

Minutes of Policing and Community Safety Partnership Meeting

**Tuesday 25 February 2025
Strabane Council Chamber**

Present: Michaela Boyle, Cathal Crumley, Karl Duncan, Ald Darren Guy, Ald Keith Kerrigan, Bryan McCaul, Cllr Emma McGinley, Karen McLaughlin, Cllr Martin Reilly and Linda Watson.

PSNI: Supt William Calderwood and CI Luke Moyne.

In Attendance at Meeting: Ciara Bond, Cllr Martin Reilly and Vanessa Russell.

DSPCSP 01/25 Apologies: Ms Marie Brown, Cllr John Boyle, Cllr Sandra Duffy, Cllr Christopher Jackson, Cllr Fergal Leonard, Mr Patsy McGonagle, Cllr Anatine O’Fearghail and Ms Caroline Quigley.

DSPCSP 02/25 Chair’s Business - Introduction and Welcome

Cllr Martin Reilly (Chair) formally welcomed Vanessa Russell back to her first proper PCSP meeting since her return. Cllr Reilly stated that PCSP staff had worked really hard in the absence of Vanessa.

Supt Calderwood informed members that CI Yvonne McManus had moved to a new role in Causeway Coast and Glens. She extended her thanks to everyone for the support over the years.

Supt Calderwood welcomed CI Moyne to PCSP and said he had a vast amount of experience as NPT Inspector, temporary CI and then was promoted to CI. Members were informed he would be part of the management team and a regular member at PCSP Meetings.

The Chair welcomed CI Luke Moyne and stated he looked forward to working with him. The Chair congratulated CI Yvonne McManus in her new role and thanked her for work over the time she had helped PCSP.

DSPCSP 03/25 Approval of Minutes of PCSP PC Meeting of 28/01/25 PCPM 01/25-08/25

Proposed: Linda Watson

Seconded: Ald Darren Guy

DSPCSP 04/25 Matters Arising:

PCPM 05/25 E-Scooters – PSNI confirmed a presentation on E-Scooters would be included at the PCSP Public Meeting in May 2025.

PSNI

PCPM 06/25 Slideshow on Crime – it was confirmed that PSNI would circulate the slideshow to members.

PSNI

PCPM 06/25 Drugs – drugs detections and drug related seizures are continually highlighted on social media. The most recent post was 17th February 2025.

PCPM 07/25 PCSP Community Safety & Crime Survey – the PCSP Manager advised that this is now complete, with 59 responses received.

PCSP 07/25 PCSP Special Meeting – at the Special Meeting on 20/02/25 a date for the Public Meeting was discussed. The PCSP Manager confirmed that the Main Hall, Guildhall, had been booked for **Thursday 13/03/25** and stated members had already been issued a calendar invitation for same. Designated organisations were contacted to nominate speakers for the Public Meeting to demonstrate what their organisation is doing to address violence against women and girls. It was confirmed that information stands would be provided at the back of the hall by support organisations. This means members of the public can ask questions in the public forum or have a quiet word with support organisations. The PCSP Manager advised that the PCSP team will work with Council's marketing team to raise the profile of this event and that an invitation will be extended to all PCSP members, Council members and to everyone on the community development database.

The Chair stated there had been an urgency around arranging a date for the Public Meeting to ensure it did not clash with International Women's Day on 08/03/25. At the Public Meeting it was confirmed there would be opportunities to ask formal/informal questions on services available.

PCPM 06/25 Tik Tok Video – Supt Calderwood informed members that investigations were being carried out. The Tik Tok video was in relation to a funeral on 22/01/25. PSNI were not aware of it at the time; they only became aware when the Tik Tok video came out. Shots were fired above the coffin by masked men. Currently PSNI are trawling through CCTV to go through all the images to identify people. It was confirmed it would be put out in police stations. No information has come forward from the community.

