

# Minutes of the Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership

## Private Meeting

Lavery Room, City Hall  
Wednesday, 22nd May, 2013

### Political Members

Councillor John Hussey (Chair)  
Councillor Janice Austin  
Councillor May Campbell  
Councillor Patrick Convery  
Councillor Deirdre Hargey  
Councillor Máire Hendron  
Councillor Colin Keenan  
Councillor Adam Newton  
Alderman Jim Rodgers

### Independent Members

Frank Mulhern (Vice Chair)  
Claire Canavan  
Liz Groves  
John MacVicar  
Mark Vinton  
Alan Wardle

### Designated Organisations

Stephen Graham, NIHE  
Patricia Muldoon, YJA  
Trevor Murphy, BELB

Geoff Somerville, NIFRS  
Paul Thompson, PBNI

### Staff Present

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

### Apologies

Councillor Jim McVeigh  
Valerie Allen  
Chief Superintendent George Clarke, PSNI  
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 with the caveat that the attendance list be amended to include Geoff Somerville, NIFRS.
- ii. The Assistant Safer City Manager reviewed the Summary of Actions with Members noting that all were complete with the exception of;
  - Exploration into what events are to be hosted by PCSP Parent Bodies as part of the World Policing and Fire Games, and
  - While a letter had been written to the Chief Constable inviting him to attend a future meeting of the PCSP, no response had been received as yet however the letter had been acknowledged.

#### **4. Belfast PCSP Action Plan 2013-2015**

- i. The Assistant Safer City Manager presented Members with the Belfast PCSP and DPCSP Action Plans for 2013-2015 along with a breakdown of the procurement requirements needed for each project.
- ii. Members noted the contents of the report and the attached Action Plans.

#### **5. Belfast PCSP Consultation Plan**

- i. Members considered the PCSP Consultation Plan and approved the 3 strand approach of a telephone survey, City Matters survey and an online survey with agreement that the proposed questions would be brought to a future meeting of the PCSP for approval.
- ii. The Assistant Safer City Manager agreed to obtain quotes from various companies for the delivery of the telephone survey portion of the plan.

#### **6. Youth Engagement Project Update**

- i. Members noted the update report on the Youth Engagement Project (YEP) as presented by the Assistant Safer City Manager.

#### **7. Tension Monitoring Project Update**

- i. The Assistant Safer City Manager provided Members with an update on the Tension Monitoring Project, a Peace III project sitting within the Community Safety Unit.
- ii. Members agreed to invite the Safer City Coordinator responsible for the Tension Monitoring Project and the Centre for Social Relations to the August Meeting of the PCSP to provide Members with an update on the project and the Community Impact Assessment currently underway on Roma issues.
- iii. A Member also requested that amendments be made to the wording of item 2.7 of the Tension Monitoring Report to include parades and protests and the erection of flags throughout Belfast.

#### **8. PCSP Meeting/Event Schedule**

- i. Members agreed to postpone the Public Event scheduled to take place on 18th June and for the rescheduled event to be held in September, 2013 in order to have up to date police statistics and avoid possible disruption due to the G8 Summit.
- ii. In response to a Members query regarding the return visit of Karyn McCluskey from the Strathclyde Violence Reduction Unit, the Assistant Safer City Manager agreed to circulate details of the event once this had been confirmed by the Investment Programme Support Officer.
- iii. A Member requested that Designated Partners provide an update on summer planning and intervention work at the next PCSP Meeting.

## **9. Nomination to the Neighbourhood Watch Steering Group**

- i. The Chair of the PCSP, Councillor Hussey was nominated to represent the PCSP on the Neighbourhood Watch Steering Group.
- ii. Members agreed to the nomination and the Chair accepted the position.

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

- i. The Assistant Safer City Manager advised Members that the Working Group tasked with organising the PCSP Youth Event had met on 9th May and had agreed the following using the questionnaires which had been received from youth groups and schools:
  - Date and Time – 10.30am to 2.30pm on Thursday, 24th October. Following checks with BELB and a range of schools, it has been confirmed that half term breaks will be held the following week. Thursday's were also mentioned as preferential by schools.
  - Venue – The event will be held in various locations within City Hall, including the Council Chamber. Attendees will be divided into groups to tackle various issues.
  - Themes – Four key themes will be covered; 'Confidence in Policing' through quick fire small group sessions; 'Becoming involved in the Justice System' via a question and answer session using quizdom; a drama on the theme of drugs; and mini debate sessions on various themes.
- ii. Members were advised that the next meeting of the Working Group would take place on 10th June at 4pm..
- iii. Members noted the contents of the report and approved the progress made by the Working Group to date.

## **11. Update on PCSP Youth Awards**

- i. Members were reminded that the PCSP Youth Awards would take place on Thursday, 30th May at 6.30pm in the City Hall and that invitations had already been distributed to Members.
- ii. Councillors Hussey and Campbell requested that invites be sent to them again as they had not received these previously.

## **12. Any Other Business**

- i. Members discussed the recent meetings in Cardiff between the PSNI, politicians and community representatives and the role that the PCSP could have played in these meetings.
- ii. A number of Members felt that the PCSP had a role to play in such discussions and that it would have been advantageous for a PCSP representative to have been invited to participate in these talks.
- iii. It was therefore agreed that a letter would be sent to Assistant Chief Constables Will Kerr and George Hamilton requesting that the PSNI give due consideration to the possibility of inviting a representative of the Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership to participate in any discussion which the PSNI may hold in relation to Policing or Community Safety issues affecting the Belfast area.

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

- i. The Assistant Safer City Manager advised Members that the next PCSP Meeting would be held on Monday, 10th June at 5.45pm in the Lavery Room, City Hall.