Minutes of
Policing and Community Safety Partnership Meeting

Tuesday 31 March 2026
Council Chamber, Guildhall

Present: Marie Brown, Cathal Crumley, Eddie Doherty (NIHE), Declan Gallagher (EANI), Ald Darren Guy, Ald Keith Kerrigan (Chair), Cllr Fergal Leonard, Cllr Emma McGinley, Carey McKee (WHSCT), Cllr Martin Reilly, Caroline Quigley (NIHE), Paul Ryan (YJA), Beverly Simpson, Alison Wallace, and Linda Watson.

PSNI: Chief Insp Graeme Craig and Supt Claire Hamilton.

Presentation: Debbie Mullan and Eamonn Karran – Road Victim Support Northern Ireland and Donegal

In Attendance at Meeting: Ciara Bond, Aileen Murphy, and Vanessa Russell.

DSPCSP 11/26 **Apologies:**

Cllr John Boyle, Cllr Sandra Duffy, Karl Duncan, Cllr Christopher Jackson, Mr David Jackson, Patsy McGonagle, Ald Niree McMorris, Cllr Antaine O'Fearghail, Ms Maura O'Neill (WHSCT), and Denise Stewart (PBNI).

DSPCSP 12/26 **Chairperson's Business**

Ald Keith Kerrigan (Chair) welcomed all members to the March PCSP Meeting. There was no Chairperson's business to report.

DSPCSP 13/26 **Presentation by Road Victim Support Northern Ireland and Donegal (RVSNID)** (Debbie Mullan and Eamonn Karran)

The presentation was by two parents who had lost children in road traffic collisions. Members were taken through the presentation which gave an overview of RVSNID.

RVSNID was formed by a collective group of three bereaved families who came together through shared loss and experience of the devastating impact that a serious or fatal road traffic collision can have on families, friends, and communities.

RVSNID is a peer-led organisation supporting individuals and families affected by fatal and serious road collisions, providing a comprehensive, trauma-informed response to individuals, families, and communities impacted by road traffic collisions.

Support is provided from the earliest moments of crisis and continues for as long as required. All members of the organisation come from lived experience, ensuring genuine empathy and understand.

RVSNID are the only organisation of its kind in NI and Donegal. Early intervention is provided, with home visits to deliver immediate emotional support where each family is assessed, through a Family Liaison Officer or via the online self-referral portal, to deliver a tailored package for everyone affected.

Support offered covers:

- Men's Time to Talk
- Children's Play Therapist
- Monthly Support Meetings

- Bereavement Counselling

From Tragedy to Change - Road Safety and Educational Programmes are offered through initiatives aimed at improving driver behaviour and preventing future harm. RVSNID would welcome opportunities of collaboration with PCSP to explore educational programmes further.

The lived experience is central to the approach by sharing real stories and personal impact to create meaningful engagement that resonates more deeply with audiences. People are more likely to listen, relate and reflect when they hear directly from those affected. The lived experience remains at the heart of the group's road safety and educational work, helping to turn tragedy into positive change.

Drive to Arrive is an engaging road safety awareness programme delivered by RVSNID, designed to educate young drivers and road users about the real consequences of dangerous driving. Through powerful real-life experiences and interactive learning, the programme encourages safer decision-making on the road.

The programme is offered to P7 and 1st year students and includes:

- Real Life Stories from emergency responders and families
- The Fatal Five Awareness – the main causes of serious collisions – speeding, mobile phone use, drink or drug driving, not wearing a seatbelt, careless/dangerous driving
- COAST Advanced Driving Awareness – helping drivers learn safe observation and decision-making skills
- Caoimhe's Law – promoting respect for victims/families by discouraging the sharing of crash site images online

The Knock at the Door - As part of the work of RVSNID volunteers collaborate with other road safety initiatives, most recently the Rotary Club, to deliver powerful lived experiences sessions, named, 'The Knock at the Door.

Volunteers share the moment where their lives changed forever, the day they were told their loved one had been killed in a collision and would never return home. The personal storytelling, highlights the reality behind the headlines, showing not just the immediate loss but the lasting ripple effect for families and communities. The sessions bring a human face to road safety and audiences truly understand the consequences, encouraging reflection, responsibility, and change.

