Minutes of
Policing and Community Safety Partnership Meeting

Derry City and Strabane District Council
Tuesday 30 June 2026
Council Chamber, Guildhall at 10.00am

Present: Marie Brown, Cathal Crumley, Cllr Sandra Duffy, Declan Gallagher (EA), Ald Darren Guy (Chair), Ald Keith Kerrigan, Cllr Fergal Leonard, Cllr Emma McGinley, Patsy McGonagle, Karen McLaughlin, Ald Niree McMorris, Mary O'Neill (NIHE), Cllr Martin Reilly, Paul Ryan (YJA), Beverly Simpson (Vice-Chair).

PSNI: Sgt Caroline Crawford, Supt Claire Hamilton, Insp Michael Gahan.

In Attendance: Adam Donnell, (PCSP Project Coordinator), Aileen Murphy (PCSP Project Coordinator), Vanessa Russell (PCSP Manager) and Alexandra Wallace (DCSDC Admin).

DSPCSP 31/26 **Apologies**

Eddie Doherty (NIHE), Karl Duncan, David Jackson, Cllr Christopher Jackson, Carey McKee (WHSST), Cllr Antaine Ó'Fearghail, Alison Wallace, Linda Watson, Caroline Quigley (NIHE).

DSPCSP 32/26 **Chairperson's Business**

The Chair, Ald Darren Guy, welcomed all members to the June 2026 PCSP Meeting. He said he was delighted to take up the post of Chair of the PCSP for the year ahead and welcomed Beverly Simpson to the role of Vice-Chair.

The Chair raised a bus attack at the Drumahoe Park and Ride the previous weekend He said he had raised the matter with Translink and is currently waiting for a response from them. He explained the window on the bus had been broken by a masked gang, and it must have been frightening for all on board, it is believed there had been an issue at a concert which had been dealt with, but it had then escalated at the Park and Ride. Ald Guy said the violence needed to be condemned as it had put the driver and passengers at risk.

Ald Niree McMorris wished Ald Darren Guy and Beverly Simpson well in their roles as Chair and Vice Chair. In relation to the incident in Drumahoe Ald McMorris condemned the attack and said it would be good to get a statement from Translink about what had happened, she would like to know if drivers are trained to deal with situations like this. Ald McNorris said violent attacks are becoming more frequent and they need to be called out as there could be a serious injury or a fatality.

Cllr Sandra Duffy wished the Chair and Vice Chair all the best for the year ahead. She condemned the attack on the bus and said it had been a frightening incident for everybody on board. She said sectarianism needs to be called out at all times.

Cllr Martin Reilly also wished the Chair and Vice Chair well and wanted to record his condemnation of the sectarian attack on the bus. He said the incident may have an impact on other bus trips to concerts in future and it would be interesting to hear an update from Translink in due course.

Supt Claire Hamilton added her congratulations to Ald Guy and Beverley Simpson. She told members PSNI had received two separate reports in relation to the incident. The first attack involved approximately 15 young people with face coverings and the second involved up to six young people in the Ivy Mead area who also attacked the bus. She said the driver and the passengers had been traumatised twice.

Supt Hamilton thanked members for calling out the incident, she reassured them it was a live investigation and asked anyone who was on the bus or who had information to come forward to the PSNI so they can build a complete picture of the incident.

The Chair raised the issue of a suspect device which was discovered in the Glen Road area of the city at the weekend, this is an area which is used by a lot of young people who could have been injured. He said there was another incident where a device had been left on a car in the Nelson Drive area, on this occasion there were children playing on the street.

Ald Niree McMorris wished to record her condemnation of these attacks and said the PCSP needs to send a clear message that these incidents are not welcome in the district.

Ald Keith Kerrigan also wished to record his best wishes on the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair. He raised an incident which had occurred in Lough Erne where a young woman had gone into the water recently. He said there had been some concerns in relation to the co-ordination between rescue services. Ald Kerrigan explained a group had put up a social media post saying PSNI had turned them away when they had offered to help with the search. While he understood the difficulties which may exist in terms of insurance, visibility etc, Ald Kerrigan said there must be better system in place to encourage co-operation between the rescue services and the PSNI, as this had caused distress for the family.

