



Annual Report

1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

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. Twenty-eight community and voluntary groups across the city and district were provided with just under £200k of small project support 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. The PCSP was also able to provide support to a number of Local Growth Partnerships to enhance the community safety of their respective DEAs.

Over the past year the PCSP has provided 220 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.

2023/24 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 Sandra Duffy
PCSP Chair

Mr Thomas Conway
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 (WHSC), Education Authority for NI (EANI) and Probation Board for NI (PBNi). The Partnership was reconstituted on 15th June 2020 with 9 new independent members appointed by the NI Policing Board.

Areas of Responsibility

The PCSP accountability and responsibility is based on the 4 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 2011 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 seven female members (36.84%) and twelve male members (63.16%) 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, 10 SDLP, 5 DUP, 3 UUP, 3 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 9 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 before and after the Local Government Election.

Elected Members 01.04.23 to 18.05.23	Elected Members 18.05.23 to 31.03.24
Councillor Michaela Boyle (Sinn Féin) Councillor Christopher Jackson (Sinn Féin) Councillor Emma McGinley (Sinn Féin) Councillor Jason Barr (SDLP) Councillor John Boyle (SDLP) Councillor Martin Reilly (SDLP) Alderman Maurice Devenney (DUP) Alderman Keith Kerrigan (DUP) Alderman Drew Thompson Alderman Darren Guy (UUP) – PCSP Chair	Councillor Sandra Duffy (Sinn Féin) – PCSP Chair Councillor Christopher Jackson (Sinn Féin) Councillor Fergal Leonard (Sinn Féin) Councillor Emma McGinley (Sinn Féin) Councillor Antaine O Fearghail (Sinn Féin) Councillor Jason Barr (SDLP) Councillor John Boyle (SDLP) Alderman Keith Kerrigan (DUP) Alderman Niree McMorris (DUP) Alderman Darren Guy (UUP)

¹ NI Census, NISRA, 2021

Two independent members of Derry and Strabane PCSP stood for election at the Local Government Election in May 2023 and were returned as Councillors, therefore they are could no longer serve as independent members of the PCSP. The table below illustrates the independent members of the PCSP before and after the Local Government Election.

Independent Members 01.04.23 to 18.05.23	Independent Members 18.05.23 to 31.03.24
Mr Paul Boggs – PCSP Vice-Chair Ms Mary Casey Mr Thomas Conway Mrs Margaret Hall Mr Fergal Leonard Mr Aodh McCay Ms Úna McCartney Mrs Jeanette Warke Ms Linda Watson	Ms Mary Casey Mr Thomas Conway – PCSP Vice-Chair Mrs Margaret Hall Mr Aodh McCay Ms Úna McCartney Mrs Jeanette Warke Ms Linda Watson

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
Mrs Jacqueline Doherty Mr Eddie Doherty Chief Superintendent Gillian Kearney Commander Andrew Russell Ms Colleen Heaney Ms Denise Stewart Ms Deborah Cross	Western Health and Social Care Trust (WHSC) 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 eleven 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 (2023/24) and provides a direct comparison with the previous year (2022/23).

