

Minutes of Policing and Community Safety Partnership Special Meeting

**6 February 2024
Council Chamber, Guildhall**

Present: Cllr Jason Barr, Cllr John Boyle, Mrs Mary Casey, Mr Thomas Conway, Mr Eddie Doherty (NIHE), Ald Darren Guy, Ald Keith Kerrigan, Ms Jacqueline Doherty (WHSCT), Cllr Christopher Jackson, Cllr Fergal Leonard, Cllr Emma McGinley, Ald Niree McMorris and Mrs Jeanette Warke.

PSNI: CI Yvonne McManus and Insp Cathal Pearce.

In Attendance at Meeting: Ciara Bond (Admin), Cllr Sandra Duffy (PCSP Chair) and Vanessa Russell (PCSP Manager).

DSPCSP 01/24 Apologies

Ms Deborah Cross (EA), Mrs Margaret Hall, Miss Una McCartney, Cllr Antaine O'Fearghail, Mr Paul Ryan (YJA) and Ms Linda Watson.

DSPCSP 02/24 Introduction and Welcome

The PCSP Chair, Sandra Duffy, welcomed all PCSP members to the meeting.

DSPCSP 03/24 Approval of Minutes – PCSP Minutes 42/23–51/23

The Minutes of PCSP Meeting were checked for accuracy. The minutes were proposed as follows:

Proposed by: Ald Niree McMorris

Seconded by: Mrs Mary Casey

DSPCSP 04/24 Matters Arising

Consensual Grant Aid 24/25

The PCSP Manager advised that she would prepare an options paper outlining how this would impact groups who deliver small project support on a council-wide basis. Members agreed that the PCSP Manager should include this option paper in the February Manager's report for consideration.

Face-to-Face v Webex Meetings

An elected representative mentioned that face-to-face meetings were not always practical and gave the example of how the last Policing Committee meeting did not go ahead as there were insufficient members in attendance when the option to log-on via Webex was removed.

The Chairperson stated it was a 'catch 22' situation as there were sound issues when using the Boardroom, Harbour House. Meetings were then moved to the Council Chamber, however it is a requirement at a minimum of 15 members are in attendance to make this feasible, as IT had to be there to facilitate a hybrid meeting. She reminded members that they had taken the decision in November that going forward, all PCSP meetings would be face-to-face. She advised that meetings will be rotated between Derry and Strabane depending on room availability.

DSPCSP 05/24

PCSP Action Plan 2024/25

The PCSP Manager referred members to the draft PCSP Action Plan 2024/25 which had been circulated previously. She referred to the planning guidance issued from DOJ which highlights that each PCSP Action Plan needs to:

- Review and confirm priority policing and community safety issues based on a strategic assessment.
- Describe what the PCSP aims to achieve.
- Communicate the content of the action plan and how the PCSP will work to deliver its action plan.
- Explain how the PCSP will work in partnership to make the best use of resources.
- Explain how Outcomes Based Accountability (OBA) will be used to measure and manage the performance of PCSPs.

The PCSP Manager highlighted that each PCSP has three Strategic Objectives:

- To successfully deliver the functions of the PCSP 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.
- To improve community safety by prioritising and addressing local community safety issues, tackling crime and ASB.
- To support community confidence in policing, including through collaborative problem solving with communities.

The PCSP Manager stated that the total budget requested from DOJ is £441,496, which is the same amount as in 2023/24. She advised that there had been no indication from DOJ that there would be a budget increase or decrease for 2024/25. The budget is broken down as follows:

Administration	£80,496
SP1: Form and deliver PCSP Functions	£44,000
SP2: Tackle Crime and ASB	£309,500
SP3: Improve Community Confidence in Policing	£7,500
TOTAL requested from DOJ	£441,496

Members were referred to specific areas within the Draft Action Plan as follows:

Page 4: Strategic Priority 1:

- Delivery of PCSP Meetings and engagement in local communities - £42,000 (no change)
- Communication- £2,000 (no change)

