

Minutes of Policing and Community Safety Partnership Meeting

**Tuesday 25 March 2025
Council Chamber, Guildhall**

Present: Cllr John Boyle, Cathal Crumley, Karl Duncan, Declan Gallagher, Ald Darren Guy, Cllr Christopher Jackson, Ald Keith Kerrigan, Cllr Fergal Leonard, Cllr Emma McGinley, Mr Patsy McGonagle, Karen McLaughlin, Caroline Quigley, Paul Ryan, Cllr Martin Reilly, Alison Wallace and Linda Watson.

PSNI: Supt William Calderwood and CI Luke Moyne.

In Attendance at Meeting: Cllr Martin Reilly, Vanessa Russell and Alexandra Wallace

DSPCSP 11/25 **Apologies:** Ms Michaela Boyle, Ms Jacqui Doherty (WHSCT), Cllr Sandra Duffy, Ald Niree McMorris, Cllr Anatine O’Fearghail and Ms Denise Stewart (PBNI).

DSPCSP 12/25 **Chairperson’s Business**

Cllr Martin Reilly (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Training for PCSP Chair and Vice-Chair

Cllr Reilly referred to the training for the Chair and Vice-Chair which he and Linda Watson attended on 12th March. He highlighted some suggestions on best practice for PCSPs made by the facilitator:

- Venue of Meetings – some PCSPs felt that the Council Chamber is not the most suitable place for PCSP meetings.
- When Chair is addressing PCSP members, he shouldn’t use titles of Councillor/Alderman, as that could be interpreted as giving prominence to elected reps on the PCSP.

Following a discussion members agreed that the council chamber is a suitable venue as the acoustics and layout are good. It was also agreed to set up a meeting with independent PCSP members before June, when the selection of the Vice Chair will be imminent.

PCSP Manager

In response to a member who asked why there was a high police presence outside the Guildhall today, the Chair advised that there had been disruptions at other PCSP meetings in other areas, therefore PSNI were there to provide support.

Supt. Calderwood advised that PSNI had an extra police presence at public PCSP meetings given previous protests. He added that this was the first PCSP meeting since then, so on the request of NIPB, PSNI were doing this to protect the PCSP members attending the meeting. However, if members did not feel that this was necessary, they were asked to let PSNI know and they would advise NIPB.

ASB Waterside

The Chair referred to a Community Safety Forum meeting yesterday (24.03.25) after repeated ASB in parts of the Waterside area, stating that there was a need

for action from PSNI and others. As a result of this meeting some actions were agreed, e.g. joint messaging on social media, delivery of workshops in schools by PSNI and CSW, communications with parents re school's parent app and to work with EA Youth Service re dedicated street work in the area. It was also agreed that they would liaise with PSNI and Community Safety Wardens to see what could be done.

DSPCSP 13/25 Approval of Minutes of PCSP Meeting of 25/02/25 DSPCSP 01/25-10/25

Proposed: Cllr Emma McGinley

Seconded: Linda Watson

DSPCSP 14/25 Matters Arising:

DSPCSP 04/25 Slideshow on Crime – it was confirmed the slideshow to members was circulated on 19.03.25.

DSPCSP 05/25 Conflict of Interest Declaration – the PCSP Manager advised that there were 3 outstanding and asked members to return these as soon as possible.

DSPCSP 05/25 SIDs – the PCSP Manager informed members that as requested, consideration was given on how to cover more areas with the SIDs, given that only 2 are currently operational. She suggested that rather than being placed at each location for 4 weeks, that they be placed for 2 weeks at a time and turned around to capture the traffic coming in the opposite direction after 1 week.

DSPCSP 05/25 - a more detailed conversation took place with the Chair and PCSP Manager re: graffiti being exposed due to a demolished building in now complete.

DSPCSP 05/25 JSA Accountability Meetings – the PCSP Manager advised that training on this was not provided by NIPB as part of their induction training to members. She advised that a link with the most recent reports had been circulated to PCSP Members.

DSPCSP 05/25 LED Lights – The PCSP Manager advised that an update on legislation re LED was circulated by email to all.