Derry City & Strabane FYTD / PFYTD Comparison 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024	Total Offences Recorded			
	PFYTD 22/23	FYTD 23/24	Change	% Change
VICTIM-BASED CRIME	9950	9823	-127	-1.3%
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	5711	5402	-309	-5.4%
Homicide	1	1	0	0.0%
Death or serious injury caused by unlawful driving	11	6	-5	-45.5%
Violence with injury	1626	1655	29	1.8%
Violence without injury	2385	2240	-145	-6.1%
Stalking and Harassment	1688	1500	-188	-11.1%
SEXUAL OFFENCES	396	358	-38	-9.6%
Rape	121	113	-8	-6.6%
Other sexual offences	275	245	-30	-10.9%
ROBBERY	48	57	9	18.8%
Robbery of personal property	44	50	6	13.6%
Robbery of business property	4	7	3	75.0%
BURGLARY	279	285	6	2.2%
Burglary - Residential	214	223	9	4.2%
Burglary - Business & Community	65	62	-3	-4.6%
- Domestic burglary	0	0	0	0.0%
- Non-domestic burglary	0	0	0	0.0%
THEFT OFFENCES	1828	2041	213	11.7%
Theft from the person	18	24	6	33.3%
Vehicle offences	227	242	15	6.6%
Bicycle theft	24	31	7	29.2%
Shoplifting	726	769	43	5.9%
All other theft offences	833	975	142	17.0%
CRIMINAL DAMAGE	1688	1680	-8	-0.5%
OTHER CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	1318	1388	70	5.3%
DRUG OFFENCES	755	717	-38	-5.0%
Trafficking of drugs	116	117	1	0.9%
Possession of drugs	639	600	-39	-6.1%
POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OFFENCES	122	160	38	31.1%
PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	127	117	-10	-7.9%
MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	314	394	80	25.5%
(Not in Reference tables)	0	0	0	0.0%
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME - ALL OFFENCES (INCL UNDERCOUNT)	11268	11211	-57	-0.5%

⁴ Crime Summary Derry City and Strabane PSNI, March 2024

The table above shows that overall recorded crime for the Council area for 2023/24 decreased slightly by 0.5% which equates to 57 less recorded crimes in the city and district. This percentage decrease is lower than the NI figure which saw recorded crime reduce by 6.3% for the same period.

Anti-Social Behaviour for the Council area increased slightly by 0.2% when compared to the number of recorded ASB incidents for 2022/23. In 2023/24 there were 3776 recorded incidents of ASB recorded by PSNI as compared to 3770 recorded incidents for 2022/23 – an increase of 6 incidents. This increase is higher than the overall Northern Ireland figures, which had a decrease of 4.1% over the same period (43,358 incidents of ASB in 2023/24 compared to 47,301 incidents of ASB in 2022/23). Typically, ASB is higher for the first 6 months of the year (April to September) and then reduces significantly from October to March.

Section 2 – Our Strategic Priorities

The principle 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 & 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 & 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 received annual funding (£4.25m in 2023/24) 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 2023/24 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.

The NI Audit Office has also recognised the good work that we are doing with regard to using OBA and has included PCSPs as one of two case studies within the recently launched Performance Management for Outcomes good practice guide for public bodies – published in June 2018.

Section 3 – Engagement

Under the 2023/24 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 3 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 6 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 2 wardens who work from 12noon to 5pm Monday to Wednesday and from 5.30pm to 3.00am Thursday to Sunday. From October 2023, 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 3 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 2023/24 the Community Safety Warden scheme dealt with 2348 referrals. Of these referrals 37% emanated from the public (860 referrals) and the other 63% (1488 referrals) came from other statutory and voluntary partners. The Community Safety Wardens also carried out 17,391 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.



Community Safety Wardens providing advice to local residents



Community Safety Wardens engage with students at the University of Ulster

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 2023/24. 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 2023/24, 220 homes in the city and district were supplied and fitted with additional home safety equipment through the PCSP.

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.



The Chair of Derry & Strabane PCSP hands over equipment for inclusion in domestic abuse packs. These packs are handed out by PSNI to victims or those at risk of becoming victims of domestic abuse.



Trailer Marking is an effective way to protect property. PSNI and PCSP work in partnership to deliver this initiative cross the district. The Vice Chair of Derry & Strabane PCSP pictured along with PSNI's Crime Prevent Officer and Neighbourhood Policing Team at a recent trailer marking event outside Plumbridge.

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 forty-four 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 - ISS: 43

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

CALL THE POLICE 101

BY AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999

101 is the non-emergency number to contact the police.

Using 101 for situations that do not require an immediate police response helps keep 999 free for emergency incidents.

