

**Minutes of South Belfast District Policing and Community
Safety Partnership
Wednesday, 29th May 2013, 7.00pm
Great Hall, Queen's University Belfast, BT7 1NN**

Political Members

Cllr. Kate Mullan
Ald. Christopher Stalford

Independent Members

Ms. Paula Bradshaw
Ms. Debbie Hammill
Mr. Niall Kelly
Ms. Nuala Toman

Police Service of Northern Ireland

Constable Grace Taylor Holmes
Robert McMurrin, Crime Prevention Officer
Chief Inspector Gordon Murphy
Chief Inspector Gordon Wilkinson

Statutory Designated Bodies

Anita Duff, BELB
Karl Dorris, NIFRS
Gary Ballantyne, NIHE
Christine Hunter, PBNI

Staff Present

Denise Smith, CS Coordinator
Edele Cleary, Project Officer
Jo Black, Partnership Support
Officer
Keith Addy, Antisocial Behaviour
Officer
Billy Johnston, PSNI Liaison

Apology

Chief Inspector Gaby Moran

1. Welcome & Routine Matters

- i. The Chair, Councillor Deirdre Hargey, made opening remarks.
- ii. She welcomed Members of the Public to the Public Meeting of the South Belfast DPCSP.
- iii. This was the first of three public meetings prior to Christmas 2014. She invited Members of the South Belfast DPCSP in attendance to introduce themselves.
- iv. Members Councillor Christopher Stalford and Councillor Kate Mullan introduced themselves. Independent Members Paula Bradshaw, Niall Kelly, Debbie Hamill and Nuala Toman introduced themselves. Statutory Designated Representatives Anita Duff (BELB), Gary Ballantyne (NIHE) and Christine Hunter (PBNI) introduced themselves.
- v. The Chair explained that the partnership was made up of elected, independent and statutory representatives. The Members would seek in partnership to address community safety issues within South Belfast, however South Belfast was not a monogram community. They would be

engaging the stakeholders and undertaking partnership working in order to engage a wider range of groups.

- vi. The Chair outlined the South Belfast DPCSP priorities. They included: tackling antisocial behaviour, drugs and alcohol, hate crime, violent crime and gender based violence; and promoting better partnership working, providing local leadership, personal safety and crime prevention.
- vii. She noted the sad death of Patrick Williams, aged 63 years old in a fire and conveyed the condolences of the Members.
- viii. The Member explained there would be questions and answers at the end of the session. Members of the audience had suggested future venues to the Chair by Members of the Public and these would be taken into consideration, Members of the Public attending the meeting were invited to participate in the meeting. She invited the Vice Chair, Paula Bradshaw, to make opening remarks.
- ix. The Vice Chair, Paula Bradshaw, made opening remarks. She explained there would be presentations by PSNI Crime Prevention Officers on Personal Safety and on Neighbourhood Watch and a presentation by the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service on Home Safety. Finally there would be a question & answer session by Members of the Public.

2. Presentations

- i. There were presentations by PSNI Crime Prevention Officers on Personal Safety and on Neighbourhood Watch and a presentation by the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service on Home Safety.

3. Questions and Answers by Members of the Public

- i. A Member of the Public asked what the outcome would be if a 1,500 V light bulb with a duster covering it. The Member asked if this would fuse first or if the duster covering it would catch fire.
- ii. The Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service representative explained that the answer was that Members of the Public should not leave the lamp on where possible. However in the event that the lamp was left on, the fuse would melt.
- iii. A Member of the Public asked how long markings on personal property made by UV pens would last.
- iv. The PSNI Crime Prevention Officer explained that these would last for six months.
- v. A Member of the Public asked if a room is secured and a fire has been started how long it would take for this to spread.
- vi. The Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service representative explained that the duration should be long enough for the Fire and Rescue Service to attend the fire. However in the worst case scenario with no exit possible,

Members of the Public should put their nose to the floor until emergency services arrived.

- vii. A Member of the Public asked in the case of using a gas fire, how gas leaks could be prevented.
- viii. The Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service representative explained that a gas fire must be serviced by a an engineer at product recommended intervals and should never be stuffed with anything themselves as this would cause a fire or could lead to the redirection of carbon monoxide into the house.
- ix. A Member of the Public asked if having fire extinguishers in the house would allow individuals to prevent fire.
- x. The Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service representative posed the question to Members of the Public when should a fire be classified as small, large or medium. He urged that under no circumstances should Members of the Public make an attempt to extinguish a fire themselves.
- xi. A Member of the Public asked what is the specific PCSP policy for answering questions. The Member of the Public asked if this was a separate policy for the DPCSPs or if the same policy applied.
- xii. The Chair responded that the DPCSPs had tried to make over the format and ensure that this format was attractive and interactive. She extended an invitation to Members of the Public offering that given there were three events remaining in the year that other formats should be considered for future meetings. She explained that the normal meetings of the South Belfast DPCSP was a Private Meeting and a Policing Committee, however heir could be more general questions and themed Public meetings. She explained that funding was committed to the PCSP and the DPCSPs by the Department of Justice and that part of the reason for this budget was to address issues. She explained that the mapping of community issues to focus on specific communities was being undertaken to address issues. Hate Crime, Drugs & Alcohol, Gender base Violence and Violent Crime were DPCSP priorities. She encouraged those in attendance to ask questions of the designated representatives from Statutory Agencies attending the meetings to ensure the maximum use from Public Meetings.

4. Close

- i. The Chair thanked Members of the Public, and speakers from designated statutory organisations for attending the Public Meeting of the South Belfast DPCSP.
- ii. The date of the next meeting was Wednesday 29th September 2013 with information to be forwarded in local press about the meeting venue.