

**Minutes of the North Belfast District Policing and
Community Safety Partnership
Private Meeting
Monday, 18 November 2013, 6.00pm
1st Floor Conference Room, Cecil Ward Building, Belfast**

Members Present	
Councillors	Independents
Councillor Patrick Convery (Chair)	Ms. Jennifer Cornell (Vice Chair)
Councillor Guy Spence	Ms. Bronach Graham
Councillor Naomi Thompson	Mr. Winston Irvine
	Mr. Pat McLarnon
	Mr. Ian McLaughlin
Designated Organisations	
Chief Inspector Ian Campbell	Teresa McAllister, HSCT
Sergeant Oli Connolly	Malachy McKinney, NIHE
Inspector Robin Gouk	Patricia Muldoon, YJA
Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick	Mark Nicolson, PBNI
Inspector Roy Watton	Alan Wilson, BELB
Staff Present	Apologies
Alison Allen, Safer City Manager	Councillor Mary Ellen Campbell
Edele Cleary, Project Officer	
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	
Richard McLernon, Safer City Coordinator	

1. Welcome/Apologies/ Declarations of Interest

- i. The Chair, Cllr Patrick Convery, welcomed Members to the Private Meeting of the District Policing and Community Safety Partnership.
- ii. Apologies noted for Cllr Mary Ellen Campbell.
- iii. The Chair highlighted the declarations of interest policy. No declarations of interest were recorded.

2. Minutes of North Belfast DPCSP Policing Committee

- i. The Minutes of the North Belfast Private Meeting held on 09th October, of which copies were previously circulated, were taken as read and correct.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator updated Members on the agreed actions from the previous North Belfast DPCSP Meeting.

3. Community Safety Updates

- i. A Member advised the Partnership that he could not provide a local area update, as he could not risk the work he had been doing being jeopardised.

- ii. In response to the Member, the Chair commented that it could be difficult not to share information with the Partnership and that another avenue may need to be considered in order to work through this.
- iii. The Member commented that until the matter had been resolved, he would not be providing the Partnership with updates.
- iv. Malachy McKinney, NIHE, informed Members that to date there had been 44 cases of ASB reported in North Belfast, to which 25 relate to noise. The Member commented that the Newlodge area had been a hot spot area and the NIHE had been working in partnership with the PSNI to try and resolve the issue.
- v. A Member commented that there had been two issues within her local area that had been of ongoing concern. Firstly, the ongoing issue with care homes and secondly concerns around Ballysillan Park.
- vi. A Member provided an update in relation to the third strand of the reducing offending programme being piloted in areas of North Belfast. The Member informed the Partnership that the programme had been currently working with young people who had been involved in crime and that the main focus had been on prevention.
- vii. A Member provided an update regarding the ongoing situation in Twadell. The Member commented that the situation is still trying to be resolved and more efforts will become evident in the next few weeks.
- viii. A Member informed the Partnership that there had been some vandalism in the local playground and there had been the issue of stolen railings at Clarendon. The Member further commented that there had been reports of anti social behaviour in Woodvale Park.
- ix. A Member provided an update regarding the ongoing work of the Probation Board. The Member commented that there would be a period of financial constraint ahead for the Probation Board and subsequently could have an impact on budget availability. However, the Member commented that funding had been ring fenced for 2014/15 for community development and that North Belfast could benefit from this funding.
- x. The Chair provided an update regarding the recent trouble on Arthur Bridge. The Chair commented that offensive graffiti in the surrounding area had been removed.
- xi. C/Inspector Ian Campbell provided Members with an update regarding security issues including the ongoing situation at Twadell. The C/Inspector further commented that there had been an increase of 6% for reported crime and that domestic burglary remained the same. He further informed Members that there had been an increase in drug seizures, and a decrease in the number of arrests.
- xii. Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick commented that the situation at Arthur Bridge had eased but that it remained a hostile area, and therefore the PSNI will continue to monitor the area.
- xiii. The Project Officer informed Members that the PCSP Small Grant Programme had opened and that Members were welcomed to attend an information session in NICVA next week.
- xiv. The Project Officer also updated Members on the Youth Event held on 24 October. The Project Officer commented that 177 young people attended the event and that 58 of the young people were from North Belfast. It had been reported that 48 out of the 58 young

people, they did not know what the PCSP was and could not identify a Member of the PCSP.

