

**Minutes of
Policing and Community Safety Partnership Meeting**

**Tuesday 24 June 2025
Council Chamber, Strabane**

Present: Cathal Crumley, Cllr Sandra Duffy, Karl Duncan, Declan Gallagher (EANI), Ald Darren Guy, Cllr Christopher Jackson, David Jackson, Ald Keith Kerrigan (Chair), Cllr Fergal Leonard, Cllr Emma McGinley, Mr Patsy McGonagle, Karen McLaughlin, Ald Niree McMorris, Cllr Antaine O’Fearghail, Caroline Quigley (NIHE), Cllr Martin Reilly, Paul Ryan (YJA), Alison Wallace, and Linda Watson.

PSNI: Supt William Calderwood and CI Luke Moyne.

In Attendance at Meeting: Ciara Bond, Aileen Murphy, and Vanessa Russell.

DSPCSP 29/25 Apologies:

Cllr John Boyle, Ms Marie Brown, and Ms Denise Stewart (PBNI).

DSPCSP 30/25 Chairperson’s Business

Ald Keith Kerrigan (Chair) welcomed all members to his first PCSP meeting as Chair and introduced Karl Duncan as the new Vice Chair for the next year.

The Chair requested that if members had any issues to raise under Chair’s Business or AOB, that they bring this to the attention of PCSP Officers, himself as Chair, or the Vice Chair prior to the meeting.

The Vice Chair thanked the independent members who had elected him. He stated he was looking forward to working with everybody in making the community in Derry and Strabane a safer place.

DSPCSP 31/25 Approval of Minutes of PCSP Meeting of 27/05/25 PCPM 09/25-17/25

Proposed: Ald Niree McMorris

Seconded: Cllr Emma McGinley

DSPCSP 32/25 Matters Arising

Violence in interface areas

There was a lengthy discussion with regards to interface violence in the Waterside and Fountain areas.

Cllr E McGinley said Police were heavy handed in certain areas, 14 land rovers used, and homes in a specific area were ignored with no duty of care. She stated the response should be proportionate. She condemned the attacks and said the situation needed tackled.

DSPCSP 33/25
cont'd

PSNI responded by saying they were disappointed that after 2 weeks of violence in NI they faced 5 hours of petrol bombs and paint bombs. Supt Calderwood acknowledged that due to miscommunication on Monday night that there was a closure at Butcher's Gate. The violence that PSNI had to face was ridiculous.

Any action taken was proportionate and Police understand the impact of their actions; they were only there as people were intent on disorder and violence. Supt Calderwood said Police who were on the front line have homes and families. He stated Police could not be blamed for what happened.

It was confirmed that in relation to miscommunication re Nailor's Row/Fountain officers were spoken to.

Police had information from the community that some people were going to attempt to drive people out of the Fountain once and for all. Youths were seen on CCTV walking towards Nailor's Row and attacked PSNI with petrol bombs, paint bombs and fireworks which had been for the Fountain area. He said that 17 officers were injured and there had been 13 arrests on Monday and Tuesday night at Nailor's Row.

In relation to incidents in Galliagh, there was full engagement with Insp Robb. There were approximately 70 youths with items burning on the road and had petrol bombs with the attempt to draw Police in. it was an issue for residents in the area. PSNI were able to stay out of the area as they watched via drone.

Chf Supt Calderwood stated that attempts had been made to contact PCSP members and other community reps, but they did not get a response. If PSNI had not intervened the youths would have attacked the Fountain. He said the Police provided a buffer and cannot be blamed for people being intimidated.

Chf Supt Calderwood said officers cannot be put into a situation like this without protection, i.e. by wearing fire retardant suits and using shields; they need to keep officers safe to go home to their families. Police were able to wait in some of the areas until things calmed down and then withdraw.

Engagement took place with community representatives and youths in Tullyalley where Police and community representatives were able to get the youths to take off masks and demonstrate peacefully. The youths were more worried about their faces being on Social Media. Buses were still able to service the area.

Cllr Reilly stated that the public needed to see an explanation for the differences in methods used in each area.

