

**LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Policing and Community Safety Partnership held in the Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn, on Tuesday 21 January 2020 at 5.15 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillor A Ewing (Chairman)  
Councillor N Anderson  
Councillor R Carlin  
Councillor A Gowan  
Councillor M Guy  
Councillor T Mitchell  
Councillor S Skillen  
Councillor A Swan  
Mr B Busch  
Mrs Y Craig (Vice Chairman)  
Mr P Dean  
Ms D Hancock  
Mrs P Leeson  
Mrs C McCullough

**IN ATTENDANCE:** PCSP Manager  
Members Services Officer

**Designated Organisations**

Superintendent D Beck, Police Service of Northern Ireland  
Ms J Harkness, Youth Justice Agency  
Mr D Marley, Northern Ireland Housing Executive  
Mr P Thompson, Probation Board of Northern Ireland  
Ms E Millar, Education Authority

The Chairman, Councillor A Ewing, welcomed everyone to the meeting extending a particular welcome to Mr Des Marley who would be representing the Northern Ireland Housing Executive on the Partnership going forward. He then congratulated Councillor A Gowan and his wife on the birth of a baby boy.

1. **Apologies**

There were no apologies, it was noted that Councillor N Anderson had advised that he would be arriving late.

2. **Minutes**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed as outlined below that draft Minutes, as circulated, be confirmed and signed:

- (i) Meeting in Private held on 17 September 2019 – proposed by Mr M Busch, seconded by Mrs Y Craig

- (ii) Meeting of the Policing Committee held on 24 October 2019 – proposed by Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Mrs Christine McCullough
- (iii) Meeting in Public held on 19 November 2019 – proposed by Councillor A Gowan, seconded by Mrs Y Craig

3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Chairman, Councillor A Ewing, outlined the procedure in respect of Declarations of Interest after which the following Declarations were made:

- Councillor A Gowan declared an interest in item 3 on the PCSP Manager's Report as he was Vice-Chair of Anahilt and Magheraconluce Community Association.
- During the course of the meeting Councillor S Skillen declared an interest in item 3 of the PCSP Manager's Report as she was a sub-group member on Ballybeen Improvement Group.

4. Report of the PCSP Manager

It was agreed that the report and recommendations of the PCSP Manager be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below, and other items noted.

4.1 Update from Statutory Organisations

It was agreed that this item of business be dealt with later in the meeting (Item 4.11 refers)

4.2 Participatory Budgeting – Grand Choice Applications

The PCSP Manager advised the Partnership that the deadline for receipt of Grand Choice applications was Thursday 19 December 2019 and that 26 applications had been received. Following a check for compliance with criteria, 25 applications had been shortlisted and proceeded to the marketplace event scheduled for Saturday 1 February 2020 from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm in Maghaberry Community Centre. Members were also provided with additional information on the format of the event which, she advised, was designed to be a wider community engagement event and she encouraged them to attend.

Members noted the update on details for the Grand Choice initiative, the winner of which would be announced week commencing 3 February 2020.

4.3 Applications for funding under £500

(Ms D Hancock arrived at 5.30 pm)  
(Councillor A Gowan left the meeting at 5.30 pm having declared an interest in the next item of business)

The Partnership approved the following requests for funding of £500 or less:

- PSNI Bike Safe Event - £271.00
- Anahilt and Magheraconluce Community Association Crime Prevention Project - £499.99
- Rowandale Primary School, Moira Road Safety Project - £500.00
- Ballybeen Improvement Group Midnight Street Soccer - £500.00

(Councillor A Gowan returned to the meeting at 5.33 pm)

#### 4.4 Neighbourhood Watch Schemes

The Partnership were advised that Neighbourhood Watch Schemes were continuing to grow across the council area with a further 2 schemes being launched in recent months. There were now 89 Schemes involving 233 co-ordinators covering 7500 homes. It was highlighted that the two new Schemes were located in:

- Stoneyford Village
- Blenheim Park, Carryduff

Members were further advised that new Schemes were being progressed in Four Winds, Hillsborough Old Road, Lime Tree Lodge, Warren Park, Belsize Road, Hillsborough Village, Hollymount, Seymour Hill and a further 4 Schemes in Glenavy village.

The update on Neighbourhood Watch Schemes was noted by the Partnership.

#### 4.5 Speed Indicator Devices

Members were provided with a summary of information collected by the SIDs from 1 October 2019 to 31 December 2019 which provided information on the number of motorists, number of speed violations, percentage speed reduction and time of day of most violations.