PCPM 06/25 Pipe Bomb in Winchester Park – this was suspected to be a hoax. Items were taken to be forensically examined. PSNI are not sure of a motive; it was a strange event in that area. There has not been much from the public in relation to the incident and there have been no incidents since. Enquiries continue on the issue.

PCPM 06/25 Report of Lady Followed – Ald Guy stated that he had tried to reach out to a lady to organise a meeting with PSNI, however she doesn't seem to want to come forward, but he is keen to provide re-assurance.

DSPCSP 05/25

MANAGER'S REPORT

PCSP Action Plan/Budget 2024-2025

The PCSP Manager advised that the quarter 3 expenditure claim was submitted to NIPB/DOJ on Monday 24/02/25 for the amount of £97,966.17. The total amount for Quarters 1-3 equated to £303,272.67.

PCSP Strategic Assessment 2025-2028 and PCSP Action Plan 2025-26

The PCSP Strategic Assessment for 2025-2028 and Action Plan 2025-2026 were presented to members at a Special Meeting on 20/02/25. At this meeting, members explored the Draft Strategic Assessment and the Action Plan to agree priorities and allocate funding.

Members were informed that Marie Breen-Smyth will amend the Strategic Assessment to include the results of the community survey, which closed on Friday and that these 2 documents will be submitted to Joint Committee for consideration and approval by 14/03/25. The Joint Committee are to meet at the

end of March and will advise of the outcome as soon as possible after that. The PCSP Manager stated that at this stage, we have not been given any indication as to how quickly this will happen or what the budget will be for 2025/26. PCSP members will be kept updated on the progress.

PCSP Training

PCSP Chair and Vice-Chair Training is scheduled for 12/03/25 and the PCSP Manager confirmed a diary request had been issued to the Chair and Vice-Chair in relation to this.

Conflict of Interest Declarations

The PCSP Manager reinforced to members why these declarations were required on an annual basis. An email reminder was sent to 4 members last week and the PCSP Manager encouraged all members to complete and return these forms as a matter of urgency.

PCSP Members

Gifts/Hospitality of PCSP Members

Members were reminded of the guidance re hospitality/gifts and to notify the PCSP Manager to record in the Council Hospitality, Gifts, and Entertainment Register.

Expense Claim Forms

Members were reminded to complete Expense Claim Forms on a monthly basis where possible. Members were reminded that claims could only be approved if they are submitted within 3 months from the date of the meeting/event.

Improvement of Community Safety by Tackling Crime and ASB

The PCSP Manager confirmed that 5 groups were funded in 2024/25 via open call (table 1), however at the PCSP meeting in September 2024, members agreed to re-allocated funding to HURT and Street Doctors (as shown in table 2).

Table 1:

Group Name	Score	Rank	Eligible funding	Funding Awarded
Shantallow Community Residents Association	100	1	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
Foyle Women's Aid	93	3	£7,038.40	£7,038.40
New Driver Safety Ambassador	93	4	£1,870.40	£1,870.40
Have Your Tomorrows (HURT)	89	5	£9,000.00	£2,067.20
Street Doctors	62	6	£3,200.00	£0.00
TOTALS			£40,132.80	£30,000.00

Table 2:

Group Name	Score	Rank	Eligible funding	Initial Funding Awarded	Additional Funding
Have Your Tomorrows (HURT)	89	5	£9,000.00	£2,067.20	£6,932.80
Street Doctors	62	6	£3,200.00	£0.00	£2,091.20

Consensual Grant Aid 2024/2025

The PCSP Manager advised that projects being delivered via Consensual Grant Aid are drawing to a close and that the PCSP Co-Ordinator is working with groups to ensure full expenditure.

As part of the Consensual Grant Aid pilot, DCSDC appointed an independent consultant to evaluate the pilot model. Lorraine McCourt attended the PCSP meeting in January 2025 to consult with PCSP members as part of a wider consultation exercise with key stakeholders. Members will be kept updated once this report is available.