Further discussion took place on:

- People responsible for incidents had exploited young people to show division in areas to mask their own criminal activity
- Police were not there to protect homes in Currynerin that were attacked
- Land rovers that were used, which antagonised the young people
- Community reps have worked with people for a long time to gain the trust of PSNI
- There is a rise in sectarianism; collectively it needs stamped out
- There was positivity in how things were dealt with in the Galliagh area between Police and community reps where a discussion took place with an agreed approach
- Social Media sensationalised everything
- Concerns were relayed from the community to Councillors that they were not being listened to

DSPCSP 33/25
cont'd

Chf Supt Calderwood informed members that PSNI are always accountable for their actions and face hard questions. They are not to blame for what happened; they would rather be going into communities and working with them. Police are caught up in this and they are trying to stop the violence in NI.

Police tried to de-escalate events on Friday night and withdrew but they had to go back in at 11pm as it changed dramatically. There were approximately 100 spectators and the violence escalated again. Houses had been attacked which should not have happened; they were intent on getting Police in. Sometimes PSNI do not get it right. Chf Supt Calderwood stated he was thankful for the presence of the Community Representatives.

Chf Supt Calderwood referred to Monday and Tuesday nights which were clearly orchestrated as there was disorder for over 5 hours. They are not aware who organised these sinister elements. The gap was when PSNI made several calls but there was no answer. He stated that this gap cannot happen again.

CI Luke Moyné stated:

- **Fountain/Nailor's Row** - PSNI were aware of what was going to happen and the priority was to de-escalate the situation
- He was aware Cllr E McGinley spoke to Sergeant
- Whilst he was not involved in the operation on Tuesday, the Area Commander requested that community representatives were contacted but there was no response. The area was an unfortunate location. Police can only hold/push people away on foot. There were 2 separate groups with one group who had petrol bombs where they had to be held at Alexander House.
- **Galliagh Incidents** – Cons R Robb was instructed to contact all community representatives. Engagement was pivotal in the decision not to go in and the community would be supported
- Police knew who orchestrated the violence and when the disorder ended, they looked to be the saviours
- Everything has been taken on board, feedback has been important, to help how they will deal with it the next time. Police will look at those responsible
- The breakdown of communication had put officers at risk; conversations need to take place. This cannot happen with phones being turned off
- Petrol bombs, paint bombs, and masonry were thrown at Police and whilst actions can impact trust, the disorder was going to happen. It was clear they were going to attack the Fountain and they had weaponry on them
- Issue intensified and petrol bombs, paint bombs and fireworks were thrown at the legs of officers with clear efforts made to try and dismantle shields
- The sequence of the events is really important

Cllr McGinley stated that it was after 3.5 hrs (at 10pm) that she got a phone call and felt there was a lack of communication.

Flags

A discussion of flags being erected took place with members giving an update of community concerns.

Cllr C Jackson – calls had been received in relation to flags being erected in the Waterside area who do not usually have this type of activity, and it is causing interface tensions. Residents in the Hillock area feel intimidated as young people are being used to erect paramilitary flags. Previously a meeting was held to tackle the flags issue but some elected representatives did not attend. Residents want a multi-agency approach. Cllr Jackson appealed to members and requested that they work together to support the residents of 'The Hillocks' area, Altnagelvin.

DSPCSP 33/25
cont'd

Cllr M Reilly – numerous emails received from residents concerned about flags in Ivy Mead with paramilitary names and paraphernalia attached. Different methods were used before in relation to flags. There has been no consultation and residents have flags outside their front door when they have no affiliation with these flags, and this causes issues. He added that there needs to be some response to this, he is conscious that the assembly is in operation and there has been some attempt via the assembly to bring in legislation. He said that people should be able to express their culture, but not the promotion of paramilitary groups to exercise fear or control over a population who do not want to be connected to this.