When to dial 101

- Report a crime and contact a program for example a stolen car, burglary or damaged property
- Ask information to the police about crime in your area
- Speak to the police about a general enquiry
- Contact a specially trained officer or member of staff

For more information about 101 or 999 visit www.prsa.gov.uk

Keeping People Safe

You are not alone

Emergency Services

999

Flooding Incident Line
0300 2000 100

NI Electricity Networks
0345 643 643

NI Gas Emergency Service
0800 002 001

NI Water
03457 440 088

Housing Executive
03448 9209 01

Report a Blocked Road
0300 200 7891

helpful contacts

Action Fraud
020 7000 0000

Victim Support
0800 028 0280

Community Crisis Intervention Service (C.C.I.S.)
02871 262300

domestic and sexual abuse helpline
0800 802 1414

CALL THE POLICE 101

Community Crisis Intervention Service (C.C.I.S.)

is available from 8pm on Thursday through to 8am on Sunday. It is here to help individuals who are in distress and potentially vulnerable, and who may be at risk of suicidal behaviour

02871 262300

Department of Justice
www.prsa.gov.uk

PSP
Police & Community Safety Partnership

Strabane District Council
0800 555 111

101

Policing Board

This newsletter is supported by the Northern Ireland Policing Board and the Department of Justice.

Derry & Strabane Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter

Issue 43

SCAMS – STOP. CHECK. REPORT.

It doesn't matter the season, scammers are ready to spring on any opportunity to dupe people and steal their money. That's the warning from police in Derry City & Strabane who say they're continuing to receive reports of scams across the City & District, with people losing money to criminals. Reports made to police include online scams, ticket fraud and impersonation scams where people are contacted by someone pretending to be a family member and asking for money.

"Anyone can be targeted by a scam and criminals will constantly change how they present their scam to lure people in and swindle them, but the core is the same - they're trying to get your personal and financial details which is used to commit a more sophisticated scam where the losses can be substantial," says Chief Inspector Vionne McManus. Other reports have included people buying what they believe to be a genuine product online, for example tickets, only to find out it

doesn't exist, they can't reach the seller and their money has been stolen. The more traditional-type scams also continue to be reported to police, such as someone claiming to be from a bank or HMRC, or your telecoms provider.

Advice

Stop before you transfer money or disclose any personal details to anyone you do not know. Do not feel rushed or pressured by timescales. Take your time. Genuine callers will always give you time to consider your options.

Check and verify who you are communicating with using a trusted source. Check and take time to verify callers on another phone line where possible and check images via an image search. If you are in any doubt do not transfer any money or goods. Report if you have been a victim of a scam, report it to police online via www.prsa.gov.uk/report or call on 101, to your bank immediately, online at www.actionfraud.gov.uk or call 0300 123 2040. You can also forward scam texts to 7726.

rogue traders, but some are and if you feel that something isn't quite right, it usually isn't report any activity that raises your suspicions. This is a good way to alert us so we can investigate - and will help deter criminals and reduce crime in your area. You can call police on the non-emergency number 101 or report it online via www.prsa.gov.uk/report

Longer, brighter evenings is reported, even if it is on the behalf of others, the better our chances are of catching a potential criminal," says Chief Inspector Vionne McManus. "When it comes to cold callers, remember, it's your home and, if you have any concerns, it's okay not to open the door. You can speak to the person through the door or window, without actually opening the door to them. Not all cold callers are

Issue 43 of the Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter

The promotion of road safety and the concept of **'Staying Safe on Our Roads'** was a priority for our PCSP during 2023/24. 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.