Page 5: Strategic Priority:

- Tackling ASB (Small Project Support) – £95,500 (reduced from £118,000)
- Cage Sport - £3,000 (no change)
- Drugs, Alcohol and Addictions - £11,000 (reduced from £15,000)
- Domestic and Sexual Violence - £10,000 (reduced from £12,500)
- Hate Crime - £500 (reduced from £1,000)
- Tackling Business, Retail and Rural Crime - £1,000 (no change)
- CCTV - £63,000 (increased by £50,000)
- Tackling Cybercrime - £500 (reduced from £1,000)
- Community Safety Warden Scheme - £50,000 (no change)
- Safer Homes Initiative - £15,000 (no change)
- Road Safety Initiatives - £5,000 (no change)
- Youth Engagement Initiative - £55,000 (reduced by £20,000)

Reductions/Increases as follows:

The PCSP Manager advised members that some budget headings in Strategic Priority 2 were reduced so that £50,000 could be re-allocated to cover core costs due to the increase in the cost of the CCTV contract. These changes in budget lines are summarised as follows:

Theme	Budget 2023/24	Reduced by:	Proposed Budget 2024/25
ASB	£118,000	£22,500	£95,500
Drugs & Alcohol	£15,000	£4,000	£11,000
Domestic & Sexual Violence	£12,500	£2,500	£10,000
Hate Crime	£1000	£500	£500
Cybercrime/CSE	£1000	£500	£500
Youth Engagement	£75,000	£20,000	£55,000

The PCSP Manager advised that in 2023/24 due to under-allocations and under-spends, the final amount allocated to Small Project Support was £171,328.28. The amount provided for Small Project Support in the 2024/25 draft Action Plan is £171,500.00.

In response to a member, the PCSP Manager stated that PSNI have not confirmed if they are providing any funding towards CCTV or the Community

Safety Wardens in 2024/25.

The PCSP Chairperson referred to previous correspondence from ACC Bobby Singleton where he had indicated that he would try and get commonality across PSNI to ensure that CCTV schemes in each district are funded in a similar way. She asked PSNI colleagues in attendance to feed this information back to PSNI senior management.

CI Yvonne McManus said she would keep members posted on the issue.

PSNI

DSPCSP 06/24

Issues Discussed:

Council Funding – In response to a member, the PCSP Manager stated that Council funding towards PCSP for 2024/25 has not yet been confirmed as the rates process is on-going and budgets have not been finalised.

Public Meetings – In response to a member who asked when would Public Meetings be taking place, the Chair stated that there had been numerous conversations in this regard however no decision had been taken.

The Vice-Chair made a proposal that the PCSP should hold public themed meetings, as this is part of its remit.

Proposed by: Mr Thomas Conway (Vice-Chair)

Seconded by: Cllr John Boyle

PCSP

Further discussion took place on budget pressures in relation to CCTV with elected members stating that there is no suggestion that the PCSP budget contribution from Council would be reduced.

PCSP members do not want rate payers to pick up the tab therefore they will be represented on this issue to ensure a fully efficient PCSP. A sensible approach is required to demonstrate the fantastic work and to show that projects are not impacted by the shortfall.

The Chairperson confirmed that members were unanimous in their decision to approve the PCSP Action Plan 2024/25.

Proposed by: Mr Thomas Conway (Vice-Chair)

Seconded by: Councillor Emma McGinley

Further discussions took place on the following issues:

Shared Island Project – a member referred to the Support Hub and how it looks at issues such as drugs and alcohol, ASB, crime etc. She suggested that the PCSP and PSNI could possibly get funding through the Shared Island Project.

Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) – the importance of the availability of NPTs was discussed. Whilst the area has come on leaps and bounds especially at the interface of Waterside Shared Village, there was a recent incident during the snow with a key worker in Irish Street. During the snow, houses were attacked including the home of an elderly person who was physically attacked and a 90yr old attacked with dementia. A Duty Inspector was contacted as there were 30 youths at the interface, but PSNI were unavailable.