Ald N McMorris – last year she obtained machinery and removed flags. She is currently working collaboratively with agencies and has funding this year for a Flag Forum re protocol and flags. Ald McMorris stated she wanted to address this but stated that some communities were intent on paramilitary flags. She would not want to live like that and confirmed she would tackle this to clean it up as nobody should feel intimidated. She confirmed that the first meeting of the Flag Forum was to take place on the evening of 24/06/25 with the stakeholders from the focus areas which include Nelson Drive, New Buildings and Tullyalley. The consensus would be 'no flags' but if they put them up then a certain timeframe should be followed to take them down. It is hoped this will be resolved and that all are working from the same page. She stated that at this moment she does not believe, at this stage, that people from other political parties or Police should attend in order to build relationships and not act as a barrier. If the process flows so that all are bought into it, hopefully it will eradicate the flags.

Ald Guy - said that 2 years ago more sinister flags had been erected in The Hillocks area which is a private housing estate; they would be erected and taken down at specific times. Typically flags would be erected on 01/07/25 and taken down at the end of August. He agreed that issues re flags are better dealt with in own communities.

Cllr C Jackson – wished Ald McMorris good luck for the Forum and hoped there would be a positive outcome with the views of the residents being given consideration. There are also issues in the Triangle area and Shepherd's Glenn, Waterside, where they are expected to accept the flags in the area which then becomes a flash point. He confirmed there were no segregated parts of the DEA and anybody within the Waterside should be represented. He stated that all PCSP Members needed to get out of the mindset of 'your area, my area'. The old days are not coming back and all were needed to work together on this.

Independent member, Alison Wallace confirmed she had received funding from a Good Relations application to deal with the flags issue and would be happy to meet with Cllr Jackson re engagement with residents. She said that this application would be going to full Council and hoped it would be approved. She agreed Cllr Jackson to look at the application re flags and to let her know if he had any queries on it.

Cllr N McMorris said she would go to the Forum as a community worker and not as DUP representative as that would bring a different viewpoint to it. The flags are something we are all aware of and trying to get consensus with it by engaging with people in the community where some do not consent to flags. All voices within the community must be heard. The problem must be tackled and our communities are affected when violence erupts. Cllr McMorris said she would put the utmost into this to get some areas involved.

Supt W Calderwood stated that PSNI would continue to engage and NH Teams have been assigned to it. He agreed that the issue should sit with the community first and foremost. There will obviously be times that Police will need to intervene, take part, and act, when necessary, to support communities.

PCSP Action Plan/Budget 2025-2026

The Letter of Offer confirming the allocation to Derry and Strabane PCSP for the delivery of the Action Plan for 2025/2026 has issued by the Joint Committee on 19.05.25 for £441,496. In addition to this, the Department of Justice has confirmed they will provide funding of £3,600 for each Support Hub in the 2025/2026 financial year.

PCSP Facebook Page

PCSP FB Page is used to inform and engage with the community in relation to policing and community safety initiatives. It is also used to share information on local and regional campaigns, funding opportunities, and much more. Followers on PCSP FB page have increased to over 2,000.

Conflict of Interest Declarations

New forms have been emailed to members for 2025/2026 and all members were asked to complete and return the forms by 30 June 2025.

Meeting Expense Payments/Travel Claims – PCSP Members

Members were asked to complete their Expense Claim Forms monthly and bring to the PCSP meeting to be processed for payment in a timely manner.

Small Project Support 2025/26 – Open Call

The total amount of funding allocated to the Open Call process is £30,000. To be eligible for funding under the PCSP Open Call, applicants were advised that they must deliver their project across the entire Council area, i.e. it must be delivered in all 8 District Electoral Areas (DEAs) as follows: Ballyarnett, Derg, Faughan, Foyleside, Moor, Sperrin, Strabane Town and Waterside.

PCSP received a total of 4 completed applications requesting support of £36,580.00. Officers assessed the applications and a recommendation table was presented and approved at the Policing Committee Meeting on Tuesday 27 May 2025. It was recommended funding would be allocated as follows:

Group Name	Score	Rank	Eligible funding	Funding Awarded
Shantallow Community Residents Association	100	1	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
Kabosh	93	2	£9,930.00	£9,930.00
Have Your Tomorrows (HURT)	78	3	£7,560.00	£7,560.00
City Centre Initiative (CCI)	63	4	£5,800.00	£2,510.00
TOTALS			£36,580.00	£30,000.00

Since that meeting, City Centre Initiative (CCI) have declined the offer of funding as they are unable to deliver the project with the amount of funding provided. This leaves an underspend of £2,510.00 and as the other 3 applicants have received the maximum eligible funding, this cannot be re-allocated to another group.

