

# Minutes of Policing and Community Safety Partnership Meeting

**Derry City and Strabane District Council  
Monday 29 April 2019  
held in Glenelly Room, Strabane**

- Present:** Mr Martin Connolly, Cllr S Cusack, Cllr Gus Hastings, Ald T Kerrigan, Mr N McCartney, Mr P McGonagle, Ald D Thompson, Cllr B Tierney, Ms L Watson.
- In Attendance:** Dermot Harrigan (PCSP Manager), Vanessa Russell (PCSP Officer), and Ciara Bond (PCSP).
- DSPCSP 20/19 Apologies**
- Ald Mary Hamilton (Chair), Cllr P Fleming, Miss U McCartney, Cllr E McGinley, Ms M McLaughlin, Ms R McKelvey (PBNl).
- DSPCSP 21/19 Introduction and Welcome**
- The Vice-Chair welcomed everyone in attendance. He condemned the murder of Lyra McKee, the young journalist who was shot and murdered in Creggan before Easter. The Vice Chair stated that all the community hoped that things can move on. Condolences are to be recorded in the PCSP minutes.
- DSPCSP 22/19 PCSP Minutes of March 2019**
- The Minutes of the meeting were checked for accuracy. The minutes were proposed by Ald Drew Thompson and seconded by Ms Linda Watson.
- DSPCSP 23/19 Matters Arising**
- The PCSP Manager referred members to ACE Training and Domestic Violence. He said it had not been progressed as yet and will be commenced after the new political members have been nominated on to the PCSP.
- DSPCSP 24/20 PCSP Small Project Support Recommendations for 2019/20**
- The PCSP Call for Small Project Support opened on 25<sup>th</sup> February and closed 22<sup>nd</sup> March. It was advertised in the 6 local newspapers, included in NW Community Network e-bulletin and profiled on PCSP FB page. Information sessions were delivered by officers across Derry and Strabane district.
- PCSP received 54 applications requesting support of £443,007.30. Applications were assessed and 34 groups were recommended for funding awards. The Faughan DEA had an under-allocation of £1,712.99 which represents less than 1% of the overall budget. Projects in all DEA's scored above the 60% threshold apart from a few applications from the Derg DEA. Information sessions, 8 in total, were delivered across the city and district. All applications were completed online.
- The PCSP Manager advised that if approved letters of offer would issue as soon as essential documentation was received. He further advised that the unsuccessful and reserve list of applicants would also be notified.

Issues discussed/queried included the following:

**Legenderry Waters – background information requested.**

The PCSP Officer advised that the group offer suicide prevention through sport. They work with FS&R on mental health issues therefore do not just deal with water rescue.

**Ballyarnett DEA – How is % allocations attributed? It may knock some out of the scoring if put into the Ballyarnett district. How does a project know in advance how many participants they think will attend and how will these numbers be monitored?**

For applicants who have identified beneficiaries coming from more than one DEA then the budget and allocation is attributed across DEAs, e.g. if 7 DEA's are identified then it is divided by 7 and apportioned accordingly.

The PCSP Manager advised that the number of participants must be stated on application. The organisation may be located in a particular DEA but the beneficiaries can come in from other areas to attend project/programme. All projects are monitored throughout the year by coordinators with projects submitting quarterly returns to ensure targets are being met.

Budget can be re-profiled, if necessary, or allocated to a project on the reserve list if a project fails to deliver what is agreed in the Letter of Offer.

The PCSP project coordinators monitor project delivery on an ongoing basis and failure to deliver may result in the project funding being withdrawn and allocated to next on the reserve list for that DEA.

**Derg DEA – Disappointment at number of applications, there is possibly of a lack of capacity or knowledge about completion of application forms.** The PCSP Manager advised that the complete budget for this DEA has been allocated. However, there were a number of projects in the Derg DEA that failed to score over the threshold due to a combination of issues including requesting support for items that were ineligible for PCSP support.

Discussion took place on:

- Mechanism in good relations in assisting groups in application process and if PCSP could use this.
- Potential to set aside a budget in order that PCSP can decide if a project could be funded. It was felt the application process and scoring matrix was a better option as PCSP could stand over the decision and it was more transparent and equitable.
- Information sessions - some information sessions were poorly attended. It is also difficult to allocate funding to a group when they only provide a 2 line response in a section where 500 words had been allocated on the application form. PCSP officers are available to give advice in relation to scoring allocated during the application process.
- The amount requested is not always the same as the amount allocated as the amount requested may include ineligible items e.g. staff costs, insurance, audit fees etc. and this will be reflected in the award recommendation. Project promoters must also evidence 20% match funding (in cash or in kind) before the PCSP issues a Letter of Offer. Generally, the highest scoring applications in the DEA are recommended what they request as long as the calculations are correct and they don't include any ineligible items. It was reiterated that the PCSP cannot pay staff costs as salaries are ineligible although facilitation costs

are eligible for support.

- Consideration to adding an additional column on the table to state what was deemed ineligible and with the cost.
- Approaching projects to ask if they attended the information session provided in order to assist in the application process. It was confirmed that all applicants both successful and unsuccessful will be offered advice and feedback, if requested.

The PCSP Manager confirmed that the Derry and Strabane PCSP had secured the same budget from the Joint Committee for 2019/20 as 2018/19. This was very positive as a number of other government departments have reduced their allocations.

Members unanimously agreed that staff of PCSP should be thanked for their work in dealing with the application process, assessing and scoring the projects and making the award recommendations.

The award recommendations were proposed by Cllr Gus Hastings and seconded by Ald Drew Thompson.

#### **DSPCSP 25/19 Community Safety Wardens' Monthly Reports**

The PCSP Manager referred members to the report for March 2019.

#### **DSPCSP 26/19 Any Other Business**

- **Community Safety Awards 2019** – Wednesday 29/05/19 at 6pm in the Great Hall, Parliament Buildings.
- **PCSP Communique 1/2019** – Joint Committee Confirmation of Funding to PCSPs 2019/20.
- **Election** – PSNI and CSW to monitor areas on election day and night.

#### **DSPCSP 27/19 Date of Next Meeting**

- The next meeting is the PCSP Policing Committee Meeting and is scheduled for **Monday 3 June 2019 in the Meeting Room, St Columb's Park House, Limavady Road.**
- The meeting closed at 1.30 pm.