



Annual Report

1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Presented in Accordance with Section 34 of the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011
and Section 5.11 of the PCSP Code of Practice (November 2012)

Foreword by PCSP Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

As Chair and Vice Chair of the Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) we would like at the outset, to offer our thanks to all our PCSP colleagues; elected, independent and designated who have ensured that our year has been both strategic and productive, helping to deliver positive change in our communities. This has been an extremely challenging, unique but busy 12 months for our PCSP and we have remained at the forefront in delivering local solutions to local issues. Officers and members have been fully immersed in the development of the Strategic Growth Plan and the eight associated Local Growth Plans. This has been achieved through a strong partnership approach with both our community and statutory organisations.

Our PCSP operates with a budget of just under £1.1m with the annual allocation from the Joint Committee of £459,496 leveraging an additional £630,712 from our partners in Derry City and Strabane District Council, Department of Justice, PSNI, The Executive Office, Department for Communities, NI Housing Executive and Ulster University (Magee). This external funding support has ensured the continuation of the Community Safety Warden Scheme and the ongoing development of the CCTV system.

Five community and voluntary groups across the city and district were provided with £30k of small project support via open call and eight Local Growth Partnerships were awarded £141,600 via the consensual grant aid model to deliver initiatives on youth diversion, drug and alcohol awareness, embedding a culture of lawfulness, intergenerational issues, cross community projects and domestic and sexual violence awareness etc. These groups provide a vital service in our communities and are greatly assisted by the support provided by the PCSP.

Over the past year the PCSP has provided 167 homes with additional home safety equipment, and we will continue to assist householders to make homes more secure.

Our PCSP will continue to raise issues of public concern in the context of improving policing service for our all our residents. We play a key role in creating safer, shared and more confident communities and it is evident that we have played a crucial part in reducing fear of crime and tackling anti-social behaviour in our district and we will continue to build on this.

2024/25 has been another year when our Partnership was tested but one where we continued to take major steps forward in community engagement and development of partnerships with residents, police and partner agencies. We are confident that the Partnership has the commitment and skills to further develop the work already delivered and we will continue to build and enhance delivery into our neighbourhoods and villages by helping to create safer, shared and vibrant communities throughout our city and district.

Councillor Martin Reilly
PCSP Chair

Linda Watson
PCSP Vice Chair

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Section 1

Background

What is the Derry & Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership?

On 25th June 2015 the Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) came into existence replacing the previous Strabane PCSP and Derry PCSP. The membership consists of political members (elected councillors), independent members (appointed by the Northern Ireland Policing Board) and designated bodies (designated by the NI Assembly). The seven designated bodies are Police Service of NI (PSNI), NI Housing Executive (NIHE), NI Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS), Youth Justice Agency (YJA), Western Health and Social Care Trust (WHSCCT), Education Authority for NI (EANI) and Probation Board for NI (PBNi). The Partnership was reconstituted on 15th June 2020 with nine new independent members appointed by the NI Policing Board.

Areas of Responsibility

The PCSP accountability and responsibility is based on the four core themes of:

- Consulting and engaging – with the local community on issues that impact on policing and community safety. Each PCSP also has a Policing Committee which has a distinct responsibility to provide views to the local PSNI District Commander and the NI Policing Board on policing matters.
- Identifying and prioritising – the particular issues of concern and preparing plans for how these can be tackled.
- Monitoring both the performance of police and the delivery of the PCSP Action plan and working to gain the co-operation of the public with police in preventing crime
- Delivering a reduction in crime and enhancing community safety in local issues directly through interventions, through the work of delivery groups or through support for the work of others.

Representation on the PCSP

To ensure the Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership is representative of the demographic profile of the Council area, the membership has been drawn from all sections of the community, based on the results of the 2021 census.

Using information from the 2021 Census, and other data to ensure the PCSP's representative make-up, Derry and Strabane PCSP membership is currently 68.4% Catholic and 31.6% Protestant. The 2021 Census shows the religious profile of the Council area as 68% Catholic, 32% Protestant, 1% Other Religions and 10% no religion. The Derry and Strabane PCSP has eight female members (42%) and eleven (58%) male members which is not broadly reflective of the gender make-up of the Council area – 2021 Census gives the gender make-up of the Council area as 49% male and 51% female.¹

PCSP Members

Following the Local Government Elections of May 2023 Derry City and Strabane District Council has 40 elected representatives comprising 18 Sinn Féin, 8 SDLP, 5 DUP, 3 UUP, 5 Independent and 1 People Before Profit members.

The Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 gave local councils the authority to determine the size of its PCSP. The Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership has a membership of 26 representatives, 10 members of the Partnership are nominated by parties from the elected members of Derry City and Strabane District Council with nine independent members being made up of community activists with a special interest in policing and community safety and seven representatives from bodies designated by the NI Assembly. The independent members are appointed by the NI Policing Board after a public appointment process. To ensure democratic accountability all PCSPs have one more Political Member than they have Independent Members. Only the independent and elected members attend the PCSP Policing Committee.

The elected members of Derry and Strabane PCSP changed following the Local Government Election, which was held in May 2023. The table below illustrates the elected members of the PCSP for the period 01.04.24 to 31.03.25.