DSPCSP 34/25
cont'd

PCSP staff will work to utilise this funding for other projects within our Action Plan under the themes of youth engagement and ASB.

Letters of Offer have been issued to successful applicants and project delivery will commence as soon as possible, in line with the timeframe identified in each application. The Chairperson will be invited to attend events over the next few months.

Consensual Grant Aid 2025/2026

As part of the PCSP Action Plan 2025/2026, PCSP agreed to allocate £181,600 of funding to the 8 Local Growth Partnership Boards in the Council area using the consensual grand aid model. Action Plans were considered and approved by PCSP members at the Policing Committee Meeting on 27 May 2025. Letters of Offer have now been issued to all Local Growth Partnerships and project delivery will commence over the summer months.

Campaigns/Initiatives

Community Safety Wardens have dealt with 134 referrals from members of the public and 114 referrals from statutory agencies, equating to 248 referrals in total between 01/04/25 ad 31/05/25. They have also provided 2,627 patrols of ASB hotspot areas. External funding towards CSW Scheme 2025/2026 has been confirmed as follows:

Funder	Purpose	Allocation	Status
DfC	Community Safety Wardens Scheme	£43,970	Confirmed
NIHE	Community Safety Wardens Scheme	£40,000	Application submitted
University of Ulster	Community Safety Wardens Scheme	£25,000	Confirmed
Apex Housing	Community Safety Wardens Scheme	£5,000	Confirmed
TOTAL Funding		£113,970	

RAPID Drugs Bins

PCSP have facilitated the installation of 23 RAPID Drug Bins across the city and district. Staff from PCSP, PHA, and PSNI are currently working to implement the new joint protocol which will ensure that bins are emptied in a timely and safe manner and that up-to-date information is available on the types of items that are removed from those bins. Latest information provided by PHA indicate that the most common prescription medications deposited in the bins (across NI) during 2024/2025 were as follows:

Drug Name	Cateogry
Codeine	Opiate
Diazepam	Nerve/Anxiety
Duloxetine	Nerve/Anxiety
Gabapentin	Nerve/Anxiety
Lyrica	Nerve/Anxiety
Seroquel	Anti-Psychotic
Tramadol	Opiate

DSPCSP 34/25
cont'd

Home Security

The PCSP continues to provide and arrange the fitting of home security equipment for victims of crime and elderly and vulnerable residents. From 01/04/25 to 31/05/25, 22 homes in the city and district were supplied and fitted with additional home safety equipment to help reduce fear of crime and feel safer in their own homes.

Members were encouraged to contact the PCSP office if they are aware of any residents within the council area who would benefit from these products.

Neighbourhood Watch

There are currently 44 NHW Schemes within the council area, covering approximately 3,500 homes. Recent meetings were held in May 2025 and future meetings are due to take place in the Autumn. PCSP Members are invited to attend these meetings and will be informed of dates once secured.

CCTV

From 01/04/25 – 31/03/25 CCTV has dealt with 505 missing person reports, 212 attempted suicides, and 857 suicide welfare concerns.

The Executive Office has confirmed funding of £76,827.35 for 2025/2026. Officers will continue to liaise with potential funders to secure additional funding towards the CCTV scheme.

Road Safety

The PCSP currently has 2 Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) available for placement at locations across the city and district. Members were asked to submit requests for deployment to the PCSP office. Current locations are Donemana PS, Longland Road; and Ardstraw Jubilee PS, Deerpark Road.

The is working in partnership with PSNI to deliver a **Bike Safe Event** in St Columb's Park House on 04/07/25. The format of the event includes a workshop on how to bike safety, followed by a 'ride-out' with PSNI trained officers.

PCSP are also working in partnership with PSNI to deliver a **Road Safe Roadshow** for Autumn 2025. It is hoped it will be delivered in the University of Ulster, Magee. Members will be kept updated with finalised date.