Campaigns/Initiatives

Community Safety Wardens continue to carry out patrols. Between April 2024 and January 2025 they have dealt with 1,267 referrals and provided 12,338 patrols of ASB hotspot areas. The Wardens have attended 47 meetings and 54 events.

In response to concerns for safety of women and girls within the district the Community Safety Wardens have been involved in several events and initiatives to provide support and raise awareness. The Wardens handed out personal safety alarms and leaflets at an event for women's safety in Guildhall Square on 08/11/24, facilitated several talks around personal safety, distributed 1,500 personal safety alarms, hi-vis accessories and CSW leaflets and have increased patrols in parks and greenspaces.

Rapid Bins

PCSP has facilitated the installation of 23 RAPID bins (to remove all Prescription and Illegal Drugs) across the city and district. Since their introduction in 2018, 79,765 tablets/pills have been removed from the bins, identified, and logged by PSNI.

Home Security Equipment

From April to December 2024, 118 homes in the city and district were supplied and fitted with additional home safety equipment.

In response to concerns for safety of women and girls within the district, PCSP provided approximately 1,500 personal safety alarms. Members were encouraged to contact the PCSP office re residents within the council area that would benefit from these products. The Safer Homes equipment is fitted by Teamworks.

Cage Sport

Cage Sport Arena was provided to 20 community organisations across the district throughout 2024/25. The Cage Sport Arena has been in operation for approximately 15 years and needs to be replaced. Members were advised previously that the Cage needed replaced, which would require considerable investment. At the special meeting on 20th February 2025, Members decided not to continue with the Cage Sport Arena and re-allocated funding to Hate Crime instead.

Neighbourhood Watch

There are currently 44 Neighbourhood Watch schemes within the council area, covering approximately 3,500 homes. Meetings are being scheduled to take place in March 2025 for all NHW Co-ordinators.

CCTV

From 01.04.24 to 31.01.25 CCTV has dealt with 394 missing person reports, 182 attempted suicides and 683 suicide welfare concerns. In addition to this, CCTV

has dealt with 365 assaults, 221 incidents of drunkenness, 44 incidents of criminal damage, and 97 drug related incidents.

The PCSP Manager and Head of Service have requested a meeting with DOJ and NIPB to explore funding opportunities for CCTV, given the direction in PCSP Planning Guidelines which stipulated at no Joint Committee funding can be allocated to CCTV via the PCSP Action Plan. A report will be sent to H&C Committee in April 2025 and Members will be kept up to date.

PCSP Manager

Road Safety - SIDs

Currently there are 2 SIDs available for placement; a number of SIDs have been vandalised and the cost to repair is more than a new SID. PCSP continue to engage with and request the Speed Camera Van which is seen throughout the council area. PCSP Members were reminded to submit requests for the SIDs via the PCSP office.

Bike Safe Event

PCSP, in partnership with PSNI, have arranged a Bike Safe event in St Columb's Park House on 04.07.25. The format of this event is a workshop and 'ride-out' with PSNI trained officers, which will give bike riders the opportunity to learn more about how to bike safely.

Trailer Marking Events

Members had requested if quads could be added to these type of events. The PCSP Manager informed members she was liaising with PSNI Crime Prevention Officer on this.

Policing Committee Meetings

The last PCSP PC Meeting was held on 28.01.25 in Council Chamber, Guildhall. The PSNI Q3 Performance Report, Oct-Dec 2024, was delivered to members. The next PCSP PC Meeting is scheduled for 27.05.25 when the Q4 Performance Report will be presented.

Public Meeting

A date for a themed PCSP Public Meeting on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls has been secured for 13.03.25 in the Main Hall, Guildhall, from 10am to 1pm. All members were invited to attend.

Stop & Search Powers

Members were advised that PSNI had paused JSA Accountability Panels to conduct a review of the process. Members will be kept up to date once these meetings re-commence.

PSNI

Support Hub

The Support Hub meets monthly with the last meeting held on 04.02.25. Since the establishment of the Support Hub, it has dealt with over 335 referrals. The PCSP Manager advised that the Support Hub is currently undergoing an evaluation to measure the effectiveness of the hub.