Elected Members 01.04.24 to 31.03.25
Councillor Martin Reilly (SDLP) – PCSP Chair from July 2024 Councillor Sandra Duffy (Sinn Féin) - PCSP Chair up to July 2024 Councillor Christopher Jackson (Sinn Féin) Councillor Fergal Leonard (Sinn Féin) Councillor Emma McGinley (Sinn Féin) Councillor Antaine Ó Fearghail (Sinn Féin) Councillor Jason Barr (SDLP) – PCSP Member for April 2024 Councillor John Boyle (SDLP) Alderman Keith Kerrigan (DUP) Alderman Niree McMorris (DUP) Alderman Darren Guy (UUP)

¹ NI Census, NISRA, 2021

The table below illustrates the independent members of the PCSP for the period 01.04.24 to 31.03.25. Please note that new independent members were appointed to Derry and Strabane PCSP from 1st June 2024.

Independent Members 01.04.24 to 31.05.25	Independent Members 01.06.24 to 31.03.25
Mary Casey Thomas Conway – PCSP Vice-Chair Margaret Hall Aodh McCay Úna McCartney Jeanette Warke Linda Watson	Linda Watson – PCSP Vice-Chair Michaela Boyle Marie Brown Cathal Crumley Karl Duncan David Jackson Patrick McGonagle Karen McLaughlin Alison Wallace

Seven designated bodies are represented on the Derry and Strabane PCSP, which are designated by the NI Assembly. The table below illustrates the named representative from each designated organisation.

Representative	Designated Organisation
Jacqueline Doherty Eddie Doherty/Caroline Quigley Chief Superintendent Gillian Kearney Commander Bryan McCaul Colleen Heaney Denise Stewart Declan Gallagher	Western Health and Social Care Trust (WHST) Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) Youth Justice Agency (YJA) Probation Board of Northern Ireland (PBNi) Education Authority Northern Ireland (EANI)

Any PCSP member may be contacted by contacting the PCSP Manager in the first instance.

Profile of the District

Regional Status

The Derry City and Strabane District Council area is situated between the Sperrin Mountains and the Donegal Hills and straddles the River Foyle. The city of Derry/Londonderry is recognised as the regional capital for the North West of Ireland in both the Regional Development Strategy (NI) and the National Development Plan (ROI). It is the third largest urban settlement in Northern Ireland, with an urban population of approximately 85,000, and is the fifth largest on the island of Ireland. The Council area is approximately 1,245 square km with a population of 150,756. 71% of the council's population lives in urban areas with the remaining 29% residing in rural areas. The Council

has seven district electoral areas (DEAs): Derg, Sperrin, Faughan, Ballyarnett, Foyle, The Moor and Waterside.

The city also plays a wider role within the North West as a regional transportation, health, education, tourism and entertainment hub. Its hinterland includes the neighbouring districts of Limavady, Magherafelt and East Donegal. The population of this wider North West region is in excess of 300,000.

Population Statistics

Derry City and Strabane District Council is the fifth largest of the 11 district councils in Northern Ireland. The Council area has a population of 150,756². This population is made up of 49% male and 51% female with approximately 106,000 living within the urban areas. The Council area also has a very youthful population with 20% aged under 14 and 31% aged 15-39.

The overall population of the Council area is projected to decrease to 145,852 by 2041. By 2041, the number of people aged 65 and over is expected to increase to 35,150 resulting in this age category making up almost a quarter (24.1%) of the overall Council population. Life expectancy for those living in the Council area is 78.0 for males and 82.4 for females which has increased by 1.3 years for males and 0.1 years for females since 2009³.

When compared to the other 11 council areas, Derry City and Strabane District Council area ranks as the second most deprived district in NI and ranks highest in employment deprivation. The DCSDC area has five of the 10 most deprived Super Output Areas in NI (East, Creevagh2, Strand1, Diamond and Creggan Central 1). In terms of education the area has 8 nursery schools with 511 pupils, 23 pre-schools with 384 pupils, 69 primary schools with 16,093 pupils, 2 special schools with 440 pupils and 14 post primary schools with 11,897 pupils. In total we have 116 schools with 29,325 pupils enrolled.

² NISRA 2021 Census Data

³ Derry City and Strabane District Council Vital Statistics

Local Crime Figures⁴

The following table details crime statistics for the Derry and Strabane PSNI District (2024/25) and provides a direct comparison with the previous year (2023/24).

Derry City & Strabane FYTD / PFYTD Comparison 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025	Total Offences Recorded			
	PFYTD 23/24	FYTD 24/25	Change	% Change
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	5,391	4,777	-614	-11.3%
Violence with injury (including homicide & death/serious injury by unlawful driving)	1,662	1,491	-171	-10.2%
Violence without injury	2,239	2,037	-202	-9%
Stalking and Harassment	1,490	1,249	-241	-16.1%
SEXUAL OFFENCES	367	395	28	7.6%
ROBBERY	57	46	-11	-19.2%
Robbery of personal property	50	46	-4	-8%
Robbery of business property	7	0	-7	-100%
THEFT OFFENCES	2,322	1,840	-482	-20.7%
Burglary	284	239	-45	-15.8%
Theft from the person	24	17	-7	-29.1%
Vehicle offences	241	175	-66	-27.3%
Bicycle theft	31	19	-12	-38.7%
Shoplifting	768	609	-159	-20.7%
All other theft offences	974	781	-193	-19.8%
CRIMINAL DAMAGE	1,680	1,413	-267	-15.8%
DRUG OFFENCES	716	696	-20	-2.7%
Trafficking of drugs	117	110	-7	-5.9%
Possession of drugs	599	586	-13	-2.1%
POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OFFENCES	160	108	-52	-32.5%
PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	117	97	-20	-17.0%
MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	394	381	-13	-3.2%
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME - ALL OFFENCES (INCL UNDERCOUNT)	11,204	9,753	-1,451	-12.9%

Overall recorded crime for the Council area for 2024/25 decreased by 12.9% which equates to 1,451 less recorded crimes in the city and district. This percentage decrease is lower than the NI figure which saw recorded crime reduce by 7.8% for the same period.

