

**Minutes of the West Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership  
Private Meeting**

**St Agnes' Parish Centre  
Tuesday, 28th May, 2013**

**Political Members**

Councillor Máire Hendron (Chair)  
Councillor Steven Corr  
Councillor Matt Garrett

**Independent Members**

Mr Harry Connolly (Vice-Chair)  
Ms Carol Larkin  
Mrs. Bernie Reilly

**Statutory Designated Organisations**

Sharon Beattie, NIHE  
Mike Connolly, PBNI  
David Harbinson, NIFRS  
Angela McKeown, BELB

John McLaughlin, BELB  
Inspector Christopher Robinson, PSNI  
T/Chief Inspector Mike White, PSNI  
Inspector Jocelyn Wise, PSNI

**Attendee**

Malachy Turley, Southlink Day Centre

**Staff Present**

Glenn Thomas, Safer City Co-ordinator  
Katharine McCrum, Partnership Support  
Officer

**Apologies**

Aideen McLaughlin, YJA  
Paula Kerr, CRJ  
  
Ross Mullen, Blackmountain Action  
Group  
Upper Springfield Community Safety  
Forum

**1. Welcome and Routine Matters**

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and noted the apologies provided.
- ii. The Chair then advised Members that following a threat issued to the Chair of the Lisburn PCSP, several Members had expressed the desire to attend an event at 6pm to show support for the Councillor.
- iii. Members agreed to write to the Chair of the Lisburn PCSP to express their support for the Lisburn Partnership and to condemn the threat issued to the Chair.

**2. Declarations 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.

**3. Minutes**

- i. The minutes of 24th April, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.

#### **4. Presentation by the Police Ombudsman**

(Dr Michael Maguire, Police Ombudsman, Adrian McAlister, Chief Executive and Tim Gracey, PR, attended in connection with this item)

- i. Dr Michael Maguire, Police Ombudsman provided Members with information on the role of his Office and the changes that had been brought about since his appointment in July, 2012.
- ii. Members thanked Dr Maguire for his briefing, praised the strides that had been made in terms of community confidence, and asked how this was being done and in what ways community understanding was being improved.
- iii. Dr Maguire advised Members that significant changes had been made following the Criminal Justice Inspectorate Report findings in 2011 and that a more recent report had been positive.
- iv. Members were advised that workshops had been organised with local communities to advise them on the role of the Office and on how to complain, particularly following flag related protests and disorder that had resulted in a large number of allegations being made.
- v. Mr McAlister added that there was willing on both the side of the Police Ombudsman and PSNI to move towards a model of local resolution for 'low-level' complaints.
- vi. In closing, Dr Maguire advised Members that staff from the Police Ombudsman's Office were available to engage with communities through workshops in order to improve awareness of the role of the Office.

#### **5. West Belfast DPCSP Public Event, June 2013**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members that the next West Belfast DPCSP Public Event would be held on Tuesday, 25th June at 7pm in Highfield Community Centre with the title 'the impact of drugs in our communities: A look at recent police successes as well as how drugs and crime are linked'.

#### **6. Future Meeting Dates**

- i. Members agreed the proposed meeting schedule for August to December, 2013. The Safer City Coordinator agreed to circulate the dates along with possible venues to Members for agreement.

#### **7. Update on Action Plan for West Belfast DPCSP 2013 to 2015**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the West Belfast DPCSP Action Plan for 2013 to 2015 had been submitted to the Joint Committee for approval. He added that all expenditure would be subject to Belfast City Council's Procurement Procedures and therefore quotations and tenders may be required for certain items.
- ii. Members were advised that of the 37 actions within the Plan, 16 have no financial costs attributed, 9 require 3 or 4 quotations and 12 require no formal procurement process.
- iii. Members noted the contents of the report.

**8. Possible Summer Intervention Funding Opportunities**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members of the possibility that additional project funds may become available through the DOJ's Summer Intervention Fund in the months ahead.
- ii. Members were asked to consider any 'oven ready' projects which may be considered eligible for funding under this initiative if the opportunity were to become available.
- iii. No project ideas were submitted.

**9. Neighbourhood Watch Steering Group**

- i. In response to the Safer City Coordinator's request for a nomination to sit on the Neighbourhood Watch Steering Group, Councillor Tim Attwood volunteered. His nomination was seconded by Councillor Matt Garrett and agreed upon by the Members.

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the next meeting would be the Public Event on Tuesday, 25th June in Highfield Community Centre.
- ii. Following discussion, Members agreed to hold a Private Meeting at 5.45pm prior to the Public Event at 7pm.