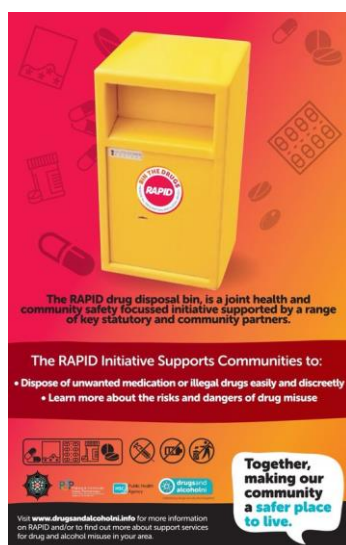
As part of Road Safety week in November the PCSP supported Life After to deliver a road safety event in Guildhall Square.

- 🚗 We continue to deploy the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) across the district to raise awareness of the dangers of speeding.
- 🚗 In partnership with PSNI Roads Policing, we have delivered a Bikesafe workshop.
- 🚗 Eight schools have participated in presentations from New Driver on road safety.
- 🚗 14 schools received the New Driver magazine on road safety.
- 🚗 8 post-primary schools participated in the Roadsafes Roadshow.



Under the tackling drugs and alcohol theme of the PCSP Action Plan for 2023/24 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 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, just under 80,000 tablets have been deposited in and removed from the bins.



RAPID Drugs bins can be found across the Council area:

- 📍 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 NI, Bonds Hill and 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 offer counselling sessions and family support programmes on the impact of drug and alcohol abuse on families and communities. HURT also delivered awareness programmes on legal and illegal substances, alcohol units and vaping to year 8 and 9 students at local schools.

Derry & Strabane PCSP also funded the installation of an AED in the City Centre and purchased maintenance equipment. Training on how to operate this vital piece of equipment was also provided to city centre businesses.



PCSP Chair, Sandra Duffy pictured at the launch of the new Defibrillator in Waterloo Place

Under the **Domestic and Sexual Violence** theme of the PCSP Action Plan we supported Men's Action Network to raise awareness of the impact and consequences of domestic and sexual violence. Men's Action Network delivered 113 one-hour sessions of counselling support to 23 men as part of this initiative.



Men's Action Network
Supporting and Promoting Male Health and Wellbeing

Derry and Strabane PCSP purchased 12 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 300 referrals. During 2023/24 the Support Hub held 12 meeting and achieved 74% attendance by partner agencies.


Members of the Derry & Strabane Support Hub have continued to welcome delegations from Donegal, Limerick and Sligo HSE and An Garda Siochana during 2023/24. 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.




A delegation from the HSE and An Garda Siochana from Donegal and Sligo visiting the Derry and Strabane Support Hub meeting to see how it works with a wide range of statutory partners to help protect those most vulnerable in our district.

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



Police Service of Northern Ireland



Police Service of Northern Ireland

H District Commander's Report Card for PCIP Reporting Committee

16th Jan 2024 – 30th April 2024

All figures are approximate and subject to change

Outcome 1: We Have a Safe Community

Indicator 1.1 Report volume of crimes

Indicator 1.2 Report volume of crimes by type

Indicator 1.3 Report volume of crimes by location

Indicator 1.4 Report volume of crimes by time of day

Indicator 1.5 Report volume of crimes by time of year

Indicator 1.6 Report volume of crimes by time of day and time of year

Indicator 1.7 Report volume of crimes by time of day and time of year and location

Indicator 1.8 Report volume of crimes by time of day and time of year and location and time of day

Indicator 1.9 Report volume of crimes by time of day and time of year and location and time of day and time of year

Indicator 1.10 Report volume of crimes by time of day and time of year and location and time of day and time of year and time of day

Indicator 1.1 Report volume of crimes

Indicator 1.2 Report volume of crimes by type

Indicator 1.3 Report volume of crimes by location

Indicator 1.4 Report volume of crimes by time of day

Indicator 1.5 Report volume of crimes by time of year

Indicator 1.6 Report volume of crimes by time of day and time of year

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Indicator 1.10 Report volume of crimes by time of day and time of year and location and time of day and time of year and time of day

Violence Against Women & Girls & Domestic Abuse, Harassment

Category	2023/24	2022/23	% Change
Violence Against Women & Girls	102	102	0%
Domestic Abuse	102	102	0%
Harassment	102	102	0%
Total	102	102	0%

Response Times

Indicator 1.11 Report volume of crimes

Indicator 1.12 Report volume of crimes

Indicator 1.13 Report volume of crimes

Indicator 1.14 Report volume of crimes

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

From April 2023 to March 2024 the Derry and Strabane PCSP Policing Committee held three policing committee meetings in July and October 2023 and January 2024. 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.