Anti-Social Behaviour for the Council area decreased by 6.5% when compared to the number of recorded ASB incidents for 2023/24. In 2024/25 there were 3,530 incidents of ASB recorded by PSNI as compared to 3,776 recorded incidents for 2023/24 – a decrease of 246. This decrease is higher than the overall NI figures, which had a decrease of 2.4% over the same period (44,254 incidents of ASB in 2024/25 compared to 43,358 incidents in 2023/24). Typically, ASB is higher for the first six months of the year (April to September) and then reduces significantly from October to March.

⁴ Crime Summary Derry City and Strabane PSNI, March 2025

Section 2 – Our Strategic Priorities

The principal functions and processes carried out by Derry and Strabane PCSP over the last year are based on the core themes of the Partnership and Consultation as set out in the strategic priorities, as agreed by the Joint Committee.

PCSP Strategic Priorities as set out by the Joint Committee

Strategic Objective 1:

To ensure effective delivery in response to local need, and improve the visibility and recognition of the work of the PCSP through effective consultation, communication and engagement:

- Carrying out meaningful engagement in the district with the local community, relevant statutory partners/agencies, businesses and the community and voluntary sector in the development and implementation of PCSP Action Plans.
- Ensuring ongoing two-way engagement in the district with the local community, relevant statutory partners/agencies, businesses and the community and voluntary sector to provide a problem-solving forum to identify effective solutions to local issues, ensuring sufficient flexibility to address issues as they emerge, and seeking relevant expertise from the designated organisations as appropriate.
- Using a range of platforms, including multi-media, to communicate and promote the work of the PCSP.
- Increasing awareness of the work of the PCSP.

Strategic Objective 2:

To improve community safety by prioritising and addressing local community safety issues, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour:

- Utilising the partnership created by the statutory, elected and independent/community membership of the PCSP to initiate and lead work to improve community safety and tackle ASB locally.
- Working in partnership to develop outcome and locality focused interventions to address the most pressing crime types and behaviours impacting local community safety, as evidenced by local need, with appropriate targets and indicators so that impacts can be measured.
- Drawing on best practice, promote early intervention and collaborating effectively to improve PCSP-supported projects and programmes that address the underlying causes of ASB, crime and the fear of crime in the community, including, where appropriate, a focus on changing behaviours.
- Enhancing safety and feelings of safety, in particular for those who might be more vulnerable.
- Engaging with partners in the district, to horizon scan in order to respond to and re-direct resources to respond to emerging local community safety issues.

- Having cognisance of the Community Safety Framework in developing local plans, and providing a feedback loop to the Community Safety Board on local issues in order to inform community safety policy development – and vice versa.
- Providing comprehensive community input into decision making processes about tackling actual and perceived anti-social behaviour and giving feedback to the community on the effectiveness of interventions on meeting outcomes.

Strategic Objective 3:

To support confidence in policing, including through collaborative problem solving with communities:

- Ensuring local accountability through the Policing Committee's role in monitoring police performance.
- Identifying priorities from the PCSP Plan for consideration in the development of the local Policing Plan which are consistent with the Northern Ireland Policing Plan.
- Providing views to the District Commander through the Policing Committee and supporting the PSNI to engage with the community to identify and address local problems.
- Delivering initiatives that link to identified local problems that impact confidence in policing.
- Carrying out meaningful local events aimed at increasing PSNI engagement with local communities to build and strengthen public confidence in policing.
- Delivering PCSP initiatives in the hardest to reach communities.
- Providing a platform for the PCSP and PSNI to engage with young people, including on the themes of upholding the rule of law, and of ways of increasing confidence in policing.
- Building community confidence in the rule of law by helping mitigate the harm caused to people and communities by paramilitarism, criminality and organised crime consistent with wider Programme for Government objectives and through use of co-design principles, where appropriate.

PCSPs across NI received annual funding (£4.25m in 2024/25) from the Joint Committee (the Department of Justice and NI Policing Board) with a legislative aim to work with their local community to help address crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour issues.

There have been many examples of good practice highlighted to Joint Committee by PCSPs throughout the 2024/25 year which showcase the good work being carried out on the ground. Joint Committee has also provided support to PCSPs to use an Outcomes Based Approach (OBA) as a more consistent and better means of measuring impact and improving transparency and accountability in the delivery of their work in local communities.

We are now routinely using all aspects of OBA in our work, with an action plan being completed using indicator and performance measure information; a project card

template being used for each initiative and thematic report cards being submitted to Joint Committee every quarter from a governance perspective.

To support PCSPs in their transition to this new way of working, the Joint Committee developed PCSP planning guidance which incorporates the following:

- Information on the OBA process;
- An action plan template which includes a review and summary synopsis to capture the rationale for continuing, amending or not progressing projects from one year to another;
- A set of agreed performance measures for generic projects;
- A project card template to be completed for each initiative;
- A thematic report card template to be used to help highlight impact at a more strategic level;
- A framework showing how the work of PCSPs and their use of OBA supports the common Programme for Government Outcome 7 - We have a safe community where we respect the law and each other.

Section 3 – Engagement

Under the 2024/25 PCSP Action Plan, approved by the Joint Committee, the Derry and Strabane PCSP delivered initiatives both directly and indirectly in our communities to reduce crime, tackle anti-social behaviour and combat fear of crime.