Drive2Arrive 65+ - This programme includes:

- Open and supportive discussions around safe driving in later life
- Awareness of how medication and health conditions may impact driving
- Building and maintaining confidence behind the wheel
- Identifying and managing common risks for older drivers
- A refresher on road safety rules and best practice
- Guidance on changes in reaction time, vision, and awareness
- Encouraging self-reflection and informed decision-making
- Exploring alternative transport options while maintaining independence
- Promoting responsibility, safety, and continued independence

On the Move, Staying Safe Programme (Road Safety for Transition Years) - includes:

- School bus safety and behaviour when travelling
- Understanding pedestrian responsibility and awareness

- Learning and applying the Green Cross Code
- Awareness of distractions (e.g. mobile phone use, headphones)
- Importance of visibility (especially in darker months)
- Recognising and navigating different traffic environments
- Building confidence for independent travel
- Encouraging safe decision-making and personal responsibility
- Understanding basic road signs and hazards

Voices for Change includes workshops for young and emerging drivers:

- A four-week creative workshop for young and emerging drivers
- Encouraging participants to explore road safety from their own perspective
- Identifying gaps and issues within their communities
- Developing peer-led road safety messages
- Creating content through posters, videos, and social media campaigns
- Building confidence, communication, and creativity
- Promoting responsibility and awareness among young drivers
- A competition-based element across participating schools
- Showcasing winning entries across social media and partner platforms
- Amplifying youth voice to influence positive change in road safety

Families Voices for Change – involved in Families' Campaigns for Change using the voices and lived experience of families to highlight key issues surrounding road safety and gaps, particularly in relation to aftercare and ongoing support. RSVNID aim to influence awareness, policy, and practice, while empowering those with lived experience to drive positive change within the community.

Caoimhe's Law – will make it a criminal offence to record, share, or publish images and videos of victims from fatal or critical road collisions without consent. No family should ever find out about their loved one's death through social media. It is about dignity, compassion, and accountability.

Return with Care – this initiative focusses on dignity, compassion, and respect in the return of personal belongings. Rather than a family becoming deeply distressed at the return of a loved one's personal belongings in an inappropriate and insensitive manner 'Return with Care' seeks to raise awareness of the issue and advocate for a more respectful, consistent approach that recognises the importance of the items. The belongings could often be the last physical connection families have to their loved one and how this is handled can have a lasting emotional impact. By highlighting the experiences, RVSNID aim to influence better practices and ensure families are treated with the dignity and care they deserve at such a difficult time.

In 15 Months RVSNID (of **Impact Building the Foundation for Collaboration)** has made a tangible Difference with, Family Support at the Heart, Strong Collaborations, Community Presence Growing, Fundraising with a Purpose, Funding & Momentum, and Recognised & Trusted.

Partnership Work - RVSNID hope to work in collaboration with PCSP to support and contribute to local community safety initiatives and to compliment PCSP's priorities by delivering preventative, education-based programmes that reduce risk before enforcement is required.

The key value of supporting RVSNID's initiatives is early intervention and prevention through lived experience, reducing road-related harm and supporting safer communities. Programmes for Collaboration include Drive to Arrive, Find Your Voice,

and On the Move – Staying Safe.

RVSNID requested the following support of PCSP; Strategic Support, Access & Collaboration, Practical Support (subject to availability), and Partnership Development.

The shared outcome in the collaboration is to:

- Reduce road-related harm and trauma
- Strengthen preventative education
- Support victims and families
- Build safer, more resilient communities

RVSNID and their work is in memory of loved ones, so deaths are not just statistics. Real change comes through collaboration with partners, including PCSP, to strengthen enforcement, improve awareness, and drive meaningful, last change in road safety. RVSNID use lived experience to call for change. Through partnership, accountability, and action, a difference can be made to help prevent other families from experiencing the same loss.

The Chair thanked both Eamonn Karran and Debbie Mullan for the presentation which was much appreciated and said there was a lot of options PCSP could engage in. He congratulated them for their recent success at the Northern Ireland Road Safety Awards where they secured the Open Category award.