Insp Michael Gahan said that he was not familiar with that specific case and explained PSNI have strong interagency protocols in relation to the Foyle, and they centre around the safety of everyone. He said there are a lot of agencies involved and there is a long-standing protocol document which addresses concerns in relation to responding to incidents, how it is structured for rescue/recovery etc.

Insp Gahan said the document was in the public domain so PSNI would look at getting it circulated to members.

PSNI

The Chair stated that he knows there has been difficulties in the Foyle as well as other waterways, but it's about keeping everyone safe when conducting rescue operations.

DSPCSP 33/26 **Approval of Minutes of PCSP PC Meeting on 26/05/26**

The minutes of the previous PCSP PC Meeting ((PCPM09.26-18.26) were approved as follows:

Proposed by: B Simpson
Seconded by: Ald K Kerrigan

DSPCSP 34/26 **Matters Arising**

No matters arising.

DSPCSP 35/26 **PCSP Manager Report**

The PCSP Manager highlighted the following in her report:

PCSP Action Plan/Budget 2026/27

The PCSP Action Plan 2026/27 has been approved by the Joint Committee. They had advised they hope to be able to issue a Letter of Allocation for up to 95% of the 2025/26 budget to each PCSP so that project delivery can commence over the summer period.

On Friday (26/6/26), DOJ/NIPB confirmed that each PCSP would be getting 100% of funding requested however a Letter of Offer hasn't yet been received.

PCSP Facebook Page

For the period 01/04/26 to 31/05/26 Derry and Strabane PCSP can report the following:

- 90,099 views
- 691 contents interactions
- 79 link clicks
- 1,769 Visits
- 47 follows

Conflict of Interest Declaration

Elected and Independent members must complete a conflict-of-interest declaration annually. Forms for the 2026/27 financial year have been emailed to members – as of 30/6/26 only eight forms have been completed and returned to the PCSP office. Forms are being circulated at the meeting, so members can complete these today if possible.

Meeting Expense Payments/Travel Claims – PCSP Members

All PCSP Members are asked to fully complete their meeting expense form before submitting it to PCSP staff.

Consensual Grant Aid 2026/2027

As part of the PCSP Action Plan 2026/27, the PCSP agreed to allocate funding to the eight 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 Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (as per the table below).

DEA	Original Allocation	Additional Funding 2026/2027 for EVAWG	Total Funding 2026/2027
Ballyarnett	£24,700	£5,000	£29,700
Derg	£18,200	£5,000	£23,200
Faughan	£14,200	£5,000	£19,200
Foyleside	£14,600	£5,000	£19,600
Moor	£22,000	£5,000	£27,000
Sperrin	£11,900	£5,000	£16,900
Strabane Town	£13,400	£5,000	£18,400
Waterside	£22,600	£5,000	£27,600
TOTAL ALLOCATION	**£141,600**	**£40,000**	**£181,600**

The action plans for each DEA were considered and approved by the PCSP at their

meeting on 31st March 2026. EVAWG action plans for each DEA (except Faughan and Sperrin) were considered and approved at the PCSP Policing Committee meeting on 26th May 2026. All groups have been advised of the outcome of their funding application and also advised PCSP will inform them as soon as the Letter of Offer is issued by DOJ/NIPB so they can commence project delivery, particularly over the summer months.

Small Project Support 2026/2027 – Open Call

The PCSP received a total of eight completed applications requesting support of £59,520.51, meaning that the fund was over-subscribed by £29,520.51. Officers assessed the applications and a recommendation table was presented and approved at the Policing Committee meeting on Tuesday 26th May 2026. The PCSP agreed to approve funding allocations as follows:

Group Name	Score	Rank	Eligible funding	Funding Awarded
Shantallow Community Residents Association	100	1	£10,000	£10,000
Have Your Tomorrows (HURT)	93	2	£10,000	£9,750.00
New Driver / Road Safe NI Charity	93	2	£2,500	£2,500
Foyle Women's Aid	91	4	£9,065.60	£7,750.00
Women's Centre Derry	85	5	£6,400	£0.00
Men's Action Network	82	6	£4,800	£0.00
Tyrone Dippers	76.5	7	£10,000	£0.00
Bracken Projectile Club	26.5	8	£2,500	£0.00
TOTALS			**£52,765.60**	**£30,000.00**

All groups have been advised of the outcome of their funding application and also advised that PCSP will inform them as soon as the Letter of Offer is issued by DOJ/NIPB so that they can commence project delivery.