Members were reminded that, at the private meeting in September 2019, the PCSP agreed the installation of a further 3 SIDs at Carnreagh, Clairehill Road, Moira and Dundrod with the potential for a fourth location to be confirmed at Gransha Road, Dundonald.

She informed the partnership that a procurement exercise was currently ongoing to purchase the devices and that this had resulted in a delay in being able to proceed to purchase.

She further outlined that a site visit had taken place with an official from the Department for Infrastructure and local police at which locations had been agreed and that since then the poles had been installed. She advised that a suitable location had not been found on the Carnreagh Road due to topography and the close proximity of houses to one another and that the nearest suitable location was just before the primary school on the Ballynahinch Road on the approach to the village from Anahilt.

Members were provided with information on additional funding which had been approved by the NIPB for a further 3 SIDs (£9,123.60) and that it was proposed to locate these at Kesh Road, Maze, Ravernet village and Milltown Road, Derriagh. The PCSP Manager updated that since her Report to the Partnership had been produced confirmation had been received from the Department confirming that they would install four more poles, however she also advised that they have suggested that going forward, it would be best if the Council could investigate alternative methods of erecting the poles. They have also advised that DfI Headquarters was considering creating a policy document to provide guidance for Divisions to ensure a consistency of approach.

After consideration of the above it was agreed that the information be noted and that the Partnership agree the following:

- the proposed sites for the 3 SIDs in the Lisburn area at Carnreagh, Clairehill Road Moira and Dundrod as well as the progression of the installation of poles on the Gransha Road, Dundonald
- On the matter of the PCSP Manager's recommendation to send correspondence to the Minister for Infrastructure, it was proposed by Mr M Busch that the Partnership write to the Department for Infrastructure Minister, Nichola Mallon to advise of the Scheme we have in place regarding the SIDs and seek support from the Department in the development of a policy, commitment from DfI to continue to install the poles and the installation of the 4 poles required for the proposed SIDs in the Lisburn and Castlereagh area.

An amendment to the above proposal was put forward by Councillor A Gowan who suggested that the Partnership defer sending the letter to the Minister until the four poles already committed to by DfI officers were erected. The amended proposal was seconded by Councillor T Mitchell and subsequently agreed by the Partnership.

Superintendent D Beck outlined how the devices were assisting police in targeting areas and Mrs D Hancock stated that she thought it would be beneficial to see the previous 3 month figures to ascertain whether the SIDs were successful in educating drivers in the areas in which they were placed, she also felt that considerations needed to be given to the long term plan for SIDs in the area.

This initiated a discussion on options for the future during which Councillor M Guy requested that the Ballymaconaghy Road be considered as a location for a future SID and the PCSP Manager undertook to look at this and revert back to her.

Councillor A Gowan felt police had been more visible of late in his community and wished to thank them for that.

(During the above discussion, Councillor R Carlin arrived at 5.40 pm, Councillor N Anderson arrived at 5.45 pm and Councillor M Guy arrived at 5.46 pm).

4.6 City Watch - Confidential

Members were reminded that the information circulated in respect of this item was of a confidential nature.

Having been provided with a report received from Lisburn Commerce Against Crime detailing CCTV detections and incident details for November 2019 it was agreed that the information be noted.

4.7 Local Policing Plan 2020/21

It was agreed that this item be discussed later in the meeting (Item 4.11 refers).

4.8 Anti-social Behaviour

Members had been provided with information outlining issues of anti-social behaviour across the council area including the Leisureplex, Blue Bridge, Wallace Park, Graham Gardens, Moira Demesne and Cairnshill playing fields some of which included damage to property. They were advised of ongoing collaborative working between PCSP, PSNI, EA and Elected Representatives in an effort to engage with young people and provide diversionary activities.

Members were also provided with information on meetings held to address the issues and were reminded of the recent findings of the LCCC Youth Council ASB survey, which had been presented to the Partnership in recent months.

Members were advised that the Exodus premises in Railway Street, Lisburn had been identified as a suitable location for use as a drop in facility in the City Centre and that an event had been held on New Year's Eve which had over 100 young people in attendance. The PCSP Manager outlined that the ASB Working Group had proposed that these premises be used as a pilot scheme between January to March to provide an alternative choice for young people and that the cost for this pilot scheme would be £6,800.00 which covered staff and additional opening of the facility on 5 Friday afternoons and 5 Saturday evenings until the end of March. It was proposed that the funding requirements would be split on a 50% basis with the EA, requiring a £3,400.00 contribution from the PCSP.

