

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Private Meeting of the Policing and Community Safety Partnership held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 21st May 2024 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor A Givan (Chairperson)
Councillor P Burke
Councillor B Higginson
Councillor C Kemp
Councillor J Lavery
Councillor S Lowry
Councillor M McKeever
Councillor A Martin
Councillor T Mitchell
Mrs G Conroy (Zoom)
Mrs Y Craig
Mrs P Yellamaty
Mr J Bentley (Zoom)

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Acting PCSP Manager
PCSP Support Officer (JB)
Member Services Officers (BF and EW)

Designated Organisations
Mr D Marley, NIHE
Chief Inspector K McMullan, PSNI
Mr G Clifton, NIFRS (Zoom)
Ms C Cullen, YJA
Mr J Crymble, EA

1. Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Councillor J Gallen, Mr P Dean, Mr D McBurney and Superintendent K Moore.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

It was moved by Councillor J Lavery, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell, and agreed that the minutes of the private meeting of 16th April be adopted.

4. Update from Statutory Partners

4.1 Update from Chief Inspector K McMullan, PSNI

The Chief Inspector reported that overall crime in the district had reduced by 7.9%, which equated to 506 fewer crimes, when compared to previous 365 days. She added that

overall crime levels were significantly below the figures expected over a five-year average. Antisocial behaviour had reduced by 2.9%, whilst there had been an increase of 16.7% in burglaries reported, a figure which remained below expectation. The Chief Inspector also outlined the series of public engagements and events which had been undertaken by the PSNI during the period.

In response to a question regarding the levels of food theft reported across the district, the Chief Inspector confirmed that there had been an increase in reported incidents. She outlined the range of bodies and agencies which worked in conjunction with the PSNI in addressing the matter and added that, in many cases, it was preferable that discretion was exercised and individuals were signposted to social services or other bodies for assistance.

Regarding reported antisocial activity reported in the vicinity of Graham Gardens, the Chief Inspector and Mr D Marley agreed to liaise further with a Member after the meeting.

4.2 Update from Mr D Marley NIHE

Mr D Marley indicated that levels of antisocial behaviour had decreased with only one case reported since the last meeting. He indicated that work had commenced with NIFRS and other agencies in the monitoring of bonfire sites.

4.3 Update from Mr J Crymble

Mr J Crymble reported that engagement and outreach sessions with young people across the district continued to be very well attended, in particular those hosted at Brooklands Youth Centre. Service provision was ongoing at Seymour Hill and Derriaghy, while Laurelhill was increasing in popularity. He added that the Lisburn & Castlereagh Youth Council had worked in partnership with the PSNI to deliver a 'REaL' engagement, which focussed on stop and search and anti-social behaviour.

4.4 NIFRS – Mr G Clifton

The Partnership was advised that work on bonfire engagement work had commenced across the Greater Belfast area, which included the Council area, and that no adverse issues had been reported.

4.5 YJA - Ms C Cullen

Ms Cullen provided the Partnership with an overview on the latest initiatives and events which had been delivered by the Agency over the previous quarter relating to the themes of crime reduction and reducing re-offending.

5.0 Report of the Acting PCSP Manager

5.1 Participatory Budgeting (Grand Choice) Review

The Acting PCSP Manager reminded the Partnership that, at its meeting on 16th April, it was agreed that officers would review the following aspects of the project:

- Eligibility criteria
- Multiple applications from groups or umbrella organisations
- Voting process – use of electronic/online means
- Increasing the maximum level of funding beyond £1,000

The Partnership considered a report which had been prepared by the Acting PCSP Manager who outlined its principal aspects and a range of option for consideration.

After a prolonged discussion, the following was moved by Councillor S Lowry, and seconded by Councillor M McKeever, was put to the Partnership,

That, the Partnership:

1. agrees to the revised criteria for the next phase of Grand Choice;
2. continues to accept more than one application from groups or umbrella organisations;
3. that officers agree to proactively adopt new promotional campaigns to attract applications from target groups who have not previously engaged in the Grand Choice process;
4. continues to use the current voting method whilst Officers continue to look at models used in other regions; and
5. that the maximum level of funding remains at £1,000.

Prior to taking a decision, Councillor S Lowry agreed, at the request of the Chairperson and Councillor J Laverty, to amend the wording of the second point of the proposal to reflect the addition of the following words in bold:

2. *continues to accept more than one application, **but not more than three**, from groups or umbrella organisations.*

The proposal, as amended, was adopted by the Partnership.

It was noted that a review of the arrangements would be undertaken in due course.

5.2 Road Safety - NI Road Safe NI

The Partnership was informed that the above-mentioned organisation was seeking establish a Road Safety Committee within the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council area.

The Acting PCSP Manager reported that it was anticipated that a meeting would take place in due course to assess interest and to progress to the formation of a group. It was noted that it was anticipated that a member of the PCSP would be invited to serve on the Committee, should it be formed.

The Partnership noted the information provided.

5.3 Ladies' Vehicle Maintenance & Safety Evening

The Partnership noted the arrangements which had been put in place for the hosting of a Ladies' Vehicle Maintenance & Safety Evening on 26th June at Gilnahirk Tyre & Exhaust Centre, Dundonald at 7.30 pm. The event would be an informative session on

‘under the bonnet basics’ to enhance confidence for ladies in the occurrence of a breakdown.

5.4 Applications for Funding Over £500

The Partnership approved the following two applications for funding:

Applicant	Project	Amount
Dream Scheme NI	Provision of a drop-in centre and outreach service to reduce anti-social behaviour in the Four Winds, Cairnshill Playing Fields, Colby Park and Carryduff areas. This project is in line with Strategic Priority 2 of the PCSP Action Plan – ASB	£5,000
ONUS	Provision of a Safe Church & Community Scheme for Domestic Awareness Training across Lisburn & Castlereagh. This project is in line with Strategic Priority 2 of the Action Plan – Domestic Violence	£4,000

5.5 Applications for Funding Under £500

The Partnership approved the following projects:

Hillhall Regeneration Group	Family Fun Day/Diversional Activities - 11 July 2024	£500
PSNI	Dreamscheme Engagement - August 2024	£250
Seymour Hill & Conway CA	Family Fun Day/Diversional Activities 11 July 2024	£500
Hillsborough Junior LOL	Engagement/Diversional Activities July 2024	£500
PSNI	Ballybeen Engagement during July 2024	£500
Glenavy Hurling	Diversional Activities – May – December 2024	£500
Old Warren Community Association	Diversional Activities 11 July 2024	£500
Halftown Residents Association	Engagement/Diversional Activities 11 July 2024	£500
Ballymacash Regeneration	Network Family Fun Day/Diversional Activities 11 July 2024	£500

6.0 Councillor A Givan – Last Meeting as Chairperson

The outgoing Chairperson placed on the record his thanks to the Members of the Partnership, the Vice-Chairperson and officers, for the manner in which they had supported him throughout his term in the Chair.

Several Members thanked the Chairperson for the manner in which he had conducted meetings and promoted the work of the PCSP over the past year.

The meeting ended at 8.22 pm.

Chairperson