The Derry and Strabane PCSP directly manages the **Community Safety Warden Scheme**. The scheme has three elements created to address issues of low level anti-social and nuisance behaviour in the educational precinct, the rural villages and the four neighbourhood renewal areas in Derry:

1. The Northland Community Safety Warden Scheme: This element is focussed primarily on the educational precinct and has been established since 2007. It is funded by the Ulster University, Derry City and Strabane District Council and the Derry and Strabane PCSP and through its Action Plan with office accommodation provided by NIFRS at its Northland Road Fire Station. The scheme employs three wardens who work from Sunday to Thursday from 8pm to 3am and their primary focus is on the educational precinct in the Derry urban area. Increasingly this team are dealing with vulnerability and welfare concerns, especially along the Foyle riverfront.
2. The City Community Safety Warden Scheme operates primarily in the Neighbourhood Renewal Areas of Outer North, Outer West, Waterside and Triax. The scheme has been established since 2009 and is funded by Derry City and Strabane District Council, NIHE and Dept. for Communities. The scheme employs six wardens who work from 12noon to 5pm Monday to Wednesday and from 5.30pm to 3.00am Thursday to Sunday.
3. The Rural Community Safety Warden Scheme operates primarily in the rural villages of Park/Claudy, Eglinton, Newbuildings and Strathfoyle/Maydown and has been established since 2010. The scheme is funded by Derry City and Strabane District Council. The scheme employs two wardens who work from 12noon to 5pm Monday to Wednesday and from 5.30pm to 3.00am Thursday to Sunday. From October 2024, this team also provides ad-hoc cover in the Derg, Sperrin and Strabane Town areas.
4. The Derg/Sperrin/Strabane Town Scheme was operational up to October 2023, when a shortfall in funding meant that this scheme had to be absorbed into the existing community safety warden schemes. It operated across a wide geographical area and includes the towns and villages of Donemana, Artigarvan, Strabane, Sion Mills, Clady, Castlederg and Newtownstewart. This scheme was funded jointly by Derry City and Strabane District Council and NIHE. These areas are now covered on an ad-hoc basis by the Rural Community Safety Warden Scheme.

The Community Safety Wardens provide reassurance to residents primarily through their visible presence, but also through a communication process operating between statutory, community and voluntary agencies to address these issues. The Community Safety Wardens provide information talks to community groups, schools, elderly residents and housing association on the service they provide and how they can be contacted.

The Community Safety Wardens also have access to three branded vehicles and three bicycles for transport and attend local community safety forums on a regular basis with our community partners in PSNI, NIHE and other housing associations.

During 2024/25 the Community Safety Warden scheme dealt with 1,472 referrals. Of these referrals 48% emanated from the public (709 referrals) and the other 52% (763 referrals) came from other statutory and voluntary partners. The Community Safety Wardens also carried out 14,922 patrols of ASB hotspot areas during this year.

The PSNI District Commander has recognised the important role that the Community Safety Wardens have played in helping to tackle ASB and reducing the fear of crime in the council area especially among our most vulnerable and elderly residents.



Pictured left: Warden Matt attending an End Violence Against Women and Girls Event organised by Faughan Local Partnership.



Pictured right: Warden Gary along with community reps from Outer North delivered leaflets around the Fergleen and Galliagh areas highlighting the dangers of quads, e-scooters and e-bikes.

All the warden teams attend regular meetings of the Community Safety Forums/Teams with PSNI Neighbourhood Officers, NIHE patch managers, community representatives and local councillors where they feed back to residents in relation to safety issues and local concerns. The wardens also regularly engage with local schools, community groups and elderly resident's groups and deliver presentations on community safety and the impact of ASB on the wider community.

All wardens are first aid and defibrillator trained and have completed their PACE (Policing and Criminal Evidence) training. They are also trained in water safety, which was delivered by Foyle Search & Rescue.



The Derry and Strabane PCSP continued to deliver the **Safer Homes Initiative** during 2024/25. The scheme provides and arranges fitting of home safety equipment for elderly and vulnerable residents who often feel isolated and experience a heightened fear of crime. The Derry and Strabane PCSP secured support under the PCSP Action Plan to purchase oil tank locks, door locks, padlocks, window locks, wheelie bin locks, door bars, sensor lights etc. which are disseminated to residents on recommendations from community groups, community safety wardens, PSNI, Victim Support, Women's Aid and PCSP members.

During 2024/25, 167 homes in the city and district were supplied and fitted with additional home safety equipment through the PCSP.



Pictured left: Concerns were raised from residents in the Artigarvan area about oil thefts, so PCSP handed over a supply of oil tank locks to Artigarvan Community Association.

Pictured right: A PCSP warden hands out personal alarms to women at a rally in Guildhall Square.

Over the past 12 months the Derry and Strabane PCSP delivered a number of **awareness campaigns** to increase local understanding on a range of crime and community safety issues. These campaigns were delivered in partnership to highlight ongoing concerns in relation to the domestic violence, retail/business crime prevention, anti-social behaviour, farm and home safety, burglary prevention etc.



Cllr Fergal Leonard, PCSP member, pictured at trailer marking event in Craigbane GAC in October 2024.

During last year the Derry and Strabane PCSP actively promoted the concept of **Neighbourhood Watch** as a local initiative to reduce crime and increase community safety in the Council area. During this period a number of new schemes were established in the council area with a total of 44 schemes now operational covering approximately 3,500 homes. The PCSP continues to produce the Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter on a quarterly basis and meetings for co-ordinators continue on a quarterly basis.