Community Safety Wardens

Between 01/04/26 and 31/05/26, the Community Safely Wardens have dealt with a total of 169 referrals from members of the public, 139 referrals from statutory agencies (308 referrals in total) and provided 2,492 patrols of ASB hotspot areas.

RAPID Bins

PCSP has facilitated the installation of 24 RAPID Drug Bins across the city and district, with a new bin installed in ARC Fitness during June 2026. The bins are located:

1. The Gasyard Centre, Bogside
2. Shantallow Community Centre, Drumleck Drive
3. Bishop Street Community Centre, Bishop Street
4. Northside Shopping Centre, Glengalliagh Road
5. HURT Offices, Clarendon Street
6. Old Library Trust, Creggan
7. Hamilton's Spar, Newtownstewart
8. Hamilton's Spar, Castlederg

9. McKenna's Spar, Sion Mills
10. BHCP, Ballymagroarty
11. Haughey's Costcutter, Ballycolman, Strabane
12. Simon Community, Bond's Hill
13. Simon Community, Melrose Terrace
14. Tesco's Lisnagelvin
15. Kelly's Spar, Strathfoyle
16. Annie's B&B, Carlisle Road
17. The Station B&B, Northland Road
18. Oaktree B&B, Spencer Road
19. The Bridge B&B, Dacre Terrace
20. Glen Development Initiative
21. Pennyburn Youth Club
22. Ballycolman Community Centre, Strabane
23. Grangewood Hospital
24. ARC Fitness – Installed early June 2026

The latest information provided by PHA stated that 5,116 pills were deposited in the RAPID Drugs Bins in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area between 01/04/26 and 19/06/26.

Home Security Equipment

The PCSP continues to provide and arrange fitting of home safety equipment for victims of crime and elderly and vulnerable residents. From 01/04/26 to 31/05/26, 31 homes in the city and district were supplied and fitted with additional home safety equipment.

Personal Safety Alarms

Following the horrific knife attack in North Belfast in early June. Derry and Strabane PCSP received numerous requests for personal safety alarms, particularly from employers who had staff from different ethnic minorities. During this period PCSP distributed personal alarms to 200 international nurses at Altnagelvin Hospital, 100 to Unison reps at Altnagelvin for distribution to staff, and 100 to the African Caribbean Community Network. In May, the PCSP had provided 100 to the North West Migrant's Forum for distribution to members.

Any PCSP member is welcome to request personal alarms for groups they are working with, dependent on availability.

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

There are currently 44 Neighbourhood Watch schemes within the council area, covering approximately 3,500 homes. The PCSP facilitates quarterly meetings with co-ordinators and PSNI and produces a quarterly Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter for co-ordinators with the latest meetings held on 18th May and 27th May in Guildhall, Derry and Melvin Sports Complex respectively.

Further meetings with NHW Co-Ordinators will be held in Autumn 2026. As always PCSP Members will be invited to attend these meetings once dates/venues are confirmed.

CCTV

PCSP manages the CCTV contract for the city and district. For the period from 1/4/26 to 31/5/26 CCTV has dealt with 65 missing person reports, 18 attempted suicides and 86 suicide welfare concerns. In addition to this, the CCTV has dealt with 77 assaults, 43 incidents of drunkenness, 6 incidents of criminal damage and 13 drugs related incidents.

In relation to external funding towards the CCTV scheme for 2026/2027, the Executive

Office confirmed funding of £82,125.44 with the remaining funding provided by Council.

Road Safety

The PCSP currently have two Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs*)* available for placement at locations across the city and district.

PCSP have agreed to work in partnership with PSNI to deliver a BikeSafe event in St. Columb's Park House on Friday 31st July 2026. This event will give riders the opportunity to learn more about how to bike safely. The format of this event includes a workshop and 'ride-out' with PSNI trained officers.

The PCSP continues to work with partners in Life After, New Driver NI, NW Road Safety Partnership, Road Safe NI, and the emergency services to raise awareness of the consequences of risk-taking behaviour when driving.