CHAIR'S RESPONSE TO MANAGER'S REPORT

CCTV

The Chair thanked the PCSP Manager for the work on CCTV and said that he would be keen to hear the outcome of the meeting with DOJ/NIPB, as the PCSP

are aware of the impact and value of CCTV across the City and District.

SIDs

The PCSP Chair referred to the 2 SIDs available, the wear and tear of the other SIDs and the cost of purchasing new SIDs. He asked was there any other funding for SIDs or a mechanism with more detail in relation to the costings. If there are only 2 available, it would affect the demand of requests for the SIDs in different places.

The PCSP Manager confirmed that 6 were out of action, some were damaged beyond repair as the solar panels and display were both badly damaged, exposing the interior electric board. The PCSP Manager said she would explore other funding options and deployment timescales

PCSP Manager

Declaration of Interest

Cllr E McGinley declared an interest in relation to CCTV as she is a member of the CCTV Partnership.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PCSP MEMBERS ON MANAGER'S REPORT

Training for PCPS Chair and Vice-Chair

Ald Guy referred to the up-coming training for the Chair and Vice-Chair on 12th March and suggested it would be beneficial for the new Chair and Vice-Chair to attend.

The question was also asked if it would be worth offering the training to all members.

The Chair stated he would look at dates. He said it would be good to do the training after the AGM of the new partnership. The training is online so members should be able to attend.

JSA Accountability Meetings

Ald Guy stated he remembered attending one of these sessions and he thought the faces were blurred out, although PSNI confirmed this was not the case.

The issue was recently brought up in Council by an elected member. Ald Guy asked if faces could be blurred out. He said PCSP were there to hold PSNI accountable. He had thought it had been very helpful and he had not seen anything untoward and thought it should be open to all.

Supt Calderwood said that on the back of the Council meeting it was thought it was prudent to take a step back. Certain legislation must be followed and PSNI are currently seeking legal advice. It will take time and effort to go through the right department in relation to blurring out faces. Supt Calderwood confirmed that PSNI does not choose the videos, PCSP members choose them randomly for transparency. It would not be possible to blur out faces in every video and there are a few things that need to be worked through.

CI Luke Moyne confirmed he had been leading on these and it was a useful exercise for accountability and a key aspect was the random selection. The issue is how to do it effectively, what are the identifying factors, speech, and names. Legally PSNI have explained that. He stated they were pretty much confident what they were doing was legal and transparent. CI Moyne informed members a review was on-going but he was keen to get it back up and running. There was a need to afford members random selection.

Karl Duncan stated he found the JSA Accountability Meetings interesting to see how it worked, however he asked if PCSP members had ever received training on JSA powers.

The PCSP Manager stated this had come about from an evaluation and recommendation report compiled by Marie Breen-Smyth, which had been presented to PCSP members a number of years ago. One of the recommendations from that report was that members would have the opportunity to meet with PSNI as part of JSA accountability. The PCSP Manager confirmed that she would follow this up with Marie Breen-Smyth.

PCSP Manager

Graffiti

Ald Guy queried if funding was allocated for graffiti removal on private walls in prominent places. He mentioned concerns about graffiti which was exposed in the Waterside area due to a building being recently demolished.

The PCSP Manager confirmed that a Graffiti Removal Scheme is in place, which is an agreement between Council and Probation Board NI. She advised that the scope of this scheme is quite restricted, as it does not include the removal of graffiti from business premises.

Ald Guy referred to the scope of the scheme and said they do not touch pebble-dashed walls, or sectarian/paramilitary graffiti.

The Chair confirmed he would have a more in-depth conversation with the PCSP Manager.

Chair/PCSP Manager

LED Lights

Michaela Boyle welcomed the PCSP Manager back. She referred to LED lights on cars and queried how Traffic Police were dealing with this. She requested more clarity on the over-use of LED lights on cars.

