

# Minutes of Policing and Community Safety Partnership Special Meeting

**27 February 2024  
Council Chamber, Guildhall**

**Present:** Cllr Jason Barr, Mrs Mary Casey, Ms Deborah Cross (EA), Ald Darren Guy, Ald Keith Kerrigan, Cllr Christopher Jackson, Cllr Fergal Leonard, Cllr Emma McGinley, Ald Niree McMorris, Mr Paul Ryan (YJA), Ms Denise Stewart (PBNI), and Ms Linda Watson.

**PSNI:** Supt William Calderwood and CI Yvonne McManus.

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

**DSPCSP 10/24      Apologies**

Ms Jacqueline Doherty (WHSCT) and Cllr Antaine O'Fearthail.

**DSPCSP 11/24      Introduction and Welcome**

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

**DSPCSP 12/24      Approval of Minutes – Minutes of PCSP Special Meeting 06/02/24 (DSPCSP 01/24-09/24)**

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

**Proposed by:** Mrs Mary Casey

**Seconded by:** Cllr Emma McGinley

**DSPCSP 13/24      Matters Arising from Special Meeting 06/02/24**

**Funding from PSNI**

The PCSP Manager invited PSNI for an update.

CI Yvonne McManus informed members that ACC Singleton was aware of the issue and hopefully a response would be available sooner rather than later. Members to be kept informed.

**PSNI**

**Public PCSP Meetings**

The PCSP Manager informed members that they were considering holding a public meeting before June 2024.

**Approval of Draft PCSP Action Plan 2024/25**

The Action Plan was approved and was submitted to DoJ.

**CCTV in Sperrin and Derg DEA**

The PCSP Manager confirmed there were cameras in 5 locations in and around Strabane town (Abercorn Square, Railway Road, junction of Main Street/Castle Street, Upper Main Street and at the Asda Roundabout) and there were 2

cameras on the pedestrian bridge, giving a total of 7 cameras in Strabane town.

### **CCTV Monitoring Station Visit**

The PCSP Manager confirmed the monitoring station was undergoing an upgrade at present, but once this work is complete, a visit will be facilitated for members.

**PCSP Manager**

#### **DSPCSP 14/24      Approval of Minutes – Minutes of PCSP PC Meeting 06/02/24 (PCPM 01/24-07/24)**

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

**Proposed by:** Ald Niree McMorris

**Seconded by:** Cllr Emma McGinley

#### **DSPCSP 15/24      Matters Arising from PCSP PC Meeting 06/02/24**

##### **Use of Naloxone**

CI Yvonne McManus stated that she was awaiting an update from Belfast re the pilot scheme.

##### **Rural Crime**

CI McManus informed members she met with Mr Thomas Conway (Vice-Chair) in relation to a rural crime plan for machinery and livestock.

CI McManus said that last year there were 10 incidents of rural crime which had increased to 13 this year. Whilst the figures are quite low in comparison to other areas it was still a significant increase. She referred to a sum of £5,000 in which the Vice-Chair said may be available to put towards rural crime.

The PCSP Manager advised that the PCSP Action Plan for 2024/25 had allocated £5000 towards rural crime, however this was needed for the full year.

CI McManus confirmed that they had a shared plan with the Gardai in relation to rural crime.

Tackling rural crime by the PSNI was welcomed and PSNI were encouraged to do their best and provide controls in the area.

##### **Local Policing Plan**

Members were informed that the Local Policing Plan was on the Agenda and would be addressed later in the meeting.

#### **DSPCSP 16/24      Manager's Report**

The PCSP Manager took members through some of the issues within the report as follows:

**Quarter 3 Claim** was submitted for £259,320.17 to Joint Committee. QAs in previous years, most of the expenditure relating to projects is drawn down in quarter 4 so the PCSP is on track for full expenditure for 2023/24. She advised that PCSP staff are working closely with groups to ensure this target is met.

**Change Control** was submitted to the Joint Committee requesting permission to move £25,000 from SPS towards the shortfall in funding for CCTV and CSW

Scheme. She advised that this was approved on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

**Action Plan 2024/25** was approved by PCSP members and submitted to DOJ and NIPB for consideration. Members to be kept updated on the outcome.

#### PCSP Manager

**Recruitment of Independent Members** has not been finalised yet. Initially, there were 11 applications; the closing date was extended to 15/12/23, where sufficient applications were submitted. Shortlisting and interviews have taken place and NIPB will fulfil the last part of this process and advise the PCSP of new independent members as soon as these are confirmed.

**Conflict of Interest Declarations** – there are still four of these forms outstanding. Members that had been issued with a 'reminder email' were asked to return the form as soon as possible, as these are required as part of the PCSP audit.