The PCSP will continue to work in partnership with PSNI to deliver Trailer Marking events throughout 2026/27. This initiative is an excellent crime prevention measure to deter criminals and to assist police to establish the legitimate owners of vehicles that are recovered, particularly in rural areas.

The PCSP Manager advised that the Roadsafe Roadshow is meant to be coming to Foyle Arena in October. As soon as the date and time is confirmed, PCSP members will be informed.

Policing Committee Meetings

The last PCSP Policing Committee meeting was held on Tuesday 26th May 2026 in The Council Chamber, DCSDC, Derry Road.

The next PCSP Policing Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 28th July 2026 when the District Commander will deliver the Quarter 1 performance report for 2026/27.

NIPB Events – 25-year anniversary of new Policing Arrangements

4th November 2026 marks 25 years since the establishment of the new policing arrangements in Northern Ireland. To mark this anniversary the NI Policing Board and PSNI, in partnership with Queen's University Belfast and the University of Ulster, are planning a programme of events to mark the achievement of the last 25 years and to look to the challenges of the future.

Central to this programme, are three 'Conversation with Purpose' events which the NIPB wish to hold in partnership with PCSPs. These events aim to reflect on progress over the last 25 years and facilitate public discussion on policing matters and future expectations for the policing service.

Provisional dates are being considered at present; however, it is expected that one of these events will be held in the University of Ulster, Derry in early September 2026. Members will be kept informed as soon as details are confirmed The PCSP Chair and Vice Chair have confirmed they will be on the panel at the UU Magee event.

After the PCSP Manager finished presenting her report Cllr Sandra Duffy thanked the PCSP team for all the work that is being delivered.

DSPCSP 36/26 **PCSP Annual Report**

The draft PCSP Annual Report 2025/2026 was presented to members for consideration. This report provides a synopsis of what Derry & Strabane PCSP has delivered throughout the last financial year. As per legislation, each PCSP is required to submit

this report to the Joint Committee by 30/06/26.

The PCSP Annual Report was approved as follows:

Proposed by: Ald Martin Reilly
Seconded by: Ald Niree McMorris

DSPCSP 37/26 **Department of Justice's call for views on a new strategy to reduce offending and re-offending in Northern Ireland**

The PCSP Manager explained the PCSP had been asked to respond to a call from the DOJ for views on a new strategy to reduce offending and re-offending in NI. She said Officers could compile a response on behalf of PCSP members and circulate for comment or alternatively a sub-group meeting could be set up.

Proposed by Cllr Sandra Duffy and seconded Ald Niree McMorris it was agreed a sub-group be set up to get the views of PCSP members. Officers will then draft the response.

PCSP Manager

DSPCSP 38/26 **Community Safety Wardens Report – April and May 2026**

Responding to the Community Safety Wardens Reports Cllr Martin Reilly asked why the number of patrols in each of the five areas covered in the Waterside are the same – 32 on each occasion. He queried if this was an anomaly.

The PCSP Manager explained the figures are correct, that the Wardens move from one area to the next on their patrols and that is why the numbers are the same.

Ald Niree McMorris explained there had been a spate of burglaries in the Waterside area recently, whereby garden ornaments/plaques/flags etc had been stolen. She said Ring Doorbell footage showed young people stealing these items in the middle of the night and asked that the Community Safety Wardens keep a look out for any incidents like this when they are on their patrols.

PCSP Manager

Ald Darren Guy agreed with Ald McMorris's comments in relation to the Waterside, he said there had been a recent attempt to steal tools from a van which has also been captured on a Ring Doorbell.

DSPCSP 39/26 **Schedule of PCSP Meetings**

The schedule of PCSP Meetings from September 2026 to July 2027 was presented to members. Where possible, meetings will be held on the last Tuesday of each month. PCSP meetings will be held in the Council Chamber at Guildhall, and Policing Committee meetings will be held in the Council Chamber at Derry Road, Strabane.

DSPCSP 40/26 **Request to present to PCSP from ARC Fitness**

The PCSP Manager advised that ARC Fitness have requested that they give a presentation on their work to PCSP. She added that PCSP Officers will schedule a suitable date for this presentation and liaise with ARC Fitness.