Questions/Issues Raised

RVSNID were thanked by members for their presentation, and the following questions/issues were raised:

Cllr Emma McGinley requested RVSNID to share presentation and video to members. She asked had there been engagement with EA/Youth Services and how the Youth Voice Campaign was being delivered/shared to young people. She thanked them for the work they were doing.

Response

RVSNID advised that a presentation was given at Shantallow Youth Centre. Help was requested to get the word out with regards to the programmes. RVSNID want to cover as many schools as possible, especially 16+ age group. They gave a presentation in two schools, Raphoe and Limavady where feedback from the young people was taken on board and recorded after the event. A video was created and will be shared to members to issue to other organisations.

Cllr Martin Reilly thanked RVSNID for the presentation and endorsed the lived experience via storytelling, the experience of those bereaved, and the emergency services involved. It shows what the experience looks like, both with individuals and emergency services. He asked had they fed into Department's consultation on graduated driving license to ensure that their views are given consideration.

Response

Debbie said the group had many meetings with the Department for Infrastructure in relation to the new driving licence scheme. She said that when they speak to young people about the new laws, they explain the changes are there to ensure the safety of people on the roads.

Debbie explained both herself and Eamonn had children who were killed on the roads. She said her son Killian did not get to drive in wet conditions prior to their driving test, and highlighted that young people need to take lessons on the road when the weather is bad. It will cost more money to get them through the test, but young people need to see the value of these changes rather than it being an inconvenience. It needs to be weighed up, they need to take their time and learn to stay safe and alive, 'Drive to

Arrive' is the group's key message. In rural areas, driving is so important, as it gives young people more freedom, but they need to be kept safe. RVSNID want to advocate this into the training.

Linda Watson advised that she is a manager of a community group in Caw/Nelson Drive and asked if RSVNID would be prepared to come and deliver one of their programmes there.

Response

RSVNID stated that no matter how small the group is, they would gladly deliver a project for them.

Ald Darren Guy said that through bereavement, RSVNID support group was set up, and he congratulated RSVNID for going down other paths, such as the 65+ group and Caoimhe's Law - he stated that the media must take some responsibility. He referred to an accident in St Johnson where lives were lost and photos on social media had to be removed. He encouraged RSVNID to keep up the good work and all information would be shared.

Response
RSVNID explained that they have had contact with various media outlets regarding images they have used and sometimes had to get political parties involved to ensure these images were removed. For a bereaved family, this can be horrific for them to see, and it cannot be unseen. It had already been shared many times. Once seen it is replayed in one's mind and families go through the 'what if' scenario.

Debbie referred to only receiving the investigation report, 10 months after her son, Killian's accident. She said they must be mindful and respectful of a family's perspective and the support offered. It can be devastating for the family receiving an investigation report, months after a fatal accident.

Supt Claire Hamilton echoed the previous comments. On a personal level, her 17-year-old nephew and niece, lost a friend to an RTC. She stated she was fully supportive of what the organisation was doing and requested information cards for frontline PSNI Officers and to share within the community.

The PCSP Chair said 'Caoimhe's Law' was so important, and it was good to hear RSVNID was working with Leinster House in Dublin and the proposition of going to Westminster. He said their work, specifically Voices for Change, would tie in with Davy Jackson through Road Safe NI. He thanked RSVNID for the detailed presentation and said PCSP would work with them as much as possible. He also asked that the presentation be shared with PCSP members.

PCSP Manager

DSPCSP 14/26 **<u>Approval of Minutes of PCSP Meeting of 24 February 2026 - DSPCSP 01.26-10.26</u>**

Proposed: Cllr Emma McGinley
Seconded: Linda Watson

DSPCSP 15/26 **<u>Matters Arising</u>**

Cllr McGinley referred to a full Council meeting last week where one of the PSNI strategic priorities is EVAWG. She said it would be remiss not to mention the recent tragedy of Amy Doherty's murder in her own home. This strategic priority needs to be shared with all Councillors as they do not all are on the PCSP, so this information is not shared with them.

Supt Claire Hamilton stated all updates were shared and published on NIPB website at a strategic level and Councillors could be directed to that information.

Cllr Reilly referred to what happened over recent weeks, events on EVAWG, and the vigil for Amy Doherty. He stated more men needed to attend these types of events. He also said that men need to be encouraged to attend various training opportunities that are available.