PCSP Members had the opportunity to attend 6 meetings with PSNI to scrutinise their use of the Justice and Security Act (JSA) Stop and Search Powers. At these accountability meetings, PCSP members who attended had the opportunity to randomly select a number of body-worn videos to watch and see how searches were carried out. Members then had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the search(es) with PSNI. The purpose of these meetings is to ensure transparency and accountability.

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. The PCSP attended 80 community engagement meetings during 2023/24.

Section 5 – Small Project Support

During 2023/24 the Derry and Strabane PCSP allocated just under £200,000 through the small project support scheme. Support was awarded after an open call for applications which were assessed and scored by the PCSP. In line with the Community Safety Strategy and the Programme for Government the themes for the allocation of support were: Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour, Reducing Crime & Fear of Crime and Increasing Youth Engagement.

Through the PCSP Action Plan (open call) the PCSP provided support to 28 initiatives to deliver a range of projects in the city and district. These initiatives dealt with a raft of community safety and policing issues from domestic violence/abuse, hate crime, tackling ASB, elderly abuse, road safety, drug and alcohol addiction etc. to reducing fear of crime, providing alternatives to bonfires and delivering intergenerational and diversionary initiatives in those areas where it was most needed.



St Mary's Youth Club (Moor DEA)



Bready Cricket Club (Faughan DEA)



Melmount & East Banks Community Association (Strabane Town DEA)



Lincoln Courts Youth & Community Association (Waterside DEA)



Dennett Valley Health Network (Sperrin DEA)



Glen Development Initiative (Foyleside DEA)



On Street Community Youth (Ballyarnett DEA)



Derry & Raphoe Action (Derg DEA)

These initiatives have proved highly successful in providing local solutions to local issues especially during times of heightened tensions. Almost all projects supported were able to draw down the total amount of funding allocated and deliver on the outputs agreed with the PCSP. The table below outlines the financial support provided to local initiatives by the Derry & Strabane PCSP during 2023/24:

Organisation	Project Name	DEA	Amount Awarded
Shantallow Community Residents Association	The YES Project	Council-Wide	10,000.00
Men's Action Network	Male Domestic Violence Programme	Council-Wide	9,024.00
Have Your Tomorrow's (HURT)	Addictions Programme	Council-Wide	5,976.00
Shantallow Youth Intervention Group	Young Adult's Positive Prevention & Intervention	Ballyarnett	9,976.00
On Street Community Youth	OSCY Summer Youth Intervention 2023	Ballyarnett	10,000.00
Shantallow Men's Support Group	Diverting Young Men From Risk	Ballyarnett	9,840.00
Galliagh Residents Association	Summer Alternatives Programme	Ballyarnett	3,350.00
Churchtown Community Association	Community Health & Safety Programme	Derg	8,000.00
Derry & Raphoe Action Ltd	Health, Wellbeing, Education & Skills Programme	Derg & Sperrin	8,166.80
Two Castles ABC	Boxing Through the Challenges	Derg	9,500.00
Bready Cricket Club	Community Sports Camp Programme	Faughan	7,380.00
Londonderry YMCA	UP Project	Faughan	3,436.52
Newbuildings Cricket Club	Promoting Positivity Through Sport	Faughan	772.48
City Centre Initiative	AED Equipment & Training for Retailers	Foyleside	6,715.20
Glen Development Initiative	Summer Family Festivities	Foyleside	7,814.40
Long Tower Youth Club	Positive Youth Engagement	Moor	10,000.00
St. Mary's Youth Club	Young People's Programme	Moor	10,000.00
Bogside & Brandywell Initiative	The Big Bog BBQ	Moor	6,400.00
The Playhouse	Culture of Fire	Moor	3,137.00
Fox Lodge Cricket Club	Sports Camp Initiative	Sperrin	7,039.60