Derry & Strabane Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter
Issue 45

OPERATION LIFESAVER

Operation Lifesaver
Speeding costs more than you think
Slow down, save lives.
More than a statistic
drive safe

report online [psn.police.uk](https://www.psn.police.uk)

Police Service of Northern Ireland

'Slow down and help save lives' is the message from police to drivers across Derry City & Strabane.

Under Operation Lifesaver - the PSNI's new approach to speeding - police are asking motorists to play their part in keeping everyone on the roads safe. Speeding is one of the Fatal Five and of the fatal and serious collisions over the last year, police say speeding was the main causal factor in close to 10 per cent of cases, and a contributory factor in many other collisions.

Chief Superintendent Sam Donohoe from the Police Service of Northern Ireland's Operational Support Department said: "Speed can cause crashes, it can end in tragedy, and we cannot stress enough that all of us who drive have a responsibility to keep everyone safe on the roads and help save lives. This means sticking to the speed limit, paying attention on the road, slowing down and taking our time."

Chief Superintendent Donohoe makes this appeal to drivers.

"To all drivers, when you get into your vehicle, before you set off on your journey, no matter how far a field, a speed awareness course, penalty points on your licence or an appearance at court, you could also lose your licence, have your insurance cancelled, lose your job, damage your reputation, or even spend time in prison. If you speed and are involved in a collision, you risk causing damage to other vehicles and property, and serious injuries and death to others."

Chief Superintendent Donohoe adds: "Take a few minutes before you drive off and think, how do you want your car journey to end? You have the power to keep yourself and everyone else on the road safe. Play your part, slow down and help save lives."

The Fatal Five are:

- Don't drink or take drugs and drive
- Slow down
- Don't be careless
- Always wear your seat belt
- Never use your mobile phone while driving

Stay alive. Get to know the total time.

More than a statistic
drive safe

PSNI

WATER SAFETY ADVICE

We are all patiently waiting for some summer sunshine and the chance to enjoy our local waters.

With local beaches, pool and waterways all popular destinations, it is crucial for the public to follow safety advice to prevent water-related accidents.

Always supervise children: Never leave children unsupervised near water. Accidents can occur in seconds.

Swim in designated areas and never alone: Only swim in areas that are supervised. Never swim in quarries. Let others know your plans.

Use life jackets: Ensure non-swimmers and children wear life jackets in and around natural bodies of water.

Avoid Alcohol: Avoid consuming alcohol when participating in water activities or supervising children.

Learn to swim: Enrol in swimming lessons offered by local community centres or pools.

Know the weather: Check the forecast before heading out and avoid swimming during inclement weather conditions.

Community Safety Wardens Scheme

It's been a busy time for our Neighbourhood Watch. Firstly, the attended Freshers Fayre and International Student Orientation, both these events allow the wardens to engage with students to help ensure their time studying in the city is a safe and enjoyable experience.

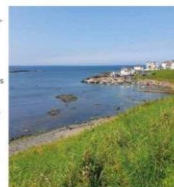
Throughout February JJ Magee has been putting an emphasis on community residents with residents who live around the University and trying to address issues that impact on their everyday life.

As part of the taskforce set up by JJ the wardens have been able to assist with leaflet drops, residents meetings as well as engaging with residents while on patrol, they even found time to fit oil tank locks for vulnerable elderly residents.

Derry and Strabane PCSP hosted a public meeting in the Guildhall, in this meeting a range of statutory agencies presented what they are doing to address the issue of Ending Violence Against Women and Girls.

Thanks to all our partner agencies for presenting and to everyone who came along to the meeting.

Derry & Strabane Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter ISS. 45



COMMUNITY SAFETY WARDENS SCHEME



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Derry & Strabane Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter ISS. 45

SUMMER CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE

Householders across Derry City and Strabane are being encouraged to review their home security arrangements now that many people are planning summer holidays.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland is appealing to people to protect their homes and property, and send a clear message to criminals that there is no opportunity for burglary.

The appeal is to make home security part of your daily routine. By getting in the habit of doing things every day, the less chance you have of being targeted by opportunistic burglars.

Make sure you lock all doors and windows, ensure alarms are working and doors are visible out of sight. The same applies to garages, sheds and outbuildings. Check they have working locks and

as you can. We've caught burglars in the act because someone called the Police straightaway.

The sooner Police know, the faster they can respond and know. Don't wait. Pick up the phone and tell us as soon

You can find more information about securing your home at www.psn.police.uk. You can also arrange to speak to your local PSNI Crime Prevention Officer by calling the non-emergency number 101.

Tis the season to make the most of your caravan!

Over the next few months you will probably be visiting your caravan a lot more. Here are a few tips to help protect your property.

- Always close doors, windows and any skylights whenever you leave your caravan, even if it's only for a short time.
- Always lock your caravan and take the keys with you. Don't leave anything valuable on display.
- Leave your curtains open.
- Use an alarm.
- Securely mark your property.
- Get to know your neighbours. Keep an eye on vacant caravans and report anything suspicious to Police by calling 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Stay alive. Get to know the total time.

More than a statistic
drive safe

PSNI

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The promotion of road safety and the concept of **'Staying Safe on Our Roads'** was a priority for our PCSP during 2024/25. The PCSP carried out a number of engagements especially with young adults and school children and partnered PSNI, NIFRS and local schools to raise awareness of road safety for young drivers, pedestrians and cyclists. The PCSP supported Road safe NI in their road safety primary school poster competition and distributed road safety signage and leaflets to many of our primary schools.

Lifesaving road safety lessons were delivered to 3,000 post-primary students across Donegal, Tyrone and the City and District as part of the **Roadsafe Roadshow 2024**. At this event, students heard about the hard-hitting reality of a fatal road traffic collision. They also heard personal accounts from emergency services and their experiences of road traffic collisions.