The Chair stated it would be helpful to get clarity going forward re LED lights on cars.

Supt Calderwood stated there was specific legislation with a number of specific parameters for LED lights. An answer would be sought and members informed accordingly.

PSNI

MOT

Michaela Boyle referred to a public consultation on MOT that was currently open. She asked if MOT was to change to 2 years would PSNI have a more enhanced role to play with regards to road safety, eg, checking tyres, etc. Every year an MOT assured the driver that all was above board with the car. The question was asked would PSNI take up more resources and was there work ongoing in that area?

Supt. Calderwood stated that with regards to MOT the public have to wait a long time for an appointment, which is one of the reasons for the consultation. There hopefully will be 7 new MOT centres with maybe one in Campsie. Local MOT Centres are finding it hard to get through the current number of MOTs. It was confirmed that as long as tax is in date and a date is secured for MOT then it is legal to drive your car. Every driver has a responsibility for their car to be roadworthy and fit for purpose.

NW Scheme

Cathal Crumley welcomed the PCSP Manager back into her role. He referred to the NW Scheme within the report and asked where the schemes were located, along with names of co-ordinators. He said he was interested in their work, the role of NW schemes in general, and wanted access to the newsletter. He queried how PCSP Members could work better with NW Co-ordinators. For some reason nobody knows who they are and what their remit is. He said there was an opportunity for collaborative work. Any further information would be welcomed on the NW Scheme.

The PCSP Manager stated she would check the list and said the names of the Schemes could be provided. The aim of NW is to provide reassurance in areas where residents are living in fear. Each scheme has a co-ordinator, who acts a conduit between residents and PSNI, e.g. if someone sees something suspicious in their area, they might share it with a NW Co-ordinator who could then take the information back to PSNI, which in turn provides reassurance to those in neighbourhoods.

The PCSP Manager informed members that some home insurance companies offer a discount for homes who are part of a NW scheme. NW Co-ordinators have the linkage with local community and PSNI.

PCSP Manager

DSPCSP 06/25

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

The PCSP Manager referred members to Page 39 of the Strategic Assessment which had been updated to reflect guidance from DOJ/NIPB on allocation of funding

The PCSP Manager advised that if members are content with the Strategic Assessment and Action Plan, these need to be proposed and seconded before they are submitted to DOJ/NIPB.

Proposed by: Cllr Emma McGinley

Seconded by: Ald Darren Guy

The Chair thanked the team for their work on this.

DSPCSP 07/25

Community Safety Wardens' Reports

The PCSP Manager referred members to the CSW reports and highlighted the inclusion of case studies at the back.

Ald Keith Kerrigan said there did not appear to be Wardens in Castlederg/Newtownstewart areas and that there was a low uptake in the rural areas of Sperrin, Derg, and Strabane. He referred to the report and stated that Castlederg had one visit and Newtownstewart had 2 visits. He added that there have been break-ins with the Primary School and Nurser and he knew there was engagement with PSNI's Neighbourhood Team but there was a lack of CSW in that area.

The PCSP Manager confirmed that in terms of Derry and Strabane she knows the visits are based on requests and stated that community engagement may not be as strong in that area. She advised that the wardens are based in Skeoge Industrial Estate and had a huge geographical area to cover, however she would request that the Wardens extend their patrols and increase their

presence in the areas mentioned, although it may only be a drive through.

PCSP Manager

DSPCSP 08/25 NIPB Consultation on New Corporate Plan 2025-2030

The closing date for NIPB Consultation on the new Corporate Plan 2025-2030 is 03.03.25. It was agreed that the PCSP Manager would circulate a draft to all members and submit to NIPB before the closing date.

PCSP Manager

DSPCSP 09/25 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Drug Education Programmes

Karl Duncan asked PSNI were the Drug Education Programmes being reviewed for drugs used at this current time and did they agree with it being reviewed?