DSPCSP 05/25 NH Scheme – the PCSP Manager advised that this information was sent to members on 19.03.25, but due to GDPR permissions, the names of the Co-ordinators were not included. A member advised that she had attended a recent NHW meeting and it was very useful to engage with them and she would encourage other PCSP members to do the same.

DSPCSP 08/25 NIPB Consultation on New Corporate Plan 2025-2030 – the PCSP Manager confirmed that a draft response was circulated to members for consideration and as there were no amendments, this was submitted on Friday 28.02.25.

DSPCSP 05/25 Drug Education Programmes – has been circulated to members and is now complete.

DSPCSP 15/25

PCSP MANAGER'S REPORT**PCSP Action Plan/Budget 2024-2025**

The PCSP Manager advised that the quarter 3 expenditure claim was submitted to DOJ/NIPB on 24.02.25 for £97,966.17, with a total claimed for quarters 1-3 to £303,272.67.

PCSP Strategic Assessment 2025-2028 and PCSP Action Plan Budget 2025-2026

The PCSP Strategic Assessment for 2025-2028 and Action Plan 2025-26 were submitted to the Joint Committee on 05.03.25 for consideration following approval by members by at the PCSP meeting on 25.02.25. The PCSP Manager advised that an email had been received from DOJ on 21.03.25 advising that the PCSP Action Plan 25/26 had been approved by JC officials. Formal approval will be sought by JC members at the end of March and a LoO will be issued then.

PCSP Training

The PCSP Chair and Vice Chair training took place on 12.03.25 and was attended by the current Chair and Vice Chair.

Conflict of Interest Declaration

Presently there are 3 conflict of Interest declarations that remain outstanding. Members are asked to complete and return these as soon as possible.

PCSP Members**Meeting Expense Payments/Travel Claims – PCSP Members**

The PCSP Manager advised that following a PCSP Audit, the PCSP office will issue expense forms monthly ahead of each PCSP meeting. Members should complete their form and bring to the PCSP meeting and give to Ciara for processing. This makes it easier to monitor expenditure and becomes a good process/habit. Members were advised that if their vehicle is electric, please enter the KW in the CC box on the expenditure claim form.

PCSP Members**Campaigns/Initiatives**

The Community Safety Wardens continue to carry out patrols and have been engaging with several local initiatives to raise awareness of the service they provide and enhance the community safety of those living in the city and district. Between April 2024 and February 2025, the Community Safety Wardens have dealt with 1,411 referrals and provided 13,714 patrols of ASB hotspot areas. In addition to this, the Community Safety Wardens have attended 47 meetings and 54 events.

External funding towards the Community Safety Warden scheme for 2024/25 is as follows:

Funder	Purpose	Allocation	Status
PSNI	CSW Scheme	NIL	Confirmed no funding available
DfC	CSW Scheme	£40,000	Confirmed
NIHE	CSW Scheme	£40,000	Confirmed
University of Ulster	CSW Scheme	£25,000	Confirmed
Apex Housing	CSW Scheme	£5,000	Confirmed
TOTAL Funding		£110,000	

The PCSP Manager advised that she is currently working on confirming funding for 2025/26 from all the above funders and exploring other potential funders.

Safer Homes Scheme

The PCSP continues to provide and arrange fitting of home security equipment for victims of crime, the elderly, and vulnerable residents. From April to December 2024, 118 homes in the city and district were supplied and fitted with additional home safety equipment.

Members were encouraged to contact the PCSP office if they were aware of any residents within the council area who would benefit from these products. The Safer Homes equipment is fitted by Teamworks.

Neighbourhood Watch

The PCSP facilitates quarterly meetings with co-ordinators and PSNI and produces a quarterly Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter for co-ordinators to distribute with their respective schemes. Meetings to take place in March/April 2025 in for all neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinators.

CCTV

For the period from 01.04.24 to 31.01.25 CCTV has dealt with 394 missing persons reports, 182 attempted suicides, and 683 suicide welfare concerns. In addition to this the CCTV has dealt with 365 assaults, 221 incidents of drunkenness, 44 incidents of criminal damage, and 97 drugs related incidents.

The PCSP Manager confirmed that PSNI provided £12,000 toward the CCTV scheme for 2024/25. In addition to this the PHA has agreed to contribute £60,500 towards the CCTV scheme in 2024/25.