**Small Project Support** allocated £195,000 in 2023/24. Members were referred to a table within the report which gave an overview of successful applicants with amounts awarded.

**Funding for CSW** has been secured from a number of external funders; DfC, NIHE, and UU, totalling £104,881.98. Warens from the City and Rural Scheme are providing some cover in Derg, Sperrin and Strabane Town.

**Rapid Bins** – 21 bins have been installed throughout the district. The PCSP Team are currently working to have an additional 2 bins installed which would bring the total to 23.

**Safer Homes Scheme** – members were reminded that PCSP provide home security equipment to victims of crime and vulnerable residents. Referrals can be made by contacting the PCSP office.

**Domestic Abuse** – PCSP are working with PSNI in the roll out of a CCTV scheme for those most at risk.

**CCTV Funding** – The Executive Office have increased their contribution to £67,248 this year, PSNI have contributed £75,000 and PCSP negotiated funding from PHA totalling £99,000. This is huge capital investment with regards to CCTV cameras and was welcome news.

**SID's** – it was confirmed that 4 Speed Indicator Devices were ready for deployment in March. Members were reminded to submit a request form if there are specific concerns about an area.

**New Driver NI** presentations have been delivered to 7 schools across the district which also provides each student in years 13/14 with a Guide for New Drivers.

**PSNI Roadsafe Roadshow** took place at the end of January in Foyle College with approximately 700 students attending from 8 schools in the district. This event is delivered in partnership with members of the emergency services.

**Trailer Marking Event** took place recently in Plumbridge, where 20 trailers were marked and this event attended by the PCSP Vice-Chair.

**Justice and Security Act: Stop and Search** – members attended Strand Road PSNI Station to scrutinise their use of these powers and have found these meetings very beneficial. A further 2 dates have been scheduled for 13/03/24 and 10/04/24. Members were advised to inform the PCSP Manager if they wished to attend any of these dates.

## DSPCSP 17/24

**Consensual Grant Aid Paper**

The PCSP Manager referred members to the Consensual Grant Aid paper which was circulated. She explained the background to this options paper and highlighted the main benefits of moving from an open call model to a consensual grant aid model.

The PCSP Manager also outlined how the funding would be allocated across the 7 DEAs and Strabane Town based on population/deprivation/rurality:

DEA	Allocation (Rounded up)
Council Wide Initiatives	£30,000
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
<b>TOTAL ALLOCATION</b>	<b>£171,600</b>

The PCSP Manager explained that in the previous 2 years, PCSP has allocated £30,000 for council wide initiatives as there are some groups who deliver programmes that span across all DEAs. As these are still priorities in the PCSP Action Plan, there must also be an opportunity for these types of programmes to be facilitated. The consensual grant aid model can only consider projects that are going to be delivered in that DEA, therefore the recommendation is that we advertise an open call process for council-wide initiatives. We will stipulate in the advert that the maximum funding available is £30,000 and that any projects applied for in this way must ensure that delivery is in all 8 DEAs, otherwise they will not be eligible.

The PCSP Manager stated that a decision was required at this meeting so that staff can progress with consensual grant aid for the 2024/25 year.

**Questions/Issues:**

**Administration Fee** – would delivery partners receive an administration fee as this would reduce the money to the group?

The PCSP Manager confirmed that anything that is excluded under the open call process would also be excluded from the consensual grant aid model. Currently administration/salaries/evaluations are not permitted so they would not be permitted under the consensual model, which means that any funding allocated will go on delivery of projects.

**Current Funding** – an independent member stated that currently PSNI and PCSP have a certain role to receive and identify who receives funding. It was stated, to give up that central role of independent and elected members sitting together to consult over who and what should get funded, would be seen as maybe an opportunity to throw away the responsibility from the PCSP Manager's office and to hand it over to Area Partnership to get rid of it.

PCSP currently have a role, a promotional tool, in which they can show the help given to communities and work carried out in communities that have been

successful.

The Chair responded and confirmed that as a partnership PCSP does not go through the application process to decide who gets funding; it is not PCSP as a committee, there is a process where applications are scored. With the Consensual Grant Aid it would be the Local Growth Partnership who would decide where funding should go based on the priorities in that area rather than through a scoring process. Groups would still be funded by PCSP. Local areas have views on where the money should go.

The PCSP Manager stated that under the consensual grant aid model, Local Growth Partnerships would decide where the need was greatest and agree what projects are needed to address these issues. She added that PCSP Staff would still be working closely with the partnerships to ensure that projects are delivered to meet the priorities of the PCSP.

Another representative stated she was in favour of it; it was good that local people would make the decisions. It was reassuring to have it confirmed that PCSP Co-ordinators had oversight on the projects.

It was felt it was a positive way forward. It was confirmed that each DEA would submit a draft Action Plan for consideration by the PCSP.

