belfast PCSP gave retrospective final approval, on 17 June 2019 to the below projects:

Feel Safer Theme:

South, North and East Belfast District PCSP's Older and Vulnerable Adults Project
Supplier: CM Works

Cost to South Belfast DPCSP: £3,747

Feel Safer Theme:

South, East and North Belfast Hate Crime Awareness Raising Project

Cost to South Belfast DPCSP - £7,500

Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse:

South, North, East and West Belfast District PCSP's Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Awareness Raising and Training Project

Cost to South Belfast DPCSP: £1,875

- iii. The Safer City Coordinator advise Members that the Post Primary Schools Project would not proceed in 2019/2020. Therefore the £5,000 contribution South Belfast DPCSP had agreed towards the project would be returned to the Partnership.
- iv. A Member asked why would the project not be delivered.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that he was unsure of the detail as to why the project would not be delivered. However, he advised Members that he would get clarification regarding the project not being delivered and email Members the rationale.
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that a total of 6 applications in Small Grants Tranche 2 had been received, of which all are fundable. He advised Members that the total required to support the delivery of the 6 applications had been £29,299.
- vii. Members were reminded that South DPCSP had a remaining budget of £10,000 within Small Grants. The Safer City Coordinator suggested for Members to reprofile the £5,000 originally allocated to the Post Primary Schools Project to Small Grants. Members were advised that this would be discussed further under Item 9.
- viii. Following a discussion, the Safer City Coordinator asked Members to agree the project updates and budget allocations as detailed in Point ii:
 - South, North, East and West Belfast District PCSP's Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Awareness Raising and Training Project
Cost to North Belfast DPCSP: £1,875
- ix. Members were also asked to provide final approval to the following projects:
 - South, East and North Belfast Hate Crime Awareness Raising Project
Cost to South Belfast DPCSP - £7,500
 - South, North and East Belfast District PCSP's Older and Vulnerable Adults Project - Cost to South Belfast DPCSP £3,747 (specifically to target older members of the BME community).
- x. Members agreed to allocated the funding to the projects as detailed in Point viii and ix.

8. Belfast City Council ASB Report

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with a South Belfast update on Belfast City Council ASB issues and local district hotspots including:
 - Botanic Gardens;
 - Lagan Walkway;
 - Holylands Graffiti – (Members previously had requested an update. Members were advised that an agreement had not yet been signed and an update will be provided when available); and,
 - Rough Sleeper (Bradbury Place).
- ii. He advised Members that the information detailed in the report is based on Council statistics only.
- iii. A Member asked if the under path at Botanic had been secured. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that as far as he was aware the under path had been secured.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members of the number of service requests that had been received by Belfast City Council's Community Safety Unit for the period 1/3/19 to 31/5/19 specifically for South Belfast.

- v. A Member asked if there had been any increase in ASB due to concerts held in Belfast.
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that Community Safety do not receive this level of information, but if Members requested he could look into this and provide an update at the next DPCSP Meeting.
- vii. Chief Inspector Kirkpatrick commented that increases/decreases in ASB in relation to concerts mainly depends on who is attending the concert.
- viii. A Member asked what does a service request contain?.
- ix. The Safer City Coordinator commented that Council use a system called FLARE to capture and log all complaints received by the public and Elected Members. He advised Members that the complaints received are logged by the Business Support Team onto FLARE.
- x. Following a discussion, the Safer City Coordinator suggested for Members to receive a demonstration on FLARE in order to gain an insight on how the system operates. Members welcomed this suggestion.
- xi. A Member commented that the sharing of information between statutory agencies needed to be reviewed. She commented that in doing this, it would allow complaints being received by Belfast City Council to be logged by Northern Ireland Housing Association and vice versa.
- xii. Following a discussion, Members requested for future ASB reports to include other statistical information from other statutory agencies i.e. NIHE
- xiii. Members noted the report and detail provided.

9. Small Grant Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that Tranche 2 of the PCSP's Small Grant had been launched on 29th April and closed on 5th July 2019.
- ii. Members were advised that a total of 28 applications were received for 2019/2020 Tranche 2 Small Grants, 7 of which were for activity in South Belfast.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that at the PCSP Meeting on 5th August, Members agreed to amend the process for scoring, moderating and ratifying PCSP Small Grants from this point forward. The process agreed upon is laid out below;
 - Central Grants Unit will perform an eligibility check on all applications before making these available to the Safer City Coordinator lead for Small Grants,
 - 3 Safer City Coordinators (SCC's) meet to agree a score for each application,
 - A Member Panel of (D)PCSP Members, including the Chairs and Vice-Chairs or nominated representatives, will then meet to ratify a sample of scores assigned by the SCC's for each area of the City (highest and lowest score from each)
 - Those applications which scored over 50% are recommended for funding subject to funding availability.
- iv. Members were advised that the above method, was also used for Tranche 1, had been reviewed by Officers from the Central Grants Unit who continue to be content that an adequate level of scrutiny would be achieved through this amended process.