The PCSP Manager advised that a meeting was requested with DOJ/NIPB to explore the potential for allocating funding from the PCSP Action Plan 2025/26 towards CCTV costs, however, they have declined to meet, citing the PCSP Planning Guidance which states *"The PCSP budget should not be used for ongoing operation costs for CCTV, including the management, maintenance or monitoring of CCTV systems."* Officers will continue to liaise with potential funders to secure additional funding towards the CCTV scheme.

Road Safety

At the February 2025 PCSP meeting, members requested that we re-consider how SIDs were deployed given that only 2 are currently operational and there were a significant number of requests received. The easiest way to accommodate more requests is to move the SIDs after 2 weeks, rather than 4. This will still ensure that they act as a visible deterrent and therefore provide reassurance to local residents in that area. It also means that they can be located at more sites across the year. If members were content with this approach, then implementation of this could take place with immediate effect.

The recommendation to place SIDs on location for 2 weeks at a time was agreed by PCSP Members. It was also agreed that they would be turned after 1 week to capture traffic coming in the opposite direction.

PCSP Manager

Policing Committee Meetings

The next PCSP Policing Committee is scheduled for Tuesday 27.05.25 when the District Commander will deliver the quarter 4 performance report for 2024/2025.

PCSP Public Meeting – Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

On Thursday 13.03.25, the PCSP hosted a Public Meeting on the theme of Ending Violence Against Women and Girls. At this meeting, each designated organisation on the PCSP had the opportunity to present on what they were doing to address this issue. Members of the public and PCSP Members in attendance had the opportunity to ask questions to the panel and a range of support organisations hosted information stands.

The PCSP Manager advised that there were approximately 45 people in attendance at this meeting and thanked each designated organisation for presenting on the day. Thanks were also extended to the support organisations who hosted information stands at this event.

The Support Hub continues to meet monthly with the last meeting held on 04.03.25. Since its establishment in August 2016, the Support Hub has dealt with over 335 referrals. The PCSP Manager stated that the Support Hub is evaluated every 6 months and that once this evaluation is complete, this information would be shared with PCSP members.

Community Safety Wardens' Reports

The PCSP Manager referred members to the CSW report for February 2025 and highlighted the inclusion of case studies at the back.

Questions on the PCSP Manager's Report

RAPID Bins

A member stated that PSNI had raised an issue about key messaging around what should/shouldn't be placed inside the RAPID Drugs Bins. The PCSP Manager advised that she had met with PSNI last week and that this concern had been raised then, as there are all sorts of items being placed inside the bins that really shouldn't be.

The PCSP Manager advised that this scheme is a partnership between PHA, PSNI, and PCSP, and that she would raise this concern at the next regional workshop re RAPID Drugs Bins, with a view to doing a joint social media campaign about how the bins should be used in the community.

PCSP Manager

DSPCSP 16/25 CORRESPONDENCE

The PCSP Manager confirmed that no correspondence had been received.

DSPCSP 17/25 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

As there was no further business the meeting closed.

DSPCSP 18/25 Date of Next Meeting

The next PCSP Meeting has been arranged for 29/04/25 in Strabane Council Chamber.

The meeting ended at 11.15am.

Policing and Community Safety Partnership Meeting

PCSP Meeting 25th March 2025
Council Chamber, Guildhall

ACTIONS

DSPCSP 12/25 Page 1	Meeting with Independent PCSP Members Meeting to be arranged before June with Independent PCSP Members, when the selection of Vice Chair will be imminent.	PCSP Manager
DSPCSP 15/25 Page 3	Conflict of Interest Declarations 3x outstanding Conflict of Interest Forms outstanding. Members who were emailed re Col Form were asked to complete and return ASAP.	PCSP Members
DSPCSP 15/25 Page 5	Road Safety It was agreed to move the location of each SID after 2 weeks and that the SID would be turned around after 1 week to capture data from traffic travelling in the opposite direction.	PCSP Manager
DSPCSP 15/25 Page 5 & 6	RAPID Drugs Bins It was agreed that a joint social media campaign promoting what should/should not be placed inside these bins will be co-ordinated by PHA, PSNI and PCSP.	PCSP Manager