PCSP will continue to work in partnership with PSNI to deliver **Trailer Marking Events** throughout 2025/2026. Once dates have been secured, members will be kept informed.

Policing Committee Meetings

The next PCSP Policing Committee is scheduled for Tuesday 29 July 2025, when the District Commander will deliver the quarter 1 performance report for 2025/2026.

Support Hub

The Support Hub last met on 03/06/25. Since its establishment in August 2016, the Support Hub has dealt with over 335 referrals.

DSPCSP 34/25
cont'd

Issues Arising from PCSP Manager's Report

Cllr Reilly said that the social media efforts were important, given the time of year with schools closing for summer. He suggested that it may be appropriate to share CSW contact details to the wider community at this time.

PCSP Manager

Cllr Reilly also mentioned ASB along the Waterside Greenway, ie, Waterfoot Park. He asked if the CSW could add this to their taskings and thanked PSNI for their response to this.

PCSP Manager

Ms Alison Wallace gave her apologies as she had to leave the meeting early.

DSPCSP 35/25

PCSP Annual Report 2024-2025

The PCSP Manager referred to the Annual Report which gives a synopsis of what the PCSP has delivered over the previous financial year.

Reference was made to the following errors within the report:

- Antaine O'Feaghail and Sinn Fein - fada to be inserted.
- Sandra Duffy – Cllr to be inserted before name within report.

These were noted to be changed within the report.

PCSP Co-ordinator

The PCSP Annual Report 2024-2025 was proposed by Ald Darren Guy and seconded by Cllr Emma McGinley.

DSPCSP 36/25

Q&A from Chief Inspector Celeste Simpson, Roads Policing

Driving under the influence of drugs – Ald Guy referred to the new process in place to check drivers under the influence of drugs. He asked if there has been an increase in the number of people being caught and charged.

Response – CI Simpson explained that under the legislation, PSNI can only drug test if someone is displaying signs that they are unfit to drive. She explained that approximately half of the people tested were positive (50/100) and that the pilot has been extended for another year. She added that PSNI are working with DFI to introduce the necessary legislation and that approximately 80 officers are trained on the use of the drug wipes.

CI Moyne stated that the pilot has been successful and that is why it is being extended. He explained that different police forces have different types of drugs they can test for, e.g. English Police can test for 8 substances, but currently PSNI can only test for cocaine and cannabis.

Mobile Phones - The Vice Chair, Mr K Duncan mentioned the rise in the use of mobile phones by drivers. He asked what was required to have the powers to address the issue? Could a campaign be developed to stay off your phone?

Response – Roads policing and officers try to enforce this issue through education first and foremost. An all-state digital campaign is being developed.

Two types of Drugs Tested - Mr D Jackson stated he was aware that there are currently only 2 Roads Education Officers (REOs) and asked if this will increase. He also asked if the potential to upload dashcam footage is an option.

DSPCSP 36/25
cont'd

Response – CI Simpson confirmed there are only 2 REOs at present, however PSNI is looking to see how they can increase this given the financial constraints PSNI are facing. She added that PSNI will deliver as much as they can with the resourcing available and that PSNI are hoping to deliver kids' courts more frequently. She explained that dashcam footage is in relation to Operation Snap where the public can submit dashcam footage of traffic offences to PSNI, however resourcing is an issue at present.

Breathalyser - Cllr O'Fearthail mentioned a device used by An Garda Siochana (AGS) to detect the type of drug used as well as alcohol.

Response – CI Simpson stated she was not aware of this, but that PSNI were always reviewing equipment; they are currently looking at new breathalyser but it will not have that capacity. She confirmed she would discuss this with AGS at the next Cross Border Forum, however legislation may be required to use a device like this.

Road Safety - Cllr Reilly referred to incidents over the past few of months re E-Scooters and similar devices. The issue is prevalent in the City and he said it was a good opportunity to use stats. Any information re legislation would be welcomed. Public are using these on public property and greenways. He mentioned the good news story when police acted and seized quad bikes.

He queried if there were any updates or information re E-Scooters and similar devices.

