

**Minutes of the North Belfast District Policing and
Community Safety Partnership
Private Meeting
Wednesday, 09 October 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 JJ Magee	Ms. Bronach Graham
Councillor Guy Spence	Mr. Winston Irvine
Councillor Naomi Thompson	Mr. Pat McLarnon
	Mr. Ian McLaughlin
Designated Organisations	
Sergeant Oli Connolly	Harry Bradley, YJA
Inspector Robin Gouk	Malachy McKinney, NIHE
Inspector Gavin Kirkpatrick	Alan Wilson, BELB
Inspector Roy Watton	
David Harbinson, NIFRS	
Staff Present	Apologies
Edele Cleary, Project Officer	Councillor Mary Ellen Campbell
Saranne Gallagher, Partnership Support Officer	Teresa McAllister, Belfast Trust
Richard McLernon, Safer City Coordinator	Patricia Muldoon, YJA
	Mark Nicholson, PBNi

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, Teresa McAllister, Patricia Muldoon and Mark Nicholson.
- iii. The Chair highlighted the declarations of interest policy. No declarations of interest were recorded.

2. Minutes of North Belfast DPCSP Policing Committee

- i. Minutes of 11th September 2013 were agreed by members.
- ii. The Safer City Coordinator updated Members on the agreed actions from the previous North Belfast DPCSP Meeting.
- iii. A Member advised that information had been received from the Criminal Justice Agency and the information detailed was consistent with the information that Chief Inspector Ian Campbell had circulated. The Member advised the information was forwarded on to the FOI applicant.
- iv. The Project Officer commented that seven organisations were invited to complete a quotation for the provision of services regarding ASB interventions. The Project Officer

asked if any Members could be available for an assessment panel. Two Members confirmed availability.

- v. A Member asked if there had been an update regarding the reimbursement of attendance at Subgroup Meetings. The Safer City Coordinator commented there had been no update, but would follow up on this.
- vi. The Project Coordinator advised Members on the Youth Event. The Event is scheduled for Thursday 24 October 2013, City Hall Belfast. Two Members confirmed their attendance at the event.
- vii. A Member commented that an event had been hosted yesterday in the City Hall and it had a similar young people's theme. The Member suggested that when organising events that discussions could be held with other Council departments to encourage a joint up working approach.
- viii. The Chair also suggested that schools could be encouraged to send various young people to Council events, as this could assist the message being disseminated further.

3. **Community Safety Updates**

- i. A Member commented that they were concerns that if the PCSP could not facilitate a public meeting on public disorder within the next month, it would not happen before Christmas.
- ii. The Chair advised Members that if the PCSP could not facilitate a meeting on public disorder, then the North DPCSP would facilitate a public meeting with a specific theme.
- iii. A Member commented that he had spoken to Members of the PCSP, and that they were mindful if they had a North Belfast focus as it could prove challenging for all stakeholders involved. The Member further commented that he had spoken to officers from NIPB regarding the meeting, and they had agreed to participate in the meeting but the meeting needed to be well structured.
- iv. Members agreed that the theme for the next public meeting to be 'A Walk through the Criminal Justice System.'
- v. The Chair commented that it is essential that key decision makers attend the meeting, as this will allow questions that were asked to be answered appropriately.
- vi. A Member asked in order to prevent issues recurring that happened at previous public meetings, could the format of the meeting be amended and only representatives from groups to attend.
- vii. The Chair commented if numbers were limited in relation to attendance at a public meeting, then it could no longer be a public meeting. The Chair also commented that if format had to be changed, people would feel disenfranchised.
- viii. A Member commented that as stated previously by the Area Commander, the Area Commander could not answer questions at the public meeting regarding public disorder. The Member highlighted that a public meeting could serve no basis, if officers present could not answer questions.

- ix. A Member further commented the importance of senior officers to attend meetings, as this could provide opportunities to show leadership.

4. **Local Area Updates**

- i. All Members provided an update regarding their own work areas.