- xv. The Project Officer also informed Members of the ongoing work around legal highs and that Belfast City Council had released a statement which had been circulated to all PCSP/DPCSP Members.
- xvi. The Project Officer also provided an update regarding ASB.
- xvii. A Member informed the Partnership that local community groups within the Shankill area had been happy to participate in relationship building with the PSNI and that there are continuing at a local level.

4. Chair Update on Work with Belfast PCSP

- i. The Chair informed Members that there had been a meeting between the Belfast PCSP and the Policing Board to discuss the facilitation of a public disorder meeting. The Chair informed Members that the recommendation from the Policing Board had been for a series of targeted consultations to take place rather than a public meeting on public disorder. The Chair reiterated that the Policing Board would support and make a commitment to the Belfast PCSP/North Belfast DPCSP in relation to what the Partnership decided to do.
- ii. The Chair informed the Partnership that Members of Belfast PCSP recommended going back to the North Belfast DPCSP whereby the Members of the Partnership could decide on appropriate action.
- iii. Members of North Belfast DPCSP expressed their disappointment in the Policing Board and would have respected the Policing Board if they made a decision when the issue had first been raised.
- iv. The Chair commented that the Belfast PCSP acknowledged the recommendation by the Policing Board and that it awaits a decision from the North Belfast DPCSP.
- v. Members proposed that the Belfast PCSP facilitate a city wide event on public disorder and if Belfast PCSP agrees to the facilitation of the event, North Belfast DPCSP Members will help with the organisation of the event. However, Members commented that if Belfast PCSP does not agree to the facilitation of the event, North Belfast DPCSP could consider hosting a public meeting on public disorder.
- vi. A Member suggested that two representatives from each DPCSP to assist with the organisation of the public event.
- vii. The Chair commented that a full decision regarding North Belfast DPCSP facilitating a public event could not be made as Members had left the meeting.

5. Review of North Belfast DPCSP Action Plan

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update on the Action Plan.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator commented that within the Action Plan, £5,000 had been allocated to carry out an annual training needs analysis and for an individual training plan to be developed for Members. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that DOJ had developed a group training plan for all PCSP members 2013-2015 and that the training will be delivered free of charge. The Safer City Coordinator asked Members to consider reallocating £3448.40 to another project. Members agreed.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that £2,000 had been allocated to the drug bins and in partnership with FASA areas had been identified for the location of the bins. Members agreed to defer the confirmation of the location of the drug bins until the next meeting.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that the ASB Quotation had been reissued to ten organisations with a dead line of submission of 26 November. Members to be updated regarding quotations received and appointment made at the next DPCSP Meeting.
- v. The Safer City Coordinator commented that £7,500 had been allocated to raising awareness of domestic violence and to develop twelve 'safe place' locations in North Belfast. The Safer City Coordinator suggested that Members consider the delivery of domestic violence awareness sessions and for the delivery of Onus training for organisations that could become safe places.
- vi. The Safer City Coordinator informed Members that £2,000 had been allocated to priority issues for those working and living in interface areas. The Safer City Coordinator suggested that the funding could be utilised to conduct a mapping exercise and for a consultant to facilitate this piece of work. Members agreed that there had been no need for a consultant to be appointed and for the Partnership to facilitate meetings with community groups.
- vii. Members further agreed for a representative from Tension Monitoring to attend a future DPCSP meeting.
- viii. The Project Officer provided Members with an update regarding the Belfast PCSP Drugs Campaign. Members were informed that the campaign did not secure funding from DOJ. The Project Officer informed Members that Belfast PCSP would like to implement a city wide drug campaign in partnership with all DPCSPs. The Project Officer further commented that each DPCSP would make a contribution of £5,000 to the drug campaign. Members agreed to make a contribution of £5,000.

6. Priorities for Action and Timetabling

- i. A Member requested that if the Chair is unavailable to attend a meeting that the Vice Chair or another representative attends on the Partnerships behalf.

7. Sign-posting

- i. No issues noted.

8. **Items for Information**

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update on the Youth Subgroup and informed Members of meeting that had been facilitated.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator commented that the Youth Subgroup had felt that at this stage there had been no requirement for a youth advisory panel and instead linkage with existing structure could be made.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator also informed Members that the Subgroup had discussed the hosting of a Youth Providers Event in January 2014 and that a total of £500 had been allocated to the event.
- iv. Members requested for the Safer City Coordinator to review costing and confirm with Members.

9. **Items for action**

- i. No items noted.

10. **Next Meeting**

- i. Date, time and venue of next meeting noted.