Marie Brown said she had spoken with the PSNI Commander and information is being collated by Foyle Women's Aid and PSNI for families, parents and people who want more information/support if they are worried about a loved one. She added that they have agreed to go out into schools and other venues to provide information.

DSPCSP 16/26 **PCSP Manager's Report**

The PCSP Manager referred members to the Manager's Report and covered the following areas:

PCSP Action Plan/Budget 2025/2026 – The quarterly expenditure claims for the first three quarters of 2025-2026 have been submitted to the Joint Committee for a total of £292,749.23 and the quarter four expenditure claim will be submitted by 22 April 2026.

PCSP Action Plan/Budget 2026/2027 – The final draft was approved at the PCSP Meeting on 27 January 2026 and sent to the Joint Committee for consideration on 28th January 2028, however we have not been given any indication of when this will be approved or what the budget will be, however PCSP members will be kept updated as this progresses.

Conflict of Interest Declarations – At the time of composing this report, forms are overdue for 2 elected members. As part of the PCSP Audit report for 2025/26, Audit noted that "despite these reminders some declarations for members remain outstanding at the date of audit fieldwork. However, this recommendation is deemed fully implemented as Internal Audit can confirm that the PCSP Manager has compiled with the recommendation made."

The PCSP office will be issuing Conflict of Interest Declaration forms for 2026/27 in April 2026, and members are asked to fully complete these and return by the end of May 2026.

PCSP Meeting Expense Payments/Travel Claims – As a result of the PCSP Audit Report 2025/26, PCSP members are reminded that they must ensure that meeting expense forms are fully completed to include name, address, and month of claim. The start and end time for all meetings/events must also be included, otherwise claim forms cannot be processed.

Action for Members: All PCSP members are asked to fully complete Meeting Expense Claim Forms before submitting it to PCSP Staff. It should include name, address, month of claim, as well as the start and end time for all meetings/events.

PCSP Members

Small Project Support 2025/2026 – Open Call - The PCSP Manager advised that the PCSP had secured five performances of "*I Love You, Mum – I Promise I Won't Die*" as part of the Northern Ireland tour. The performance was facilitated and delivered by DSM Foundation to 795 students from 5 post-primary schools, Holy Cross College, Knockavoe School, Lumen Christi College, Oakgrove Integrated College, St Cecelia's College, and Strabane Academy.

The PCSP Chair and Manager had the opportunity to attend a performance delivered to year 10 students of Strabane Academy, earlier this month. The production shared the real story of Daniel Spargo-Mabbs and explored the choices he made and the impact to those around him. Students attended a workshop after the performance and were encouraged to reflect on decision-making, personal responsibility, and risks associated with drugs, to help them think critically about keeping themselves and

others safe.

Members had previously agreed PCSP would directly deliver two 'Workshops on Wheels' projects for residents in the Sperrin/Strabane/Castlederg areas, where participants would have the opportunity to speak with PSNI officers in an informal setting. These workshops took place in March and officers from NH Policing Teams in Strabane and Castlederg were able to engage with residents to help build trust in a relaxed setting.

The remaining underspend was used to purchase additional equipment to address domestic violence.

Consensual Grant Aid 2026/27 – As part of the PCSP Action Plan 2026/27, PCSP agreed to allocate funding to the 8 Local Growth Partnership Boards in the Council area using the consensual grant aid model. For 2026/27 there was an additional £5,000 per DEA allocated specifically for the theme of EVAWG. The allocation is the same as 2025/26.

PCSP officers have reviewed the Action Plans submitted from all 8 Local Area Growth Partnership Boards and are satisfied that they all align to the PCSP Action Plan priorities. All requested funding is consistent with what is considered eligible for funding under the Open Call process. The recommendation is that the PCSP approve funding as outlined in these Action Plans (see appendices 1-8). At this stage, all applications for funding are "at risk" until the PCSP receives a Letter of Offer from DOJ/NIPB.

Allison Wallace declared an interest as a member of the Waterside Local Growth Partnership.

