

**Minutes of the West Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership
Policing Committee Meeting**

**1st Floor Conference Room, Cecil Ward Building
Wednesday, 11th December, 2013**

Political Members

Councillor Marie Hendron (Chair)
Councillor Matt Garrett
Alderman Frank McCoubrey

Independent Members

Bernie Reilly
Ann-Marie Weir

PSNI Representatives

Chief Inspector Emma Bond, Area Commander
Inspector Mike White

Inspector Jocelyn Wise
Sergeant Christopher Robinson

Staff Present

Alistair Charles, Safer City Co-ordinator
Michael Burns, Project Officer
Katharine McCrum, Partnership Support Officer

Apologies

Harry Connolly (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Tim Attwood

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

- i. The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and noted the apologies provided.
- ii. Chief Inspector Bond, Area Commander, was welcomed back to the West Belfast DPCSP.

2. Declarations of Interest

- i. The Chair asked Members to declare any material interests which they may have in relation to any item of business to be considered during the meeting.

3. Minutes

- i. The minutes of 23rd October, copies of which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and agreed as correct by those Members present.

4. Discussion around Local Priorities for 2014/2015 West Belfast Policing Plan

- i. The Area Commander advised Members that discussions were ongoing between the Chief Constable and the Northern Ireland Policing Board in relation to the 3 year Policing Plan for 2014-2017 which assists with the development of Local Policing Plans for 2014-2015.
- ii. Members were advised that some areas within the plan had reverted to previously used numerical targets and that the themes remained largely similar to previous years, namely;

- Reducing crime and antisocial behaviour, in particular hate crime and domestically motivated crimes, burglary and the harm caused by drugs and tackling the rate of crime outcomes.
 - Improved confidence in policing, continued implementation of the policing and community strategy, effective community engagement and joint problem solving.
 - Reduced levels of violent crime and improved services to vulnerable groups.
- iii. The Area Commander advised Members that the PSNI would be carrying out consultation exercises within the PSNI and externally and asked Members to do the same, as well as providing their own views. Sergeant Robinson added that IT systems were being used in order to maximise the consultation audience, particularly among young people.
 - iv. In closing the Area Commander stated that the police would continue to tackle all crime but that the areas focused on within the Plan were based on the bigger community issues.
 - v. A Member questioned whether the implementation of the Service First Programme would impact the Local Policing Plan for West Belfast in any way.
 - vi. The Area Commander confirmed that Service First would not have an impact on the ground but would instead offer the opportunity to work better through restructuring.
 - vii. Members agreed that the questionnaire being used to gather comments regarding the Policing Plan should be circulated to Members for comment before 14th January.

5. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Members agreed to hold the next meeting of the Policing Committee on Monday, 27th January at 5.30pm.
- ii. The Area Commander supported Members desire to hold meetings in community venues but cautioned that this required a risk assessment and security operation to be carried out at a cost to the PSNI.
- iii. Based on this information Members agreed to hold the next meeting in a City Council venue, which would be confirmed by staff at a later date.
- iv. Members commented upon the positive feedback following the November public event held in St Agnes' Parish Centre. Members agreed that targeting existing events was much more effective than holding stand alone events.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator advised that the Citywide Drugs Campaign would be launched in the New Year which would offer the opportunity to hold a localised event on this theme in February however further events could be scheduled.