

Minutes of the Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Policing Committee Meeting

Conor Room, City Hall
Thursday, 29th November, 2012

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Jim McVeigh (Chair)	Valerie Allen
Councillor Janice Austin	Eva Grosman
Councillor Matt Garrett	Liz Groves
Councillor Claire Hanna	Frank Mulhern
Councillor Colin Keenan	Alan Wardle
Councillor Gareth McKee	
Alderman Jim Rodgers	
Councillor Guy Spence	
PSNI Representatives	
Superintendent J. McCaughan	Inspector C. Shaw
Superintendent M. Clarke	Inspector R. Murdie
Chief Superintendent H. Irvine	
Staff Present	Apologies
Lorna Somers, DPP Manager	John MacVicar (Vice-Chair)
Katharine McCrum, Partnership Support Officer	Chief Superintendent George Clarke, PSNI
Eve Bremner, Safer City Manager	Chief Superintendent Alan McCrum, PSNI

1. Routine Matters and Matters Arising

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

2. Declaration of Interests

- i. No declarations of interest were recorded.

3. Presentations from the PSNI

Locate Project

- i. Chief Superintendent Irvine and Inspector Shaw provided Members with a briefing on the Locate Project, a GPS tracking software system that tracks officer and vehicle movements through live mapping to improve response times and resource allocation.
- ii. In response to a Member's query, Inspector Shaw confirmed that the data stored could be used to inform future policing priorities and to assist PCSPs however, for security reasons, it would not be available to the wider public. He added that no additional staff would be needed to operate the system and that it would enable more efficient use of existing resources.

Christmas Policing Operation

- iii. Inspector Murdie provided Members with a briefing on the Christmas Policing Strategy, including the partnership working between the PSNI, Belfast City Council and retailers and the key areas of focus, namely shoplifting, car crime and mobile phone thefts.

He added that visible policing was also a priority to encourage a feeling of safety among residents and to deter anti social behaviour.

- iv. In response to a Member's query regarding traffic flow operations in the City Centre, Superintendent McCaughan confirmed that traffic and pedestrian access would form part of the Christmas Operation. With regards to the arterial routes, he confirmed that advice regarding shoplifting had been distributed to retailers.
- v. Members discussed the need to approach young people and begin communication with the police during the early years. Inspector Murdie confirmed that the PSNI continued to target young people through schools, the use of social media and enhanced Get Home Safe operations.
- vi. The Chair thanked the officers for their presentations and called the meeting to a close.