

**Minutes of South Belfast District Policing and Community
Safety Partnership – Private Meeting
Wednesday, 28th November, 2012
Conor Room, City Hall**

Political Members	Independent Members
Cllr. Deirdre Hargey	Nuala Toman (Vice Chair)
Cllr. Kate Mullan	Ms. Paula Bradshaw
Cllr. Mairtin O’Mulleoir	Mr. Mark Caffrey
Ald. Ruth Patterson	Mr. Trevor Greer
Ald. Christopher Stalford	
Police Service of Northern Ireland	
Chief Inspector Gaby Moran	
Staff Present	Apologies
Denise Smith, CS Coordinator	Ald. T Ekin
Jo Black, Partnership Support Officer	Debbie Hammill
Elaine McWilliams, Alcohol Misuse Officer, Get Home Safe	Liam Kinney, Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Edele Cleary, Project Officer, Get Home Safe	
Nora Largey, Belfast City Council Legal Services	

1. Welcome and Apologies

- i. The Vice Chair, Nuala Toman, welcomed the Members to the meeting of the South Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership Private Meeting.
- ii. Apologies were given for Alderman Tom Ekin, Debbie Hammill and invited organisation representative Liam Kinney, Northern Ireland Housing Executive.
- iii. A Member suggested that the Partnership would confer its best wishes to Alderman Tom Ekin who was unable to attend due to his charity engagement to build houses in Haiti. This was agreed.

2. Declarations of Interest

- i. The Vice Chair proposed the topic of the Conflict of Interest policy. At the last meeting of the partnership some Members had raised concerns about the policy and the necessary procedure to leave the room when there was discussion around groups they had a connection with. The partnership had agreed to seek some legal advice on this issue. The Vice Chair introduced Nora Largey from Belfast City Council Legal Services to give guidance on the policy.
- ii. Nora Largey, a Solicitor for Belfast City Council Legal Services, explained that the Conflict of Interest Policy had previously been the topic of discussion by Belfast City Council. She explained that on 4th January 2012 the conflict of interest policy had been under discussion by the council. The policy had been

proposed and adopted in June 2012. Given this adoption, it applied to this partnership. The policy states that any bias or appearance of bias could be prosecuted. Members were not permitted to raise their concerns in relation to a particular group, or its funding, and had to be absent from the room if it was discussed.

- iii. The Vice Chair explained she had heard discussion of this policy in relation to a variety of contexts. The South Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership was not a council committee, however it sits within the council and therefore the policy applies. There had been some discussion at the PCSP and a presentation was heard by the Joint Committee to clarify. She asked Members if they wished to clarify this with the Joint Committee in relation to the South Belfast DPCSP and how this applies?
- iv. A Member suggested this was not a matter for the Department of Justice and Belfast City Council legal advice was robust.
- v. A Member suggested procedures were clearly described and voting on issues where organisations they worked for were awarded funding was incorrect. The Member highlighted that six months of council time had been spent investigating the policy and it would be incorrect to separate from the existing council policy for legal reasons. The Member further suggested that it was difficult to imagine a situation where the policy was applied and all the Independent Members were able to vote.
- vi. The Vice Chair proposed the recommendation.
- vii. This was agreed.

3. South DPCSP Minutes

- i. The Vice Chair proposed the minutes of previous meeting.
- ii. A Member asked why the minutes of previous meetings were only being proposed at this stage.
- iii. The Community Safety Coordinator explained that in the absence of certain officers it had been difficult to produce the minutes in a timely manner.
- iv. The Member congratulated staff on the launch of the DPCSP in September. The Member explained these events during the day proved very positive as there was attendance from several groups from the local community. Presentation by these groups to the DPCSP was recommended to the Members.
- v. The minutes were taken as read and approved as correct.

4. Small Grants 2013/14

- vi. The Vice Chair introduced the topic of South Belfast DPCSP Small Grants. She explained this had previously been the subject of some discussion. Councillor Mullan and she were members of the Small Grants Working Group. She reminded the Members that it had previously been agreed that the future small

grants rounds would be administered as part of the Council's Central Grants Unit to ensure compliance with the application of best funding practice. She explained that since their previous discussions there had been a change to the current round to a method of open call. However there was to be discussion as to how each DPCSP would decide and ultimately award their grant allocation. Proposals were contained within the report. The first recommendation was a generic application pack for all DPCSPs and the same assessment and evaluation process. There was a recommendation that Officers undertake a preliminary assessment. There was a recommendation that a Members' Assessment Panel should assess applications and be given delegated authority to present their decisions to the full partnership. The Grants should tackle local priorities and contribute to shared, strategic aims. There was a recommendation to continue using the Small Grants scoring framework. It was further recommended that 50% of the award should be paid up front while the remaining 50% should be released upon submission of an acceptable evaluation form.

- vii. The Vice Chair proposed the recommendations.
- viii. These were agreed.
- ix. Councillor Hargey, Councillor Mullan, Trevor Greer, Nuala Toman and Paula Bradshaw were proposed as member for the Small Grants Assessment Panel.
- x. A Member asked if 50% funding could be paid out in advance of the evaluation being completed if the group had returned the receipts and did not have a large cashflow.
- xi. The Community Safety Coordinator explained timing would be key given the 2013/14 timescales.
- xii. A Member asked if in future rounds larger organisations could be encouraged to apply in partnership with small organisations. There was discussion among Members.
- xiii. The Community Safety Coordinator would investigate the issues of 50% funding and consortium arrangements and report back to the DPCSP.