Response – CI Simpson said there was no specific legislation to tackle e-scooters in NI. She added that PSNI are aligning themselves to a pilot in GB, and that currently they are following DfI advice as they don't have the specific legislation to deal with it and officers have to look at each incident on a case by case basis.

A6 Issues – Ms L Watson referred to digital messages along the A6 approaching the City and asked if PSNI could work with DfI to use this to get various messages to motorists re mobile phone usage or drink/drug driving?

Response - CI Simpson stated that Operation Lifesaver used this before and it was received well. She said this would be fed back to Traffic Management officers so that this can be carried out again.

PSNI

Donegal Rally – Mr P McGonagle referred to the recent Donegal rally and said that for 5/6 weeks after there are cars in the centre of town and up and down streets. He asked if there are any plans to address this.

Response – CI L Moyne stated they were working in collaboration with AGS re the Donegal rally and one motorbike, one car and one scrambler had been seized. He added that PSNI made 2 arrests, 2 detections for no insurance and 2 for driving with no licence. Tickets were issued to 2 drivers who were driving dangerously. One vehicle was not apprehended but registration was noted.

The NPT's were informed about racing in and around the town centre. There is an operation this weekend which is to be more extensive. PSNI did not have the resources to deal with it and had to abandon focus on the Donegal Rally as they could not deal with it properly due to violence in other parts of NI. CI Moyne said it was useful to have the road safety operation with AGS.

DSPCSP 36/25
cont'd

Damage to Vehicles - The Chairperson stated that a lot of cars and tractors at rural junctions had been damaged due to cars racing/doughnuts in the middle of the road. They are getting away with it in rural areas and if resources are not in town, then the rural areas will not get the resources either.

Cl C Simpson said a small team were trying their best to deal with the issues but resourcing is an issue. She advised that 60 people were detected speeding on the A5 on Saturday.

DSPCSP 37/25

PCSP Draft Meeting Schedule (July 2025-July 2026)

Members were referred to the draft Meeting Schedule within the meeting documents for the next year.

DSPCSP 38/25

Community Safety Wardens' Report

Members were referred to the CSW Reports for both April 2025 and May 2025.

DSPCSP 39/25

Any Other Business

Response from Dept of Health – Karl Duncan asked had there been any response from the letter issued to the Health Minister.

The PCSP Manager confirmed that no reply had been received to date, however it will be distributed to members once it has been received.

PCSP Manager

HGVs in Clady Village

Cllr A O'Feaghail stated that HGVs are banned from Clady Main Street, however they are still driving through this area. He stated that this is an issue for residents in that area and people think it is being neglected.

CS Calderwood stated that he will assign this to NH officers in that area and ask them to monitor the area.

PSNI

DSPCSP 40/25

Date of Next Meeting

The next PCSP Meeting has been arranged for 25 July 2025 in the Council Chamber, Guildhall at 10.00am.

The meeting ended at 12.00 noon.

Policing and Community Safety Partnership Meeting

PCSP Meeting 26 June 2025

ACTIONS

DSPCSP 34/25 Page 8	Cllr Reilly suggested that it may be appropriate to share CSW information to the wider community via Facebook at this time when schools were closing for the summer period.	PCSP Manager
DSPCSP 34/25 Page 8	Community Safety Wardens to add the Waterside Greenway at Waterfoot Park to their taskings to address ASB issues in the area.	PCSP Manager
DSPCSP 35/25 Page 8	PCSP Annual Report 2024-2025 – fada to be inserted in A O’Fearthail and Sinn Fein and Councillor to be inserted before Sandra Duffy’s name.	PCSP Co- ordinator
DSPCSP 36/25 Page 9	Digital messages along the A6 to highlight key issues, e.g. mobile phone use or drink/drug driving – CI Simpson to feed this back to Traffic Management for action.	PSNI
DSPCSP 39/25 Page 10	PCSP to forward response to members from Dept of Health, once received.	PCSP Manager
DSPCSP 39/25 Page 10	HGVs in Clady Village – PSNI NH Officers to monitor the area, as HGVs are not permitted to drive through the village.	PSNI