PCSP supported the Road Safety Roadshow 2024 delivering life saving skills to almost 3,000 Post Primary Skills across Donegal, Tyrone and the City and District

Derry & Strabane PCSP continues to deploy Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) across the district. These devices act as a warning to motorists who are driving above the speed limit and act as a visible deterrent. Data is collated and shared with PSNI on request so that PSNI can target follow-up enforcement action in speeding hotspots.



In partnership with PSNI Roads Policing, Derry and Strabane PCSP delivered a Bikesafe workshop. This event gave riders the opportunity to learn more about how to bike safely and included a workshop and “ride-out” with PSNI trained motorcyclists.



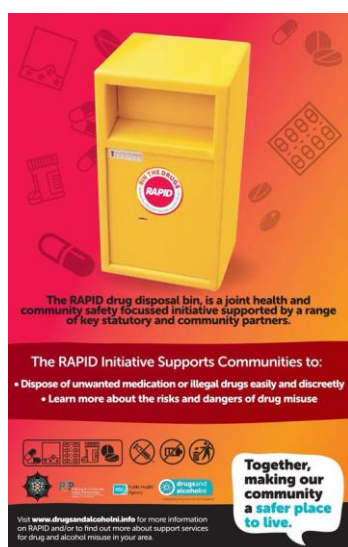
In November 2024 Community Safety Wardens attended Road Safety Saturday at Guildhall Square.

Safe Motoring Presentations were delivered to four schools by New Driver and almost 700 students were encouraged to take the New Driver/Road Safe NI Charity road safety pledge. 700 copies of the New Driver magazine on road safety were distributed to students.



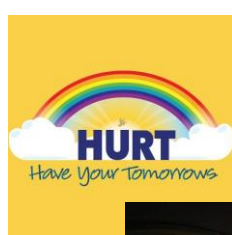
Under the tackling drugs and alcohol theme of the PCSP Action Plan for 2024/25 the partnership delivered a number of initiatives to raise awareness of the negative impact of **drugs and alcohol** on communities. The PCSP provides drug and alcohol educational boxes to any organisation wishing to highlight the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse and the impact it has on our communities.

The PCSP also installed a number of RAPID (Remove All Prescription and Illegal Drugs) Bins across the city and district. This initiative is delivered in partnership with PSNI and PHA. These have proved highly successful in removing harmful drugs from our communities. Since their introduction in 2018, a large quantity of prescription medication and illegal substances have been deposited in and removed from the bins.



RAPID Drugs bins can be found across the Council area:

- Ballycolman Community Centre, Strabane
- Ballymagroarty Community Centre, Derry
- Bishop Street Community Centre, Derry
- Glen development Initiative, Derry
- Hamilton's Spar, Castlederg
- Hamilton's Spar, Newtownstewart
- Haughey's Costcutter, Strabane
- HURT Office, Derry
- Kelly's Spar, Strathfoyle
- McKenna's Spar, Sion Mills
- Northside Village Centre, Derry
- Old Library Trust, Derry
- Pennyburn Youth Club, Derry
- Shantallow Community Residents Association, Derry
- Simon Community (Bonds Hill & Melrose Terrace, Derry)
- Tesco's Lisnagelvin, Derry
- The Gasyard Centre, Derry



Under our small project support allocation, the PCSP supported Have Your Tomorrows (HURT) to provide an intervention service for vulnerable at risk individuals and family members impacted by substance misuse. This included 330 counselling sessions and 99

complimentary therapies to 33 customers. In addition, 2 of their counsellors undertook trauma training



The official opening of HURT's new premises Bayview Terrace in September 2024.

Under the **Domestic and Sexual Violence** theme of the PCSP Action Plan we supported Foyle Women's Aid to deliver a Healthy Relationship Roadshow in six schools across the Council area aimed at young people in Year 10 (aged 13-14), focusing on health and respectful relationship and raising awareness of domestic and sexual violence.

As part of this project, the roadshow was delivered to 875 pupils in the following schools:

- St Cecilia's College
- St Joseph's Boys
- Strabane Academy
- St Patrick's and St Brigid's
- Castlederg High School
- Thornhill College



Attending the Healthy Relationship Roadshow in St Cecilia's College.

Derry and Strabane PCSP purchased 20 CCTV cameras so that these could be provided to high-risk victims of domestic violence to help them feel safer in their own homes. This initiative is delivered in partnership with PSNI and ASSIST Domestic Violence Advocate.

The Derry and Strabane PCSP was the first PCSP to establish a **Support Hub** to share information and deliver tailored support to the most vulnerable in our communities. The Hub is chaired by the PCSP Manager with PSNI, NIFRS, NIHE, YJA, PBNI, NIAS, EANI, A&E, Adult Safeguarding, Children Safeguarding and Mental Health services all attending. Those considered most vulnerable including young people susceptible to paramilitary

attack/influence, young people susceptible to organised crime gang influence, repeat victims of ASB, repeat victims of hate crime, older people subject to repeat incidents and repeat victims in general.

Since its establishment in August 2016 the Support Hub has dealt with over 330 referrals. During 2024/25 the Support Hub held 12 meetings and all partner agencies attended.

Members of the Derry & Strabane Support Hub have continued to welcome delegations from Donegal, Limerick and Sligo HSE and An Garda Siochana during 2024/25. The Derry and Strabane Support Hub is seen as a model of best practice, which means that more partners, especially from HSE and AGS are keen to come and witness and discuss how we operate the Support Hub in our area so that they can replicate something similar in their areas.



