

# Minutes of the East Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership

## Private Meeting

Boardroom, East Belfast Network Centre, Templemore School, Templemore Avenue.  
Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2013

### Political Members

Councillor Adam Newton (Chair)  
Councillor Mervyn Jones  
Alderman Gavin Robinson

### Independent Members

Mr Mark Houston (Vice-Chair)  
Mr Gareth Beacom  
Mrs Lynda Gibson  
Mrs Olwen Lyner

### Designated Organisations

Yvonne Adair, YJA  
Yvonne Cowan, H&SCT  
Jane Lappin, PBNI  
Karl Dorris, NIFRS  
Stephen Moore, BELB

Chief Inspector Mark McEwan, PSNI  
Inspector Angus Mairs, PSNI  
Representatives from PSNI TSG  
Pauline Smart, BELB

### Staff Present

Phyllis Anderson, Safer City Co-ordinator  
Heather Horner, ASB Officer, East Belfast  
Bernie Quinn, Project Officer  
Paul Cleary, Safer Neighbourhood Officer  
Tony Kelly, Safer Neighbourhood Officer

### Apologies

Councillor Claire Hanna  
Councillor Niall Ó Donnghaile  
Mr Andrew Moorhead  
Alice Mills, NIHE

## 1. Welcome and Routine Matters

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

## 2. Declarations of Interest

- i. No declarations of interest were recorded.

## 3. Minutes

- i. The minutes of the East Belfast DPCSP Private Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.

## 4. Safer Neighbourhood Officers

- i. The two Safer Neighbourhood Officers (SNOs) deployed in East Belfast, Tony Kelly and Paul Cleary, were introduced to the Members. They explained that they had been in post since April and are primarily working in the Bloomfield and Woodstock areas. They have been building up relationships with communities within the areas and have been dealing with issues raised by local people including graffiti removal, bonfires, broken street lights and helping some vulnerable adults feel safer in their homes by supplying items such as window locks and alarms.
- ii. In response to a question from a Member, the SNOs explained that although they are based in Bloomfield/Woodstock areas as prioritised by the anti-social behaviour mapping exercise, they have responded to requests by communities in other parts of

East Belfast and the Safer City Co-ordinator confirmed that the DPCSP will review and agree any changes to their deployment areas if requirements change.

- iii A Member commented that the SNOs have been well received by the communities they have been working with.

#### **5. 2013/2014 DPCSP Meeting Event Schedule Proposal**

Members agreed the following future meetings:

- i The DPCSP Policing Committee will next meet at 4.45pm on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August**, followed by the DPCSP Private Meeting at 5.45pm at a venue in East Belfast to be confirmed.
- ii The next Public Meeting on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September** at Wandsworth Community Centre with the theme focusing on crime prevention. The Health & Social Care Trust representative suggested inviting RECALL/Oasis to give a presentation regarding the services they offer in East Belfast.
- iii It was agreed that the Safer City Co-ordinator should approach Councillor Ó Donnghaile regarding a suitable venue in the Short Strand for the November Public Meeting. The date for this was agreed as **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November** at lunchtime. It was agreed to invite community groups from other areas to this event. The theme for the meeting would be considered further at the next Private Meeting of the DPCSP.

#### **6. PCSP Autumn Small Grants October 2013 – March 2014**

The following Members agreed to sit on the Small Grants Assessment Panel which will meet between 5th – 16th August:

Mrs Olwen Lyner, Mrs Lynda Gibson, Councillor Newton, Councillor Jones and Alderman Robinson.

#### **7. Summer Small Grants – Recipients Invitation to events**

Members noted the programme of Summer events to which they are invited to attend.

#### **8. Diversionary Funding Update**

The Safer City Co-ordinator informed members that no comments had been received regarding the application form used on previous occasions.

#### **9. Any Other Business**

A Member raised the issue of the recent deaths in the area attributed to drug abuse. Chief Inspector McEwan confirmed that the PSNI are aware of 2 deaths in the East Belfast area and 1 in another part of the city but the causes had not yet been confirmed and family and community sensitivities had to be considered before any further comment was made.

Members considered how the DPCSP would respond to this issue.

It was agreed that a Member would draft a form of words which would be circulated to the Partnership for agreement and then issued as a statement to the press.