

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

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

Political Members	Independent Members
Councillor Marie Hendron (Chair)	Bernie Reilly
Councillor Tim Attwood	Ann-Marie Weir
Councillor Steven Corr	

Statutory Designated Organisations	
Sharon Beattie, NIHE	Aideen McLaughlin, YJA
Chief Inspector Emma Bond, PSNI	John McLaughlin, BELB
Tommy Boyle, H&SCT	Sergeant Christopher Robinson, PSNI
David McComiskey, NIFRS	Inspector Mike White, PSNI
Angela McKeown, BELB	Inspector Jocelyn Wise, PSNI

Attendees
Malachy Turley, 50+ Forum

Staff Present	Apologies
Alistair Charles, Safer City Co-ordinator	Harry Connolly (Vice-Chair)
Michael Burns, Project Officer	Councillor Matt Garrett
Katharine McCrum, Partnership Support Officer	Alderman Frank McCoubrey

1. Welcome and Routine Matters

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

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.
- ii. In response to a Member's query regarding designated organisations attending Policing Committee Meetings, the Safer City Coordinator advised that the legislation stated that only Elected and Independent Members of the DPCSP were permitted to sit on the Policing Committee.
- iii. In order to address concerns that issues pertinent to all Members were being discussed during the Policing Committee only, the Safer City Coordinator suggested holding Private meetings prior to Policing Committee meetings in future, limiting the Policing Committee to its monitoring role.
- iv. Members agreed that while this was not as flexible as had been hoped, it would offer the opportunity for wider discussion.

- v. With regards to the outstanding actions, Members were advised that:
- An application had been submitted to extend the Peace III Tension Monitoring Project which, if approved, would extend the evaluation date. The Member who had asked to be involved in this would therefore be spoken to in due course.
 - A scoping exercise was ongoing regarding the bonfire project in Divis. While young people were willing to engage, no concrete decisions had been made but this would be revisited in the New Year.
 - The November Public Event was well attended and received and it was suggested that future events be held in the same way. Members were asked to inform PCSP staff of any existing events that the DPCSP could connect with. Members suggested events in St John the Baptist Primary School and De La Salle College.
 - The Anti-Social Behaviour Officer would provide an update on the legislation governing the ASB Forums at the end of the meeting.

4. 2013/2014 West Belfast DPCSP Action Plan Update

- i. The Safer City Coordinator requested that Members consider uses for the unallocated funds within the 2013/2014 Action Plan.
- ii. Members agreed the following actions:
- £1,000 allocated towards the production of a DPCSP flyer to be reconsidered in the New Year.
 - £1,000 allocated towards public events will be used to host two further community events similar to the one held in November, 2013 in St Agnes' Parish Centre.
 - Crime Prevention by Design training and a further induction session for Members are to be considered for funding using the £750 allocated to Members Training.
 - A 6 monthly review to be held in order to review the work of the DPCSP and plan for the year ahead.
 - £500 will continue to be allocated to encourage extended opening hours at youth facilities at key times of the year.

5. Citywide Drugs Campaign

- i. The Safer City Coordinator advised Members that the PCSP had set up a drugs stakeholder group following reports of drug related deaths in the City. The group had agreed that a coordinated drugs campaign was required with 3 key elements;
- Enforcement – profiled through a media campaign
 - Education – led by the Public Health Agency
 - Communication – through local events with service providers

- ii. Members were further advised that a bid to the Assets Recovery Community Scheme (ARCS) had been unsuccessful and so the PCSP were hoping to deliver the campaign at a citywide level rather than a regional level with assistance from each of the DPCSPs.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator reminded Members that £5,000 of funding was currently allocated to a drugs campaign within the West Belfast DPCSP Action Plan and suggested that by supporting this coordinated approach, the campaign would have a larger impact.
- iv. Members agreed to allocate £5,000 towards the Citywide Drugs Campaign.

6. Policing Committee Applications

- i. The Safer City Project Officer advised Members that 4 Policing Committee Applications had been received, 3 of which had previously been circulated to Members for approval, with the final one circulated on 10th December.
- ii. He advised that the queries raised had been resolved and so Members were asked to provide retrospective approval for these.
- iii. Members approved funding for the following applications:
 - St Galls G.A.C - Pitch Watch Scheme
 - West Belfast Area Project – Youth Drop In
 - Springfield Star FC – Community Safety Project
 - PSNI – Crime Prevention/Safer Homes Scheme
- iv. Members were advised that a total of £6,000 of the allocated £7,000 Policing Committee budget had been allocated to date.
- v. A Member advised that a group working in Blackmountain to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour associated with quad bikes may apply for funding in the New Year.

7. Emerging Issues

Prisoners Christmas Release

- i. In response to a Member's query regarding the strategies in place over Christmas for parolees, Chief Inspector Bond advised that the PSNI would be aware of those released on parole and would be making regular checks.
- ii. Aideen McLaughlin, YJA, advised that young people working with the Youth Justice Agency would be made aware of their release conditions, breaches of which would be reported to the PSNI.

PSNI Service First

- iii. Chief Inspector Bond advised Members that the police would be providing a briefing to Members on the Service First Programme in January. Members were advised that the programme would provide internal restructuring without any impact on service, offering a better opportunity for partnership working.

Anti-Social Behaviour Forum

- iv. The Anti-Social Behaviour Officer read Members Article 5 of the Anti-Social Behaviour (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 which designated 3 partner agencies as members of the forum, namely the PSNI, NI Housing Executive and Belfast City Council. The order states that further consultation could take place with relevant partner agencies such as the Youth Justice Agency (YJA), Probation Board for Northern Ireland (PBNI), Education and Library Boards or Health and Social Care Trusts, although this is not mandatory.
- v. Members were further advised that existing legislation for an Information Sharing Protocol existed between the initial 3 partner agencies, and that this was then extended to the Youth Justice Agency in 2007.
- vi. Ms. McLaughlin added that Youth Justice became involved in order to offer alternative services in an attempt to move away from Anti-Social Behaviour Orders.

One Punch Can Kill / Without Consent its Rape

- vii. Aideen McLaughlin, YJA and Angela McKeown, BELB, advised that they had attended training sessions at the NI Policing Board on the One Punch Can Kill and Without Consent its Rape DVD resources. They advised that they would be rolling these out within their respective organisations and suggested that they would be ideal to present at a future public event.

8. Date of Next Meeting

- i. Members agreed to hold future Private Meetings prior to Policing Committee meetings. The next meeting date was agreed as Monday, 27th January at 5.30pm in either a City Hall or Cecil Ward Building meeting room.