Donemana Cricket Club	Summer Youth Diversionary Programme	Sperrin	1,694.10
Dennett Valley Health Network	Outdoor Safety Workshops	Sperrin	3,104.90
Melmount & East Bank Estates CAF	Weekly Safety Patrols	Strabane Town	7,505.00
Strabane Athletic Football Club	Community Safety Summer Camps	Strabane Town	6,798.14
Lincoln Courts YCA	Education, Engagement & Prevention Programme	Waterside	9,998.75
Irish Street YCA	Diversionary & Intergenerational Programme	Waterside	9,157.00
Hillcrest Trust	Combatting Fear of Crime	Waterside	4,900.00
Brigade Cricket Club	Cricket Summer Camp	Waterside	6,228.25
TOTAL ALLOCATED			195,914.14

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 2023/24 (April 2023 to March 2024).

**Derry and Strabane
Policing and Community Safety Partnership
Statement of Support from Joint Committee 2023/24**

Total Costs

Receipts

Grant from Joint Committee	£447,967.73
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	£447,967.73
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Payments

Staff Costs	£59,496.00
Running Costs	£20,307.74
Engagement	£42,000.00
Northland Warden Scheme	£50,323.99
Small Project Support (ASB)	£106,300.00
Reducing Fear of Crime (Safer Homes)	£15,000.00
Caged Sport	£3,000.00
Advertising/PR	£2,000.00
Youth Engagement Initiatives	£67,500.00
CCTV	33,000.00
Members Attendance Allowance	£6,840.00
Promoting Internet Safety	£1,000.00
Hate Crime Initiatives	£1,000.00
Tackling Business/Rural Crime	£1,000.00
Road Safety Initiatives	£5,000.00
Drug and Alcohol & Addiction Initiatives	£12,700.00
Domestic & Sexual Violence Initiatives	£9,000.00
Policing Committee/ Local Accountability	£7,500.00

	£442,967.73
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Section 7 - Members' Attendance Record

The Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership held 5 PCSP meetings and 3 PCSP Policing Committee Meetings between 01 April 2023 and 31 March 2024. Due to the Local Government Elections, which were held in May 2023, there were no meetings held in April or May 2023.

The table below shows attendance by Partnership members:

PCSP Member	Number of Scheduled Meetings Held	Number of Meetings Attended	Percentage Attendance
Councillor Jason Barr (SDLP)	8	8	100%
Councillor John Boyle (SDLP)	8	7	87.5%
Councillor Sandra Duffy (SF)	8	8	100%
Alderman Darren Guy (UU)	8	7	87.5%
Councillor Christopher Jackson (SF)	8	8	100%
Alderman Keith Kerrigan (DUP)	8	8	100%
Councillor Fergal Leonard (SF)	8	8	100%
Alderman Niree McMorris (DUP)	8	8	100%
Councillor Emma McGinley (SF)	8	7	87.5%
Councillor Antaine O'Fearghail (SF)	8	5	62.5%
Ms Mary Casey	8	8	100%
Mr Thomas Conway	8	5	62.5%
Ms Una McCartney	8	3	37.5%
Mr Aodh McCay	8	5	62.5%
Ms Jeanette Warke	8	3	37.5%
Ms Linda Watson	8	7	87.5%
Total	128	1105	82%

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 PCSP please contact:

Derry and Strabane PCSP Manager
Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership
1-3 Waterloo Place/47 Derry Road
Derry/Strabane
BT48 6BT/BT82 8DY

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Email:	pcsp@derrystrabane.com