After consideration of the information provided it was proposed by Councillor N Anderson, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell and agreed to support the funding application outlined above.

Councillor N Anderson expressed thanks to police for their assistance with an anti-social behaviour problem in the Cairnshill area.

Councillor R Carlin asked whether or not there had been a date identified for the introduction of anti-social behaviour measures previously discussed in relation to Cairnshill Playing Fields. The PCSP Manager

updated that she was hopeful that these issues had been policed-out due to actions taken in the area which appeared initially to have had a positive effect. She undertook to follow up with the Head of Parks and Amenities on some of the measures identified.

Councillor S Skillen referred to Moat Park in Dundonald and asked if this area could be looked at as she was aware of anti-social behaviour issues there and the PCSP Manager undertook to do so. Ms E Millar outlined the services offered by Exodus and offered to meet Councillor Skillen to discuss options for the Moat Park area.

This was followed by a discussion on other ways to address anti-social behaviour during which Ms Julie Harkness outlined work carried out by the Youth Justice Agency.

#### 4.9 Truecall

Members of the Partnership had been provided with a summary of Truecall statistics for the last 12 months and after consideration it was agreed that, due to demand for these devices following scams as referred to by police, the Partnership purchase a further 50 devices at an approximate cost of £100 per device for the purposes of forward planning, the total cost being approximately £5,000.

Councillor R Carlin wondered if service providers offered anything similar at a lower cost and Mrs Y Craig advised of her experience in this respect.

#### 4.10 Local Policing Plan 2020/21

(Item 4.7 refers)

The PCSP Manager reminded Members of the requirement for the local police to consult with the PCSP and agree the priorities for the Local Policing Plan as they apply to the district. Members were provided with copies of reports published in November detailing the Results and Analysis of the Local Policing Review – Public Consultation and the Consultation Response. The Chairman, Councillor A Ewing then invited Superintendent D Beck to discuss priorities, which correlate with the NI Plan and the PCSP Action Plan, with the Partnership.

Superintendent Beck then addressed the Partnership outlining his obligations and summarising the results of consultation which had taken place in recent months which had been made available to Partnership members and advised that he planned to use it to inform the Local Policing Plan process.

He advised that the emerging concerns were the visibility of police, anti-social behaviour, burglary and theft, drugs and domestic abuse, he also stated that improvements could be made in respect of visible policing, targeted policing and public relations. He stated that the Corporate Plan was not yet finalised but he was keen to start work on this as soon as possible. He urged members to give this their consideration and feed

back any thoughts they had on it to him either directly or through the PCSP Manager.

Members then proceeded to make suggestions to Superintendent D Beck who addressed each one explaining how he felt these could be incorporated within his proposals.

At the culmination of the discussion Councillor A Gowan outlined a project carried out by a local group which provided video door-bells to vulnerable residents in an effort to provide re-assurance and he proposed that a similar project be considered by the PCSP. The amended proposal was seconded by Councillor N Anderson and it was agreed that PCSP officers research this as a future potential project for the Partnership.

4.11 (Item 4.1 refers)

Updates from Statutory Agencies

The Chairman, Councillor A Ewing, invited representatives of Statutory Agencies to provide any relevant updates to the Partnership. The following updates were noted:

(a) Mr P Thompson, NI Probation Service

Mr Thompson advised that one of the Strategic Priorities of his organisation was to target those who target vulnerable victims. He also advised that the Enhanced Combination Order had recently won an award for the Service and that the Director of the NI Probation Service had been honoured in the New Year's Honours list.

(b) Ms E Millar, Education Authority

Ms Millar advised of a new funding scheme which had been launched that day details of which were now available on-line. She said that she was currently working on a three year plan which would consider need throughout the area and she was hopeful of this being made public in March. She updated on Lisburn and Castlereagh Youth Council stating that it was progressing well and was building on the consultation and work carried out by the previous Youth Council with Safe Spaces being identified as a priority. She updated on anti-social behaviour work which was ongoing and advised that a detached Youth Worker had been deployed in the Cairnshill area who would liaise with police and other stakeholders and that new staff had been recruited under the Pathfinder project in the area.

(c) Ms J Harkness, Youth Justice Agency

Ms Harkness updated on ongoing projects in the area.

(Councillor S Skillen left the meeting at 6.43)

(d) Mr D Marley, NI Housing Executive

Mr Marley introduced himself as the new designated representative of the NI Housing Executive and stated that he had been impressed by the strength of the group and hoped to continue to work and improve on this.

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 7.46 pm.

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Chairman