Section 4 – PCSP Policing Committee

Strategic Objective 3 for the PCSP is to improve community confidence in policing through: ensuring local accountability through the Policing Committee’s role in monitoring police performance; ensuring that policing delivery reflects the involvement, views and priorities of local communities; ensuring improved policing service delivery in partnership with local communities and ensuring effective engagement with the police and the local community, with specific emphasis on engagement with disadvantaged communities and young people.

Derry City and Strabane

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An extract from the PSNI's Report Card to Derry & Strabane PCSP's Policing Committee

From April 2024 to March 2025 the Derry and Strabane PCSP Policing Committee held four policing committee meetings in April, July and October 2024 and January 2025. At each of these meetings the PSNI District Commander for Derry and Strabane presented the quarterly performance report on the local policing plan and the service plan. Members of the PCSP were also provided with monthly update reports on crime and ASB within the Council area. The PCSP continues to engage with police through the neighbourhood community safety forums/teams, the community safety wardens and neighbourhood watch co-ordinators.

As well as supporting the PSNI in a number of engagement events outlined above, the PCSP also attends the locally based Community Safety Forums/Teams with NIHE, Community and PSNI Neighbourhood Teams. The Community Safety Forums meet on a regular basis and are located in each of the four Neighbourhood Renewal Areas of Outer North, Outer West, Waterside and TRIAX. Forums have also been established in Strathfoyle/Maydown, Top of the Hill and Strabane town.

Section 5 – Projects Supported

During 2024/25 the Derry and Strabane PCSP allocated £30,000 to five community/voluntary groups across the city and district via an open call for small project support. In addition, eight Local Growth Partnerships were awarded £141,600 via the consensual grant aid model to deliver initiatives on youth diversion, drug and alcohol awareness, embedding a culture of lawfulness, intergenerational issues, cross community projects and domestic and sexual violence awareness etc. These groups provide a vital service in our communities and are greatly assisted by the support provided by the PCSP.

Shantallow Community Resident's Association (SCRA) delivered their Youth Educated in Safety (YES) Project to over 1,700 young people across the district. This project brings together pupils from a number of schools to a community venue where they participate in interactive multi-agency workshops from a range of statutory and community organisations, including Community Safety Wardens, PSNI, NIFRS, EA Youth Service and DCSDC.

The group also delivered an eight-week development programme for 50 young people throughout the summer. This programme focused on the effects of ASB on the community and good relations relating to bonfires.



Young people from SCRA who took part in the YES Project.

The Street Doctors Programme provided training for young people in lifesaving first aid skills, so that they could step forward in an emergency to help if someone was injured in a violent attack. They partnered with St Joseph's boys' school to train their entire Year 9 and 10 student group, which meant that 300 young people received this training.

As part of this programme young people gained increased knowledge of how to act in an emergency, improved confidence to use first aid skills and an increased willingness to step forward and help. The sessions also provided an important first step for young people to understand the mental health and emotional consequences of violence, as they learned about the most common impacts it can have on behaviour and how to spot them.



Some of the young people involved with the Street Doctors Programme.

Organisation	DEA	Amount Awarded
Shantallow Community Residents Association	Council Wide	£10,000.00
Foyle Women's Aid	Council Wide	£7,038.40
New Driver Safety Ambassador	Council Wide	£1,870.40
Have Your Tomorrows (HURT)	Council Wide	£9,000.00
Street Doctors	Council Wide	£2,091.20
TOTAL FUNDING		£30,000.00

In 2024/2025 the PCSP allocated £141,600 funding to the eight Local Growth Partnership Boards in the Council area under the consensual grant aid model.

DEA	Allocation (Rounded up)
Ballyarnett	£24,700
Derg	£18,200
Faughan	£14,200
Foyleside	£14,600
Moor	£22,000
Sperrin	£11,900
Strabane Town	£13,400
Waterside	£22,600
TOTAL ALLOCATION	£141,600

DEA	Activity Summary
<p><u>Ballyarnett</u></p> <p>Lead Partner: Greater Shantallow Youth Intervention Group (GSAP)</p>	<p>Shantallow Youth Intervention Group (SYIG) engaged 63 beneficiaries through a comprehensive programme focused on personal development, community engagement, and anti-social behaviour awareness. Activities included two six-week developmental group programmes addressing cultural identity and community behaviour, 12 family fun days, multiple life skills cooking classes, and a number of exciting day trips. Community initiatives featured two clean-up programmes across six local areas, distribution of 63 Halloween goody bags, and six weeks of targeted on-street engagements reaching 3–100 individuals per evening.</p> <p>Rainbow Child engaged 82 beneficiaries through activities addressing anti-social behaviour, building community connections, and providing developmental opportunities for young people. Key activities included volunteering placements for 12 young people aged 13–16, three educational workshops on drugs, alcohol, bonfires, and risk-taking behaviour, a live bonfire debate, two trips, a Community Engagement Day with 28 participants, and an Intergenerational Party involving 20 older people and 10 young people.</p>
<p><u>Derg</u></p> <p>Lead Partner: Churchtown</p>	<p>Churchtown Community Association successfully engaged 361 beneficiaries through a comprehensive programme of seven Women's Wellness Events and 2 Castles Boxing Roadshows held across various community venues and</p>