5. Mobile CCTV

- i. The Vice Chair explained that the South Belfast DPCSP allocation for 2012/13 had been spent and the Community Safety Coordinator would give an update.
- ii. The Community Safety Coordinator explained that the current contract for the CCTV van was up to £10,000. £1,000 of this had been spent between Halloween and Fresher's week deployments. There had also been uptake by North Belfast and West Belfast DPCSPs using the van in the city centre. This was to try to maximise the current procurement. The Community Safety Coordinator described that as this was most used in South where it was useful the full use of the service was important.

- iii. The Area Commander raised the earlier discussion by the DPCSP of the use of footage. He explained that there were areas in South Belfast where the van could be deployed where there was on street drinking.
- iv. A Member asked if the CCTV funding was used.
- v. The Community Safety Coordinator explained this had been allocated. It would be presented for retendering and there were multiple contractors interested in holding the contract. She asked Members to forward suggestions to the Community Safety Coordinator of deployments.

6. Joint Committee funding allocation 2012/2013

- i. The Vice Chair explained that there had been a short timescale for allocating Joint Committee funding following a meeting between SOLACE and the Joint Committee emphasising the need to spend monies prior to 31st March 2013.
- ii. The Vice Chair explained that the application form proposed to Members would allow for an Open Call for organisations to apply to deliver projects under 7 headings identified as priorities. For the South Belfast DPSCP there was £45,000 to go forward and be spent prior to the financial year end. She asked Members for questions.
- iii. A Member asked what the distinction was between the 3 funds.
- iv. The Vice Chair explained there was an advantage to the Joint Committee Funding as this widened the availability to communities as the number of applicants was usually increased.
- v. The Vice Chair asked if Members wished to appoint the committee selected for Policing Committee funding or elect a new committee.
- vi. After some discussion, Members agreed to appoint the same committee. Members Councillor Hargey, Councillor Mullan, Trevor Greer, Nuala Toman and Paula Bradshaw were proposed as member for the Joint Committee funding assessment panel.
- vii. An advertising date of 29th November 2012 was proposed to Members. This was agreed.
- viii. The Community Safety Coordinator proposed that the Partnership would meet on 9th January 2012 to consider the recommendations of the assessment panel. This was agreed.
- ix. The Community Safety Coordinator proposed a funding level of the £45,000 remaining allocation in South Belfast. This was agreed.
- x. The Community Safety Coordinator requested delegated authority for 5 small scale projects including Focused Area Working, the development of a South DPCSP information leaflet, a South DPCSP good practice event, swab tests for licensed premises and a campaign to raise community confidence to report crime.

7. Schedule of meetings

- i. The Vice Chair circulated a proposed schedule of 2013 meetings.
- ii. A Member suggested public venues be used for public meetings and presentations by groups funded by the DPCSP were prominently featured. The Member further suggested that themed public meetings were held and proposed a thematic event on substance abuse.
- iii. A Member suggested the Crescent Arts centre had been a good venue for the launch.
- iv. The Area Commander explained a report on Race Crime was due early in the New Year.
- v. The Vice Chair proposed a public meeting on Hate Crime. She suggested other Members would tie in to assist with the public meeting as this was a priority.
- vi. A Member suggested he would lead on the public meeting with the Community Safety Coordinator. This was agreed by all Members.
- vii. The dates of meetings for 2013 meetings were proposed by the Vice Chair and agreed by all Members.

8. PCSP Branded items

- i. The Vice Chair described the items and these were available for Members to examine. She explained funding for this was allocated in the DPCSP budget and proposed by the PCSP. She explained further that these items were important to have available for the promotion of the Partnership at public events.
- ii. The Area Commander suggested the purchase of pen drives which were popular with students.
- iii. A Member suggested the partnership purchase items which reflected the diversity of South Belfast including LGBT groups, Irish language speakers, the Polish community and young people to promote engagement with these groups.
- iv. A Member suggested that panic alarms were popular and used by elderly people and students.
- v. A Member suggested that the proposals by the Member to project groups and language onto items which were for used to promote the DPCSP to the whole community.
- vi. A Member proposed fluorescent bibs for cyclists which could have more longevity than recyclable bags.
- vii. The Area Commander suggested these bibs were popular with walkers and would be easily provided in several languages although they were expensive to purchase.

- viii. The Vice Chair asked for agreement to allocate the budget to promotional items. These were agreed.
- ix. The Vice Chair suggested that Members bring suggestions for items to the next meeting. She suggested that items could be included to represent the diversity of South Belfast. She further suggested that a working groups be convened which would continue the discussions. A paper could be brought to the full meeting for ratification. This was agreed by all Members.

9. PCSP Branded items

- i. The date of the next meeting would be the 9th January which would relate to the open call and decisions. Policing Committee and a Private Meeting would be held on 30th January.