- v. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members it had been agreed at a Meeting in March 2019, to allocate a budget of £36,349 towards Small Grants for the 2019/20 financial year. He further advised Members that in Tranche 1, 6 grants were funded at a cost of £26,349, leaving £10,000 available for Tranche 2.
- vi. He advised Members that in order to support the applications received in Tranche 2, a total of £29,299 is required, leaving a funding shortfall of £19,299, however, this is subject to ratification by the Members Panel during September.
- vii. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members as alluded to previously and as outlined in Item 7 the Belfast PCSP, Action Plan Implementation paper, the Post Primary School Project, to which the South Belfast DPCSP had allocated £5,000, would no longer be progressing during 2019/2020. He therefore recommended that the Partnership considered to reallocate this budget towards Small Grants.
- viii. The Safer City Coordinator also reminded Members that the Partnership had agreed to set aside a budget of £10,000 for Policing Committee Grants. He advised Members that to date, £3,181.00 is set to be allocated from this budget with a covering two project proposal submissions (subject to Policing Committee approval at the PC meeting), leaving £6,819.00 still available.
- ix. The Safer City Coordinator therefore recommended that the remaining budget for Policing Committee, £6,819.00 be reallocated to the Small Grants budget.
- x. He further commented that if Members agreed to reallocate budget lines as detailed, a remaining budget of £7,480 would still be required. He suggested for discussions to be held with the PCSP to see if they can reallocate any additional funding. He also advised Members that there may be underspends from Small Grants Tranche 1 but this had yet to be confirmed.
- xi. A Member asked that if South Belfast DPCSP commit all surplus funding from Policing Committee to Small Grants, does that mean South Belfast DPCSP do not have any flexibility if an adverse situation arises.
- xii. The Safer City Coordinator advised that groups could develop 'oven ready' projects and if any underspends are identified such projects could be supported.
- xiii. A Member asked what had been the general principle of supporting a Policing Committee application.
- xiv. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Policing Committee Grants had been to encourage groups to engage directly with the PSNI and aim to increase confidence in policing.
- xv. The Safer City Coordinator therefore recommended to Members that they:
 - Note the amended process for scoring, moderating and ratifying (D)PCSP Small Grants, as approved by the PCSP on 5th August;
 - Agree to delegate authority to the (D)PCSP Member Panel to approve the Tranche 2 Small Grants for each Partnership
 - Agree to reallocate £5,000 from the Post Primary Project towards Small Grants
 - Agree to reallocate £6,819 from Policing Committee Grants towards Small Grants
 - Request additional funding of £7,480 from PCSP to support Small Grants

- xvi. Following a discussion, Members agreed to the recommendations suggested by the Safer City Coordinator.

10. 2019/2020 South Belfast DPCSP Action Plan Progress Report

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update regarding the South Belfast DPCSP Action Plan 2019/2020.
- ii. He advised Members that South Belfast DPCSP had an operational budget of £84,093 available for projects in the 2019/2020 Belfast PCSP Action Plan.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator further advised Members of the South Belfast DPCSP budget, what had been spent or committed to date, and what is still to be allocated:

(D)PCSP	Budget	Spent	Committed	Planned	Remaining	% Spent/ Committed/ Planned
South	£84,093	£18,256	£8	£14,009	£51,820	38%

- iv. He advised Members that the projects agreed at this meeting would not be reflected in the above budget lines.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator also provided Members with an overview of the contents of Quarter 1 Progress Report for the period 1st April – 30th June, 2019.
- vi. Members noted both the 2019/2020 South Belfast DPCSP Action Plan Progress Report and the Quarter 1 Progress Report.

11. (D)PCSP Audit and Governance Arrangements Report

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the Chief Executive of the NI Policing Board (NIPB) had written to all Council’s highlighting a number of general observations of poor procurement practices that were found during the NIPB’s verification audits relating to 2017-2018 expenditure.
- ii. He advised Members a copy of the letter had been circulated to Members for notation.
- iii. Members noted the report and letter circulated.

12. Emerging Issues

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that a recommendation had had been omitted from a report presented at the previous South Belfast DPCSP Meeting.
- ii. He advised Members that Item 7 2019/2020 Belfast PCSP Action Plan Implementation Report had the following recommendation omitted:
 - To give authorisation to the Safer City Assistant Manager to approve the processes undertaken by the DPCSP, with the provision that all internally governance processes are completed.

- iii. Members noted and agree the recommendation detailed.

13. Date of Next Meeting

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the date of the next South DPCSP Private Meeting would be Tuesday 24th September.
- ii. Members were advised that a Public Meeting on Hate Crime would be held following the conclusion of the Private Meeting. Venue TBC.