Community Association	<p>schools between November 2024 and March 2025. The initiative focused on improving personal and community safety awareness, fostering positive relationships with the PSNI, and highlighting the impact of drugs, alcohol, and domestic abuse on local communities.</p> <p>Derry Raphoe Action Group (DRAG) engaged 845 beneficiaries through a diverse range of targeted activities including a family fun day in Newtownstewart, two Be Fit for Fun days, two first aid courses in Newtownstewart and Ardstraw, the purchase of one community defibrillator, a senior luncheon event for 85 adults, and a three-hour Child Protection Course for 15 adults.</p>
<u>Faughan</u> Lead Partner: Rural Area Partnership in Derry (RAPID)	RAPID Faughan successfully engaged 144 young people across a number of areas including Eglinton, Claudy, Enagh, Newbuildings, and Upper Cumber through developmental and recreational activities. The programme included a number of group trips. Junior Engagement Sessions and open conversations on anti-social behaviour and civil disorder provided safe, small-group settings to explore the legal, social, and cultural context of community issues such as bonfires and flags.
<u>Moor</u> Lead Partner: TRIAX	The project supported 191 young people through developmental, diversionary, and volunteering activities designed to enhance personal growth and community engagement. The programme featured six development work sessions and three major trips - Emerald Park, Lurgybrack Farm, and Curry's Amusements - alongside a volunteering initiative involving 51 participants.
<u>Sperrin</u> Lead Partner: Rural Area Partnership in Derry (RAPID)	RAPID Sperrin successfully engaged 192 young people across rural areas including Donemana, Glenelly, Park, Learmount, Artigarvan, Glenmornan, Ballymagorry, Aughabrack, and others through engaging developmental activities. Workshops on ASB and civil disorder provided space to explore community issues such as bonfires and flags.
<u>Strabane</u> Lead Partner: Melmount and East Bank Estates Community Associations Forum	MEBECAF successfully engaged 651 participants through activities focused on sports and community safety. Events included sports programs with local teams, Halloween camps, community safety events, and educational workshops reaching diverse age groups.

(MEBECAF)	
<u>Waterside</u> Lead Partner: Waterside Neighbourhood Partnership	The project supported 1,225 young people through comprehensive programming focused on safety and healthy relationships. Initiatives included HURT Drug Awareness workshops, safeguarding sessions, exploitation and relationship education, and a vaping health fair.

Section 6 – PCSP Accounts

The Joint Committee provides funding to the Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership with Derry City and Strabane District Council and other partners also providing financial support.

Service Level Agreement

The Partnership has a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Derry City and Strabane District Council for the provision of a range of in-house services. The areas of support offered to the Partnership include: general finance, office accommodation, IT, administration of salaries, payment of invoices and support in areas of personnel, and legal & audit services.

The spreadsheet on the next page outlines the income and expenditure of the PCSP for the financial year 2024/25 (April 2024 to March 2025).

**Derry and Strabane
Policing and Community Safety Partnership
Statement of Support from Joint Committee 2024/25**

Total Costs

Receipts

Grant from Joint Committee	£450,179.76
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	£450,179.76
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Payments

Staff Costs	£59,496.00
Running Costs	£20,803.76
Engagement	£45,000.00
Northland Warden Scheme	£51,978.42
Small Project Support (ASB)	£95,253.29
Reducing Fear of Crime (Safer Homes)	£15,000.00
Caged Sport	£3,025.34
Advertising/PR	£1,075.00
Youth Engagement Initiatives	£64,017.34
CCTV	£53,000.00
Members Attendance Allowance	£8,880.00
Tackling Cybercrime including scams and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	£470.00
Hate Crime Initiatives	£987.00
Tackling Business/Rural Crime	£999.00
Road Safety Initiatives	£5,000.00
Drug and Alcohol & Addiction Initiatives	£11,000.00
Domestic & Sexual Violence Initiatives	£7,800.88
Policing Committee/ Local Accountability	£6,393.73

	£450,179.76
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Section 7 - Members' Attendance Record

The Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership held six PCSP meetings and four PCSP Policing Committee Meetings between 01 April 2024 and 31 March 2025. The table below shows attendance by Partnership members:

PCSP Member	Number of Scheduled Meetings Held	Number of Meetings Attended	Percentage Attendance
Councillor Martin Reilly (SDLP)*	9	6	67%
Councillor Jason Barr (SDLP)**	1	0	0%
Councillor John Boyle (SDLP)	10	6	60%
Councillor Sandra Duffy (SF)	10	6	60%
Alderman Darren Guy (UU)	10	10	100%
Councillor Christopher Jackson (SF)	10	8	80%
Alderman Keith Kerrigan (DUP)	10	10	100%
Councillor Fergal Leonard (SF)	10	6	60%
Alderman Niree McMorris (DUP)	10	7	70%
Councillor Emma McGinley (SF)	10	8	80%
Councillor Antaine O'Fearghail (SF)	10	1	10%
Mary Casey***	2	1	50%
Thomas Conway***	2	1	50%
Úna McCartney***	2	0	0%
Aodh McCay***	2	1	50%
Jeanette Warke***	2	0	0%
Linda Watson	10	10	100%
Michaela Boyle****	8	4	50%
Marie Brown****	8	3	37.5%
Cathal Crumley ****	8	7	87.5%
Karl Duncan****	8	5	62.5%
David Jackson****	8	4	50%
Patrick McGonagle****	8	4	50%
Karen McLaughlin****	8	7	87.5%
Alison Wallace****	8	5	62.5%
Total % Attended			65%

* PCSP member from June 2024 onwards

** PCSP member for April 2024 only

*** PCSP member April and May 2024 only

**** PCSP member from June 2024 onwards

How to contact the Derry and Strabane PCSP

If you would like any further information, wish to comment or have questions about the work of the Derry and Strabane PSCP please contact:

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Derry/Strabane
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