People are ringing elected representatives to report issues in the area, rather than phoning PSNI. She claimed that people don't feel safe in their own homes and asked what can the PCSP do to help address increase confidence in policing.

Response: CI Yvonne McManus said she was aware of the issues and when prioritising issues THRIVE is applied by the Call Centre in Maydown. It is important to report issues so an investigative opportunity is not missed. Reporting can also be made online and where possible issues are dealt with on the phone. PSNI lost 20 officers within the NPTs in the last year and asked the PCSP to lobby to keep NPT officers in our district. She added that PSNI recruitment will re-commence in April 2024, however it will be 6 months before these officers are on the street.

CI McManus stated she would welcome public meetings of the PCSP as it would give them the opportunity to engage with members of the public and to give members of the public an insight into policing and the demands faced by the organisation.

DSPCSP 07/24

Further issues/queries included:

Budget for Rural DEAs – In response to a member, the PCSP Manager confirmed that the budget presented in the draft PCSP Action Plan 2024/25 is for the entire council area. In relation to small project support, each DEA would be apportioned a set amount to ensure that each DEA gets a fair allocation and it would then be up to each Local Growth Partnership to decide what the priorities are for that DEA and to submit a delivery plan for consideration.

CCTV in Sperrin and Derg DEAs – in response to a member, the PCSP Manager stated that there were 96 CCTV cameras as part of the contract for the entire council area, however she did not have a breakdown of each location to hand. The PCSP Manager confirmed she would bring this information to the next PCSP meeting.

PCSP Manager

CCTV Monitoring Station Visit – a member requested if it would be possible for a visit to the monitoring station to be arranged for PCSP members. The PCSP Manager stated that the company are currently upgrading the CCTV system and the monitoring station, however she would request a visit later in the year so that members can see the quality of the system.

PCSP Manager

The Chairperson and Vice-Chair both confirmed that the CCTV monitoring station had been viewed by members in the past.

DSPCSP 08/24

Any Other Business

ASB Consultation Paper

The PCSP Manager informed members of DoJ's Consultation on ASB, which closes on 6th March 2024. She advised that a working group has been provisionally booked to take place on **Wednesday 21 February 2024 @ 10am**. All PCSP members are encouraged to attend. The venue will be confirmed later today however members are asked to note this date and time in their diaries.

PCSP

DSPCSP 09/24

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on **27 February 2024 in Council Chambers, Guildhall, Derry.**

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and input at the meeting which ended at approximately 12:50pm.

Policing and Community Safety Partnership Special Meeting

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ACTIONS

Pg 4, DSPCSP 05/24	Strategic Priority 2 – Funding from PSNI PSNI to ascertain if funding for 2024/25 towards CCTV and Community Safety Wardens is available, as per conversation with ACC Bobby Singleton.	PSNI
Pg 4, DSPCSP 06/24	Strategic Priority 2 – Public PCSP Meetings. PCSP should consider holding public themed meetings.	PCSP Manager
Pg 4, DSPCSP 06/24	Approval of draft PCSP Action Plan 2024/25 The draft PCSP Action Plan 2024/25 was approved and should be submitted to DOJ.	PCSP Manager
Pg 5, DSPCSP 07/24	CCTV in Sperrin and Derg DEAs PCSP to confirm breakdown of locations of CCTV cameras.	PCSP Manager
Pg5, DSPCSP 07/24	CCTV Monitoring Station Visit Once the upgrade of the CCTV Monitoring Station are complete, the PCSP Manager should request a visit to the station for PCSP members.	PCSP Manager
Pg5, DSPCSP 08/24	ASB Consultation Paper A Working Group will be held on Wednesday 21st February at 10.00am so that PCSP members can prepare a response to the DOJ Consultation on ASB. Venue to be confirmed to members later today.	PCSP Admin