5. **Review of North Belfast DPCSP Action Plan**

- i. The Project Officer provided Members with an ASB update specifically regarding the unwanted bonfire review meeting and a meeting at BELB North Area Project about arranged fights.
- ii. The Project Officer commented that overall the meeting had been positive and suggested that the New Lodge example could be used as a model of best practice. However, there had been some areas such as communication, statutory agency commitments and approach to future bonfires amongst others which need further work.
- iii. The Project Officer further commented that following a meeting regarding arranged fights that it had been agreed that youth workers and police could share phone numbers to let each other know who was working on what nights and in what areas to avoid duplication.
- iv. The Project Officer provided Members with an update regarding drug bins. The Project Officer asked if Members could advise where three drugs bins could be located. Members agreed for drug bins to be located in the area of Upper North Belfast, specifically in the Shankill Well Being Centre, Cliftonville Health Centre and Glenbyrn Centre.
- v. A Member commented that permission to be sought for location of drug bins from the identified organisations.
- vi. The Project Officer updated Members regarding ongoing crime prevention work and the scheduled campaign for December 2013. Members agreed for the PCSP logo to be on all associated merchandise.
- vii. Members agreed to fund a total of £3,000 to assist with the provision of security lighting/door locks for older and vulnerable people.
- viii. Members agreed that they were happy with the training they received regarding hate crime, and also agreed to invite Alan Little to attend a future DPCSP meeting re: violent crime training.
- ix. Members were also informed that a presentation from the North Area Project, could not be feasible at this stage and that an update will be provided by the Partnership Member.

6-9. **Area Wide Issues/Policy related issues/Procedural Issues/ Internal Practice**

- i. A Member commented that as a Partnership, the DPSCP could assist with the promotion of good news stories, including TORUS and could also assist with groups in the Ballysillan area.
- ii. Inspector Kirkpatrick commented that it could be envisaged that a Northern Ireland wide campaign could be implemented following the success of TORUS.

- iii. A Member commented that the community felt nothing had been done regarding drugs in the local community and that the merits of bringing information to the PSNI were not valued.
- iv. Inspector Kirkpatrick commented that this had not been the case and all information to be forwarded on to the PSNI.
- v. A Member asked if there was a need for an awareness campaign, regarding how information received from the public is used.
- vi. Members suggested a leaflet campaign could be conducted.
- vii. It was agreed by Members that this could be followed up through the communication and engagement subgroup.

10. Area Wide Issues

- i. No issues noted.

11. Belfast PSCP

- i. No additional issues noted.

12. DOJ/Policing Board/Joint Committee

- i. No additional issues noted

13. Items for Information

- i. The Safer City Coordinator provided Members with an update on all actions. The Safer City Coordinator commented that amendments had been made to Members expenses, attendance and financial information.
- ii. A Member requested an amendment to the date detailed on the on financial information to reference 01 April 2013 - 31 March 2014.
- iii. The Safer City Coordinator provided an update on Tension Monitoring and advised Members that subgroups had been established to deal with area specific tension monitoring.
- iv. The Safer City Coordinator also advised Members that the tension monitoring element of Atlantic Philanthropies had been awarded funding and Members will be provided with further updates on the progress of the project at future DPCSP meetings.

14. Items for action

- i. Members agreed the theme to for the next DPCSP Public event – ‘A Walk through the Criminal Justice System’.
- ii. A Member noted that she cannot attend DPCSP meetings which are held during Monday – Friday, during working hours.
- iii. Members agreed and noted the following dates for Policing Committee and Private DPCSP Meetings:

- a. Wednesday 29th January 2014;
- b. Wednesday 26th February 2014; and,
- c. Wednesday 26th March 2014.

iv. Members also agreed to facilitate Public Meetings on the following dates:

- a. Wednesday 22nd January 2014; and
- b. Wednesday 12th March 2014.

v. Members agreed on the 11 December 2013 for another Planning Day. Venue/Time to be confirmed.

15. Next Meeting

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