Supt Calderwood said it was always good to get feedback. The environment changes on an annual basis and it was important to stay ahead of the game. PSNI used to have a bespoke programme. Things have now changed and PSNI relies on schools to come to them where a bespoke programme is created for the school in question, eg, the focus could be the internet. PSNI link with schools to see what is best for them.

Supt Calderwood mentioned that CI Moyne carried out a phenomenal amount of work on a comic book. He worked with young people on the comic and with a designer for months. The comic is now being used and is remarkably effective.

Currently there is a Ketamine culture which previously it was vapes. PSNI have to look at how we get the message out to young people. The platforms we use are described as platforms for old people; PSNI must be innovative to communicate and get the message out there.

In relation to the comic book, CI Moyne worked with Danny McLaughlin in getting two youth clubs together, the Fountain and Pennyburn Youth Clubs. Issues discussed were the concern for paramilitary groups and drugs with the criminal element drawing them into crime. The end result was the comic book, both in hard copy and digital.

The young people said they tell us information but we do not listen. PSNI worked with them and discussed drug addiction, death, paramilitary issues. The Comic book was the end product with stories by the children.

In relation to EVAWG, PSNI would like to complete a similar programme together with boys and girls regarding EVAWG. Unfortunately, funding is required for that. PSNI have to review and adapt every process and procedure.

ClIr Emma McGinley requested that PSNI share the Comic with PCSP Members. The PSNI agreed to email the comic to members.

PSNI

DSPCSP 10/25 Date of Next Meeting

The next PCSP Meeting has been arranged for 25.03.25 in Council Chamber, Guildhall.

The meeting ended at 11.15am.

Policing and Community Safety Partnership Meeting

**PCSP Meeting 25 February 2025
Council Chamber, Strabane**

ACTIONS

DSPCSP 04/25, Pg1	E-Scooters – PSNI confirmed a presentation on E-Scooters would be included at the PCSP Public Meeting in May 2025.	PSNI
DSPCSP 04/25, Pg1	Slideshow on Crime – it was confirmed that PSNI would circulate the slideshow to members.	PSNI
DSPCSP 05/25, Pg3	Conflict of Interest Declarations Email reminder sent to members for completion and return forms as a matter of urgency.	PCSP Members
DSPCSP 05/25, Pg4	CCTV - Meeting with DoJ/NIPB to explore funding opportunities for CCTV. Report to be issued to H&C Committee in April 2025. Members to be kept up to date.	PCSP Manager
DSPCSP 05/25, Pg5	Stop & Search Powers Review of process of JSA Accountability Panels. Members to be kept up to date of possible re-instatement of these meetings.	PSNI
DSPCSP 05/25, Pg5	SIDs - PCSP Manager to explore other funding options and deployment timescales.	PCSP Manager
DSPCSP 05/25, Pg6	JSA Accountability Meetings - PCSP Manager to follow up if there was training re JSA Accountability Meetings as part of part of induction onto PCSP.	PCSP Manager
DSPCSP 05/25, Pg7	A more detailed conversation with the Chair and PCSP Manager re graffiti being exposed due to a demolished building.	PCSP Chair/Manager
DSPCSP 05/25, Pg7	LED Lights - Supt Calderwood stated there was specific legislation with a number of specific parameters for LED lights. An answer would be sought and members informed accordingly.	PSNI
DSPCSP05/25 Pg8	NH Scheme – Further information to be provided on the role of NH schemes, where the schemes are located and the names of co-ordinators. A copy of the NHW newsletter to be provided to PCSP Members.	PCSP Manager
DCPCSP 07/25 Pg9	CSW – wardens are asked to include patrols in Castlederg and Newtownstewart.	PCSP Manager
DSPCSP 08/25, Pg8	NIPB Consultation on New Corporate Plan 2025-2030 – Draft response to be issued to all members and submitted to NIPB by closing date of 03.03.25.	PCSP Manager
DSPCSP 08/25, Pg9	Drug Education Programmes – PSNI to share Comic with PCSP Members.	PSNI