PCSP Manager

DSPCSP 41/26 **Any Other Business**

Beverly Simpson, Vice Chair, thanked the PSNI and community leaders who she said went above and beyond during the recent riots and period of unrest. She referred to an incident which had happened at the North-West Migrant's Forum which Police responded to.

Beverly Simpson said she had attended a Young People's Forum recently where a young person has spoken about bus drivers leaving them on the side of the road.

Insp Michael Gahan said he had seen something about this, maybe on social media, but it hadn't been reported to PSNI.

Cllr Sandra Duffy told members she had attended a recent meeting with Translink in relation to their EVAWG strategy and if drivers are being trained to deal with issues they may encounter through the job.

Cllr Duffy said she hadn't heard about this particular incident, but she felt it was something PCSP should raise with Translink, if they are leaving vulnerable young people at the side of the road.

Cllr Duffy proposed PCSP should invite Translink to attend a PCSP meeting to discuss what they're doing to protect vulnerable people. This proposal was seconded by Ald Niree McMorris.

PCSP Manager

Ald Niree McMorris said she thought Translink previously had an initiative where they would pick up young people who had no money, to allow them to get home rather than leave them in the city centre. She said this was something members should request Translink reinstate. She said members should hear what Translink have to say but if people are left feeling vulnerable because they are not allowed on a bus, that is not acceptable.

Patsy McGonagle told the meeting he was aware of similar incident in Victoria Bridge. He had raised the matter with Translink and been informed there was no policy in relation to this type of situation, rather it was up to the driver's discretion.

Marie Brown told the meeting Women's Aid previously had an arrangement with Translink whereby victims fleeing domestic abuse situations could avail of free transport. She said this arrangement had fallen down, but there have been recent discussions regionally around trying to reinstate it. She said Northern Ireland was different to the rest of the UK due to its rurality.

Marie Brown also explained that Women's Aid had a Jamaican worker who was abandoned and left to walk for 40 minutes with her two children during the recent unrest as buses were cancelled.

Marie Brown said Foyle Women's Aid have a policy worker who is working with migrant women who are suffering domestic abuse. She is in the process of gathering evidence and trying to bring things forward. Marie Brown proposed that the Women's Aid worker, Heidi Bryce, be invited along to speak to PCSP members. This was seconded by Cllr Sandra Duffy who said it was concerning there had been a scheme in place but now there is not.

PCSP Manager

Cllr Sandra Duffy proposed writing to DFI/Executive Office to ask that the scheme be reinstated. This was seconded by Ald Niree McMorris who agreed valid issues had been

raised and suggested a letter should also be sent to the NW Taxi Association.

PCSP Manager

Marie Brown raised concerns regarding transport from Derry to Belfast. She said that the bus depot does not have a toilet inside, which makes it unsafe especially for women and girls. She also raised concerns about buses being cancelled on a regular basis, which also leaves people vulnerable with no way home.

Insp Gahan informed the meeting that Translink has approached schools concerning the issues of young people not having bus passes. Ald Darren Guy commented that there has previously been an issue around schoolchildren not being allowed to use their bus pass if it was after school time.

DSPCSP 42/26 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next **PCSP PC Meeting** has been arranged for **Tuesday 31 July 2026** in the Council Chamber, Strabane at 10am.

The meeting ended at 11.00am.

ACTIONS

DSPCSP 32/26 – Pg 2	PSNI will circulate the protocol document relating to searches in the River Foyle to members.	**PSNI**
DSPCSP 37/26 – Pg 7	A sub-group meeting will be arranged to allow members to discuss the Department of Justice's call for views on a new strategy to reduce offending and re-offending in Northern Ireland.	**PCSP Manager**
DSPCSP 38/26 – Pg 7	Community Safety Warden will keep a look out for any incidences of ASB while on patrol within the Waterside area.	**PCSP Manager**
DSPCSP 40/26 – Pg 7	ARC Fitness invited to attend a future PCSP meeting.	**PCSP Manager**
DSPCSP 41/26 – Pg 8	Translink should be invited to attend a future PCSP meeting.	**PCSP Manager**
DSPCSP 41/26 – Pg 8	Invite Heidi Bryce, Foyle Women Aid policy worker to a future PCSP meeting.	**PCSP Manager**