All members agreed with the Action Plans submitted by Local Growth Partnership Boards:

Proposed by: Cllr Emma McGinley
Seconded by: Cllr Martin Reilly

Small Project Support 2026/2027 – Open Call – PCSP Small Project Support is available for projects that will deliver across all 8 DEAs in the Council area.

Advertisements were placed in all local newspapers on the week commencing 23/03/26. The advertisement has also been shared on the PCSP and Council's Facebook pages and emailed to members. Members are asked to share this information as widely as possible, to ensure the potential for applications is maximised. The online grant aid portal opened on Monday 23/03/26 at 10.00am and will close on Wednesday 22/04/26 at 12 noon. To access the online portal, please click the following link: dcsdcgrantaid.com/login.asp?redir=/pcsp-fund.asp

Campaigns/Initiatives – Community Safety Wardens have dealt with a total of 705 referrals from members of the public, 623 referrals from statutory agencies (1,328 referrals in total) and provided 13,982 patrols of ASB hotspot areas.

Comic Book - At the PCSP meeting held in April 2025, members approved the allocation of £8,500 towards a "Comic Book" project under the theme of Ending Violence Against Women and Girls, which will be delivered in partnership with PSNI.

The project consisted of a series of 10 workshops to allow the group of young people to express themselves and create the story. The completed comic can be used as a preventative educational tool in schools and Youth Clubs.

Project Meetings are now complete, and the comic book printed. The official celebration event is today, 31/03/26, in the Main Hall, Guildhall. All PCSP members were invited to attend, however if members did not RSVP they were informed they could not attend the event as it was now at full capacity.

RAPID Drugs Bins - 23 RAPID Drug Bins have been installed throughout the City and District. The latest information provided by PHA stated that 14,106 pills were deposited in the bins which included anti-depressants, painkillers, antibiotics, pregabalin, and some unknown pills. The top 3 prescription drugs recorded during the period 01/04/25 to 20/03/26 were Gabapentin, Lansoprazole, and Baclofen.

Home Security – From 01/04/25 to 20/032/26, 174 homes have been fitted for Home Safety Equipment to help reduce fear of crime and to feel safer in their own homes.

Neighbourhood Watch – there are 44 NHW Schemes covering 3,500 homes. Meetings were held in October in Derry and Strabane. The most recent meetings were held on 23/03/26 and 24/03/26 in the Guildhall and Melvin Sports Complex respectively. Further meetings will take place in early summer. PCSP members will be updated once dates have been agreed. Members were informed they were welcome to attend these meetings.

Issue no. 47 of the NHW Newsletter was circulated to NHW Co-Ordinators in February, emailed to PCSP members, and published on the PCSP Facebook Page.
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CCTV - From the period 01/04/25 – 28/02/26 CCTV has dealt with 405 missing person reports, 194 attempted suicides, and 760 suicide welfare concerns. In addition, 327 assaults, 138 incidents of drunkenness, 26 incidents of criminal damage, and 51 drugs related incidents have been dealt with.

Road Safety

PCSP staff attended Artigarvan Primary School to participate in a Kids' Court initiative in March 2026, where drivers caught speeding had to explain to a panel of children why they were speeding past their school gates. This was much more impactful than a fixed penalty notice and gave pupils the opportunity to question drivers about their behaviour behind the wheel, particularly near schools and residential areas. A total of 9 drivers chose to face the kids' court, and we will be requesting more of these in our district over the next year.

The Chair stated there was a lot of media support for this initiative and it would be good to get Kids' Court rolled out to other schools, especially those at 20mph zone outside main schools in Donemana, Castlederg, Killen, and Victoria Bridge.

PCSP Manager

DSPCSP 17/26 **Community Safety Wardens' Reports**

Members were referred to the CSW Reports which were distributed for information.

The PCSP Chair mentioned the patrols by the CSW with only 3 visits to Castlederg; they do not have CSW for that specific area. He stated there was a great importance of the NHT in their area and said there was only 2 NH Officers to patrol the area.

DSPCSP 18/26 **Policing Plan 2026/27**

Supt Claire Hamilton referred members to the Policing Plan which is based on 3 strategic outcomes. Child Criminal Exploitation is to change to Child Exploitation so that it includes sexual exploitation. Members were informed there was still time to make further changes and were invited to comment.