The Chairperson stated that most members were in favour of Consensual Grant Aid. She confirmed the area of Ballyarnett were in favour of moving forward so that money could be targeted where it was needed most.

It was agreed to progress with the Consensual Grant Aid Model for 2024/25:

**Proposed by:** Ald Niree McMorris

**Seconded by:** Ms Linda Watson

**Evidence in Application** - CI Y McManus referred to budgets and resourcing where needs are to be evidence based with clear evidence. What evidence do groups put/have to provide in their application?

The PCSP Manager said that currently groups applying must demonstrate how their project aligns to Local Growth Plan and to the priorities contained in the PCSP Action Plan. As part of this process, they must provide evidence of need. Under the consensual grant aid model, the Local Growth Partnerships will still have to provide this information. She added that PCSP staff will still be carrying out governance checks and that there should be less duplication in funding, as groups will have to work together to design the draft action plan for delivery.

**Link with Policing Plan** - CI McManus asked how this would be linked in with issues in the Policing Plan and how they would be addressed?

The PCSP Manager stated that groups will have to demonstrate how the proposed projects will address issues of community safety and/or improve confidence in policing. At the end of the project, groups will have to compile OBA information to demonstrate how much they did and how many people are better off as a result of the project.

**Duplication of Funding** – how do PCSP establish that there would be no duplication of funding?

The PCSP Manager stated it was less likely that there would be duplication of funding under the consensual grant aid model. She informed members that information on projects is also uploaded to the Government Funding Database so that cross-checking can be completed to negate against this risk.

**DSPCSP 18/24****Local Policing Plan**

CI Yvonne McManus referred members to the report and asked members to raise any issues/concerns. Issues raised as follows:

**Solution Based Approach** – from previous experience, it would be helpful to see this how PSNI have been doing the work over the past 3 years and how they are engaged with the community. For example, a quotation to say, “I engage because it brought me closer to decision-making”, or a quotation from a community member to say, “how it is a safer community”. Feedback may need to be anonymous. There is nothing in the plan to show how this is working.

CI McManus stated some information was in the report cards that are provided to the PCSP each quarter, including case studies. PSNI do have victim satisfaction surveys and said that the suggestions would be taken back as feedback. Overall, in the yearly plan PSNI would not go into individual cases. The result would be in the report card every quarter. CI McManus said it was a great suggestion.

Supt Calderwood said PSNI relied on this format of work and said that within the Plan there were a number of indicators, he said they relied on PCSP to give a steer. Members were referred to the last 12 months statistics which was an indicator what PSNI were doing well. A wider survey may be an idea; collaboration may be required.

CI McManus referred to confidence in policing and to children and young people stop and search powers. It may be an idea to have a conversation with the children and young people to get their thoughts on that and ask them if they are aware about human rights for children.

An independent member thanked PSNI for their response. If PSNI go into schools to engage with young people then PSNI need to show they are doing good (ie, refer to reductions, etc). It was felt this was missing.

**NH Teams & City Centre Issues** - the Chairperson said that in terms of NH Teams her area has a great relationship with the community, particularly over the last while, especially in and around Galliagh. There have been ongoing issues within the City Centre and videos were circulated over the last while of vulnerable people in the City. This was still a great concern.

CI McManus stated that temporary accommodation was still a factor. PSNI met with a women's group last week where they raised their own concerns. Issues have been taken on board. Purple flag is up in April, information would be gathered, it is a work in progress.

**DSPCSP 19/24****Community Safety Wardens' Reports**

Members were referred to the following reports:

- November 2023
- December 2023
- January 2024

**DSPCSP 20/24****PCSP Annual Effectiveness Report 2022/23**

Members were referred to the Annual Effectiveness Report for information. This included some of the work PCSP has carried out throughout NI, the achievements of PCSPs and their priorities, which was a good opportunity to replicate best practice initiatives.

**DSPCSP 21/24      Any Other Business**

There was no further business.

**DSPCSP 22/24      Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on **26 March 2024 in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, Derry.**

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and input at the meeting which ended at approximately 10.45 am.

## Policing and Community Safety Partnership Special Meeting

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### **ACTIONS**

<b>Pg 1</b> <b>DSPCSP 13/24</b>	<b>Funding from PSNI</b> Response from ACC Singleton on funding.	<b>PSNI</b>
<b>Pg 2</b> <b>DSPCSP 13/24</b>	<b>CCTV Monitoring Visit</b> Once work completed at monitoring station, visit to be arranged to members.	<b>PCSP Mgr</b>
<b>Pg 2</b> <b>DSPCSP 16/24</b>	<b>Manager's Report – Action Plan 2024/25</b> Members to be kept updated on outcome of submitted Action Plan.	<b>PCSP Mgr</b>