

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Special Private Meeting of the Policing and Community Safety Partnership held via Zoom on Tuesday 15th February 2022 at 7.15pm

PRESENT:

Councillor N Anderson
Councillor R Carlin
Councillor A Ewing
Councillor A Gowan
Councillor H Legge
Councillor A McIntyre
Councillor S Skillen
Mr J Bentley
Ms G Conroy
Mrs Y Craig
Ms A Landa
Mr D McBurney
Ms A Twomey (Vice Chairperson - in the Chair)
Ms P Yellamaty

IN ATTENDANCE:

Acting PCSP Manager
PCSP Officer (JB)
PCSP Officer (SA)
Member Services Officer (BF)

Designated Organisations

Superintendent J Mullan, Police Service of Northern Ireland
Chief Inspector J Wilson, Police Service of Northern Ireland
Mr D Marley, Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Ms N Bradshaw, Probation Board for Northern Ireland
Mr G Clifton, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service

Commencement of the Meeting

The Vice-Chairperson, Ms A Twomey, opened the meeting and extended a special welcome to Ms Nicola Bradshaw, who had been co-opted onto the Partnership to represent the Probation Board NI, and to Mr Gerry Clifton, who was attending his first meeting as a representative of the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service.

1. Apologies

It was agreed that apologies be recorded on behalf of the Chairperson, Councillor M Guy, together with Ms E Millar, EA Youth Service, and Mrs J Harkness, Youth Justice Agency.

2. Report of the Acting PCSP Manager

2.1 Draft Strategic Assessment for 2022/25 and Action Plan for 2022/23

The Partnership was reminded that a Strategic Assessment Planning Day had been held on 14th December, 2021, which had been facilitated by Mr Phil Rankin of Blue Moss consultants. Accordingly, the Acting PCSP Manager outlined the principal aspects of a Draft Strategic Assessment for 2022/25 and a PCSP Action Plan for 2022/23, copies of which had previously been circulated. She reported that the documents had been drafted to ensure that the Partnership's strategy and action plan reflected local policing and community safety needs.

The Acting PCSP Manager explained that the Strategic Assessment for 2022/25 had been presented in draft format to enable PCSP officers, in conjunction with the PSNI, to re-examine a number of statistics contained within the document. She reported that PCSP officials would meet with the PSNI in this regard with a view to submitting the final document to the Department of Justice and the Northern Ireland Policing Board by 1st March, 2022. The Partnership was requested to approve the Strategic Assessment in its draft format, subject to the course of action outlined.

The Acting PCSP Manager outlined the contents of a letter which had been received from the Department of Justice (DoJ), dated 3rd February, 2022, which had indicated that the Northern Ireland Executive had agreed that its main priority over the following three-years would be the health and social care budget. As a result, it was anticipated that PCSPs would be required to operate under the assumption that there would be a 2% reduction in their overall budget for 2022/23, which would equate to £5,502 in the Council area.

It was noted that the Chairperson, Councillor M Guy, had written previously to the Justice Minister to raise concerns regarding the proposed reduction to the PCSP budget and the Partnership agreed that those concerns should be conveyed also to the Finance Minister.

The Partnership was given an overview of the Action Plan for 2022/23, which had been developed to reflect the financial reduction and drafted in accordance with priorities and emerging issues identified within the Draft Strategic Assessment. Members were advised that the Action Plan would be submitted to the Department of Justice and Northern Ireland Policing Board by 1st March, but that comments and suggestions in respect of the document could be forwarded to PCSP staff prior to that date.

Discussion ensued in respect of the documents presented, particularly regarding how the Partnership might address and highlight both hate and cyber-crime as part of its work, and how this might be reflected within future Strategic Assessments and Action Plans.

After further discussion, it was, proposed by Ms Y Craig, seconded by Councillor A Ewing, and agreed that the Partnership approve, in principle, the Draft Strategic Assessment for 2022/25 and the PCSP Action Plan for 2022/23, subject to PCSP and PSNI officials re-examining a number of statistics contained within the Draft Strategic Assessment, with a view submitting the

final documents to the Department of Justice and Northern Ireland Policing Board by 1st March, 2022.

2.2 Road Safety Sub-Group – Update

The Partnership was informed that the Road Safety Sub-Group had met on four occasions since September 2021 to review the location and efficiency of existing Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) and to assess new applications for such devices. The Acting PCSP Manager, together with the PCSP Officers, outlined the rationale which had been used in this exercise and gave an overview of the proposals which had been submitted for consideration. It was noted that the proposals to relocate the SIDs had been made after community consultation, together with an assessment of the number of breaches or disregard of the devices by motorists. In addition, the Sub-Group had proposed that consideration be given to rotating the location of all the SIDs in the district. This would mean restricting the allocation of a SIDs for a period of six months, extending to a maximum of 12 months, to allow for a fair and equitable approach in addressing and servicing all requests.

In accordance with the Action Plan for 2021/22, a procurement exercise had been undertaken to procure four new devices at a cost of £13,800, and it was reported that those devices would be installed by the end of March, 2022. Also, the Sub-Group, at its meeting in January, had discussed the possibility of purchasing four further devices in the 2021/22 financial year. However, following an analysis of the budget, it had not been deemed possible to proceed, but provision had been included within the Action Plan for 2022/23 to enable the purchase of four additional devices.

After discussion, during which Members paid tribute to the officers and the Chairperson for the manner in which they had overseen the review, it was proposed by Mr J Bentley, seconded by Mr D McBurney, and agreed that the Partnership approve the following course of action:

- That the following SIDs, as recommended by the Road Safety Sub-Group, be relocated subject to the recommendations from both the PSNI and Department for Infrastructure:

	Site	DEA	Installed	Comments
1	Hillsborough Road Moneyreagh	Castlereagh South	05/2019	Relocate - community consultation
2	Front Road Drumbo	Downshire East	05/2019	Relocate - low breaches
3	Belfast Road, Glenavy	Killultagh	05/2019	Relocate - total disregard of device
4	Ravarnet	Downshire East	08/2019	Relocate - community consultation
5	Soldierstown Road, Aghalee	Killultagh	11/2020	Relocate - community consultation,
6	Hillsborough Road, Carryduff	Castlereagh South	12/2020	Carryout consultation with local residents

- That four new SIDs be installed at locations which had been identified as having the highest priority by the Sub-Group subject, to the recommendations from both the PSNI and Department for Infrastructure.
- That all SIDs be rotated on a six-month cycle, unless evidence had been provided to extend the provision to 12 months.

2.3 Applications for Funding under £500

Members considered the following applications for funding and it was proposed by Councillor N Anderson, seconded by Mrs Y Craig, and agreed that the Partnership approve the applications as set out below:

Group	Project	Amount
Lisburn City Old Vehicles Club	Road Safety Project – March 2022	£497
Lisburn LOL District No 6	Parade Marshalling Training – February/March 2022	£500
PSNI	Engagement event with Seymour Hill & Conway CA to deter ASB (Boxing Training)	£486

2.4 Participatory Budgeting Update – Downshire West

The Partnership was advised that the Grand Choice participatory budgeting initiative, would take place in the Downshire West DEA in St John’s Parish Centre, Moira, on Saturday 9 April 2022 from 11am to 3pm. The event, which would be a physical market place format, to include a community event with exhibitors, information stalls and other activities, would open for applications on 21st February and close on 20th March 2022. Members of the community would be invited to visit each of the projects and vote for the top 10 projects of their choice. The winners would be announced week commencing 11th April, 2022.

The Partnership noted the information provided and it was agreed that as many Members as possible should attend and support the event.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 8:21 pm.

Chairperson