Alison Wallace said partnership working was key to EVAWG and there needs to be a focus on that.

Cllr Fergal Leonard thanked PSNI for the focus on Domestic Violence, and particularly in supporting the victim. Due to the process taking so long, the victim needs constant encouragement. He mentioned that whilst good work was shown in 1.5.4 he felt it was also important to highlight those that did not go so well and learn from this.

Supt Claire Hamilton said they took accountability and learned from all incidents. PSNI work closely with Marie Brown at Foyle Women's Aid and Assist NI to support victims through the criminal justice system. Police must take their part; a lot of change is required to keep women and girls safe.

Marie Brown confirmed that officers and staff in the Justice Centre are reaching out to more women and males that have attended. Josie is leading the work and getting people to come forward. People challenge issues and if there are complaints about a case it is dealt with.

A meeting was held with the Minister for Justice to try and get justice quicker by giving evidence through the Justice Centre in Bishop Street so that attending Police station/court does not have to happen and there is quicker justice. Marie Brown explained the aim is to become a wraparound support service and have social services there to address issues. If there are barriers, Foyle Women's Aid would like to sit around a table to give a better journey for victims. People are asked to support that. Foyle Women's Aid work in partnership with a range of agencies; working together is the key.

Supt Claire Hamilton stated she would be speaking to the Justice Minister later today, 31/03/26. PSNI are in touch with the Justice Centre daily with the Justice Centre reaching out to let Police know fears/concerns of the community. This support is appreciated to get reassurance out to people. PCSP are good at letting us know if we get it right/wrong and PCSP were encouraged to continue to do that.

Ald Darren Guy referred to child exploitation of young people through social media. He said he had attended an event in the Guildhall last week, 'Smartphone Free Childhood' on 24/03/26, where a presentation was given by Claire Sugdon. It gave the facts and figures of the benefits of smartphone free childhoods. It was very useful and there was open discussion on smartphone usage, the impact on childhood, and whether they should have mobile phones. Age range was discussed for both social media and for owning a phone. Ald Guy suggested that Claire Sugdon be invited to attend a PCSP Meeting to deliver the presentation.

PCSP Manager

Cllr Fergal Leonard referred to the inclusion of a specific measure for rural crime as it is a big issue and would provide reassurance to local people within their communities. He acknowledged and thanked PSNI for the quick response last week with regards to an arranged fight in Sion Mills.

Supt Claire Hamilton referred to the recent recruitment campaign and said it was important to have representatives in various communities. The demographic breakdown does need to improve, and stated retention rates were a challenge; they

have gone from 14,000 to 6,000, and they do a wonderful job considering. Supt Hamilton said she was happy and enthusiastic to see new recruits.

The Policing Plan was agreed by all members.

Proposed by: Ald Darren Guy
Seconded by: Marie Brown

DSPCSP 19/26 **Meeting Schedule**

Members were asked to note the new PCSP Meeting Schedule from July 2026-July 2027.

DSPCSP 20/26 **Any Other Business**

There was no further business to report.

DSPCSP 21/26 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next PCSP PC Meeting has been arranged for 28 April 2026 in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, Derry at 10.00am.

The meeting ended at 11.50 am.

Policing and Community Safety Partnership Meeting

PCSP Meeting 31/03/2026

ACTIONS

13/26 – Pg5	**Presentation from Road Victim Support Northern Ireland and Donegal –** The Chair asked that the presentation be shared with PCSP members.	**PCSP Manager**
16/26 – Pg6	**Meeting Expense Payments/Travel Claims –** As a result of the PCSP Audit Report 2025/26, PCSP members were asked to fully complete Meeting Expense Claim Form (including name, address, month of claim, start/end time for all meetings/events) before submitting it to PCSP Staff.	**PCSP Members**
16/26 – Pg 8	**Kid's Court** - it was agreed to request that further Kid's Court sessions be offered to other primary schools in the district, particularly those with 20MPH zones in place including Donemana, Castlederg, Killen and Victoria Bridge.	**PCSP Manager**
18/26 – Pg9	**'Smartphone Free Childhood'** – suggestion by Ald Darren Guy to invite Claire Sugdon to a PCSP Meeting to give presentation to PCSP Members.	**PCSP Manager**