

# Minutes of the Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership

## Private Meeting

Lavery Room, City Hall  
Monday, 10th June, 2013

### Political Members

Councillor John Hussey (Chair)  
Councillor Janice Austin  
Councillor Patrick Convery  
Councillor Deirdre Hargey  
Councillor Matt Garrett  
Councillor Colin Keenan  
Councillor Adam Newton  
Alderman Jim Rodgers

### Independent Members

Valerie Allen  
Claire Canavan  
Harry Maguire  
John MacVicar

### Designated Organisations

Chief Superintendent George Clarke, PSNI  
Stephen Graham, NIHE  
Patricia Muldoon, YJA

Trevor Murphy, BELB  
Geoff Somerville, NIFRS

### Staff Present

Lorna Somers, Safer City Assistant Manager  
Katharine McCrum, Partnership Support Officer

### Apologies

Liz Groves  
Councillor Máire Hendron  
Frank Mulhern (Vice Chair)  
Alan Wardle  
Alan Hamill, NIFRS  
Chief Superintendent Alan McCrum, PSNI

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

- 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 and Matters Arising

- i. The minutes of the Belfast PCSP meeting held on 29th April, copies of which were previously circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct.

#### 4. Matters Arising

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager reviewed the Summary of Actions with Members noting that letters had been written to Assistant Chief Constables Hamilton and Kerr and that Designated Partners would be providing updates on summer planning and intervention work.

- ii. Members were further advised that the remaining actions, obtaining quotes for the delivery of the telephone survey and receiving an update on the tension monitoring project, were to be complete by the September meeting.

#### **5. Deputation from Include Youth and Children's Law Centre**

(Koulla Yiasouma, Director of Include Youth and Paddy Kelly, Director of the Children's Law Centre attended in connection with this item).

- i. Koulla Yiasouma and Paddy Kelly provided Members with a briefing on the work of their respective organisations, their concerns regarding the PCSP's 'Where is Your Child Campaign' and information on the training and advice that they can provide.
- ii. Members thanked Ms Yiasouma and Ms Kelly for attending the meeting and welcomed the offer of advice and assistance in developing the youth centred areas of the PCSP Action Plan.
- iii. Members requested that the Safer City Assistant Manager contact both organisations regarding bespoke training for PCSP Members and with regards to the Youth Event in October.
- iv. Patricia Muldoon, Youth Justice Agency, reiterated the need to link with the Belfast Outcomes Group.

#### **6. Priority Youth Intervention Funding**

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager advised Members that the DOJ was now accepting applications for Priority Youth Intervention Funding with a deadline for submissions of 21st June. Due to the timescales involved, Members were advised that if an application was to be made, it would need to be from the PCSP rather than the DPCSPs or community groups.
- ii. The Safer City Assistant Manager requested that Members consider applying for funds to work with young people on the issues surrounding August Bonfires. Again due to the timescales involved, the Safer City Assistant Manager suggested that, if successful, funds may not be released in time for 2013 bonfires and so the programme of work would cover August, 2013 to March, 2014 in order to have work in place for next year with DPCSPs identifying the proposed sites.
- iii. Members supported the proposal but raised concerns regarding the timescales, an issue that they felt was ongoing with the release of DOJ funding streams.
- iv. Members therefore agreed to provide delegated authority to the Chair and Vice-Chair to approve the application before submission and to request a meeting between the DOJ and PCSP Chair and Vice-Chair in order to discuss the concerns raised.

#### **7. Safer Neighbourhood Officers/Local Area Working**

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager provided Members with information on the role of the Community Safety Unit's new Safer Neighbourhood Officers (SNO's) and the proposal to secure partnership funding for local Community Safety services directed through the DPCSPs.

- ii. Members agreed to delegate authority to the Safer City Assistant Manager to liaise with Partner Agencies to secure potential match funding for the Council's £20,000 funding of Local Community Safety Services.

## **8. PCSP Autumn Small Grants**

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager advised Members that the PCSP Autumn Small Grants were now open and that the closing date for applications would be Friday, 31st May.
- ii. Members agreed to grant delegated authority to a Member Panel of 5 to approve the PCSP Autumn Small Grants.
- iii. Councillors Austin, Keenan, and Hussey, and Harry Maguire agreed to sit on the Member Panel and the Safer City Assistant Manager undertook to circulate the request via email to the Partnership to obtain a 5th Member.
- iv. In response to a Member's query, the Safer City Assistant Manager stated that if a group were not working with the PSNI in their project, a detailed explanation as to why they were not involved would be required. If this explanation was deemed unacceptable, the project would be deemed ineligible.

## **9. Statutory Partner Updates on Summer Planning/Intervention Work**

- i. The Chair of the PCSP invited the Statutory Designated Bodies to provide Members with a brief update on any areas of intervention work planned over the summer period.
- ii. Chief Superintendent Clarke stated that around 18 specific interventions were planned in 'A' District which consisted of the usual summer period activities alongside G8 and the World Police and Fire Games.
- iii. Geoff Somerville, NIFRS, informed Members that the Fire and Rescue Service were holding bonfire intervention meetings with organisers to advise on safety, limit attacks on officers and to identify key contacts in case of emergencies.
- iv. Trevor Murphy, BELB, advised Members that £275,000 of Youth Intervention Funding would be distributed based on need in the coming weeks.
- v. Stephen Graham, NIHE, stated that the Housing Executive was working to remove bonfire material from its sites.
- vi. Patricia Muldoon, YJA, advised Members that case workers would be visiting young people with restrictions in place, to ensure that these were being adhered to over the summer months. Ms Muldoon also reminded the Partnership that the Youth Justice Small Grants were currently open and that the deadline for applications was Friday, 14th June.

## **10. PCSP Youth Event Update**

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager advised Members that the Working Group tasked with organising the PCSP Youth Event had met prior to the PCSP Meeting and had agreed to:

- approach motivational speaker Mark Pollock,
  - Meet with Inspector Jocelyn Wise and senior Officers with regards to speed networking with the police, and
  - Commission a drama piece on the topic of drug misuse.
- ii. Members were advised that the Council had approved the use of the Debate Chamber for use at the event and that meetings had been held with the Children and Young Peoples Manager within Council and with VOYPIC who were both keen to become involved.
- iii. Members were further advised that the next meeting of the Working Group would take place at the end of July, 2013.
- iv. Members noted the contents of the report and approved the progress made by the Working Group to date.

#### **11. Date of Next Meeting**

- i. The Safer City Assistant Manager advised Members that the next PCSP Meeting would be held on Tuesday, 27th August at 5.45pm in the Lavery Room, City Hall following a meeting of the Policing Committee at 5pm.