Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Policing and Community Safety Partnership meeting to be held on Tuesday, 30th January 2024 at 6:00 pm in Microsoft Teams & Downshire Civic Centre.

Agenda

1.0	Welcome, Chairperson's remarks and Apologies	
2.0	Declarations of Interest	
3.0	Draft Minutes of Previous PSCP & Policing Committee Meeting held on 28 November 2023 DRAFT PSCP & Policing Committee Meeting 2023_11_28.pdf	Page 1
4.0	Matters Arising	
	Policing Committee Business	
5.0	District Commander's Report - Period 4	
	PSCP Business	
6.0	PCSP Officer Report	
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7.0	ASB Sub Group Report	
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8.0 Date of Next Meeting

6pm on 6th March 2024 in the Council Chamber, Downshire Civic Centre and online via Microsoft Teams

Invitees

Clir Terry Andrews
Mrs Fionnuala Branagh
Cllr Killian Feehan
Cllr Conor Galbraith
Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
Cllr Roisin Howell
Cllr Alan Lewis
Cllr Aidan Mathers
Cllr Declan Murphy
Cllr Henry Reilly
Ms Alison Robb
Paul Tamati
Cllr David Taylor
Cllr Jill Truesdale

POLICING COMMITTEE AND POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the Newry, Mourne & Down Policing Committee and Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meeting held on Tuesday 28 November 2023 at 6.00pm in the Downshire Chamber, Downpatrick and remotely via MS Teams

In attendance in Chamber:

Councillor T Andrews, NMDDC
Councillor C Galbraith, NMDDC
Councillor O Hanlon, NMDDC (Chair)
Councillor A Mathers, NMDDC
Councillor H Reilly, NMDDC
Councillor R Howell, NMDDC
Audrey Byrne, PCSP Independent Member
Roisin Leckey, PBNI
Sarah Reid, NIPB

In attendance via Teams:

Councillor D Murphy, NMDDC Councillor D Taylor, NMDDC Councillor J Truesdale, NMDDC Chief Inspector Lynne Corbett, PSNI Chief Inspector Conall Hanna, PSNI Inspector Adam Corner, PSNI Inspector Kelly Gibson, PSNI Inspector Darren Hardy, PSNI Inspector Sheila Loughran, PSNI Sergeant Ryan Duffy, PSNI Tara Campbell, PCSP Independent Member Michelle Osborne, PCSP Independent Member David Vint, PCSP Independent Member Donna Weir, EANI Aidan McCabe, SHSCT Michael Heaney, YJA

Officials in attendance in Chamber:

Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager, NMDDC Shannon Creaney, PCSP Officer Jacqueline Urey, PCSP Officer Amy McKeown, Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, PCSP and Good Relations Shane McGivern, Safer Communities & Good Relations Officer

Officials in attendance via Teams:

Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement, NMDDC

1 Welcome, Chairperson's Remarks and Apologies

Councillor Hanlon welcomed members to the Partnership meeting.

Apologies were received from Superintendent Norman Haslett (PSNI), Chris McLaughlin (NIFRS), Dan McEvoy (PCSP Independent Member) and Alison Robb (Assistant Director, NMDDC).

Councillor Hanlon welcomed Sarah Reid from the Policing Board who joined the meeting as an observer.

Councillor Hanlon reflected on the busy and successful period with a wide range of events and programmes that have taken place. Councillor Hanlon noted the flooding emergency that recently affected the Newry, Mourne and Down District and the devastation that it caused many communities. Councillor Hanlon thanked the PCSP for the support given during this time particularly in Downpatrick where the Community Safety Wardens helped with addressing anti-social behaviour.

Councillor Hanlon reminded members that the recruitment campaign for new Independent PCSP Members has re-opened and will close on 13 December. Councillor Hanlon asked all Members to share information and raise awareness where possible to encourage applications.

Councillor Hanlon noted that Councillor Michael Savage has recently resigned from Council and noted his contribution to the PCSP over the years which was welcomed and appreciated. Councillor Killian Feehan will now join as a Member of the PCSP to replace Mr. Savage.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3 Draft Minutes of PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting dated 26 September 2023

Read: Minutes of PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting held on 26 September 2023 (copy circulated).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to approve the Minutes of the Policing Committee and PCSP Meeting held on 26 September 2023 as a true and accurate record.

4 Matters Arising

Councillor Hanlon noted that there is one item from the Action Sheet dated 25 July 2023 still in progress.

Pilot Business Watch Scheme: Chief Inspector Corbett advised that this is being looked into by Sergeant Kenny Gracey who is based in Newcastle. When this was initially proposed it was to reflect what was being done in the ABC Council area. The process in ABC is similar to Neighbourhood Watch with a Text Alert Scheme and signage. The process is administrative heavy and PCSP staff take a lot of this work on. The PSNI are looking into this scheme, its impact and for the amount of resources that would be required whether it would have the desired effect.

Mrs. Byrne informed Members that a new Chamber of Commerce has been established in Newcastle and it would be useful for the PSNI to meet the members and discuss replicating what is being done in the Newry area. Some of the businesses are new and any training would be welcomed around scams and what their rights are in relation to shoplifting/burglaries.

Chief Inspector Corbett advised that Sergeant Gracey is looking at alternatives such as Safe Shop and Crime Prevention advice. The PSNI would be keen to get involved with the new Chamber to see where they can help to progress local initiatives.

5 District Commander's Report – Period 3

Read: District Commander's Report – Period 3 (copy circulated)

Chief Inspector Corbett advised that Superintendent Haslett was attending a course and was unable to attend the meeting.

Chief Inspector Corbett updated on the District Commander's Report to the Partnership, highlighting the following points:

Engagement

Consolidation of Neighbourhood Policing Teams: The Neighbourhood Policing Teams across the District have reduced from 8 Teams to 5 since the last PCSP meeting. This has been a direct result of the financial constraints that the PSNI are currently facing. 18 Neighbourhood Team posts have been lost as previously reported to the Partnership. The new Neighbourhood Teams are: East Down, South Down, Newry City, Slieve Gullion North and Slieve Gullion South. The Teams continue to work in the same way with the same areas essentially covered. During this reporting period approximately 40 engagement events have been attended across the District. Some of the events were held in schools focussing on drugs and alcohol, stranger danger, sextortion and many of these have been delivered in conjunction with the PCSP. Two pupils have also attended Newry Police Station for work experience.

The Fresh Start Through Sport Programme has started in the Downpatrick side of the District. This is a 12-week programme organised by the IFA, IRFU, GAA and Belfast Giants. This programme works with a group of 16-24 year males and females, providing an insight into each sport with coaching and mentoring options, and also identifies potential employment opportunities. There has been really good buy-in to the programme with a core group of 12 people engaged and attending one night a week.

Halloween celebrations took place across the District during this reporting period which went very well. The most significant celebration of note was PSNI involvement at the Crossmaglen celebrations with the Mobile Engagement Unit.

There have been numerous crime prevention events across the District and other engagement opportunities that are outlined in the report.

Hate Crime

There has been a significant reduction (31.1%) in Hate Crime in this reporting period and over the past 365 days. This has been a focus for PSNI, within the NMD District sectarian hate crime remains the highest reported hate crime closely followed by racial hate crime.

Vulnerability

Since the last reporting period, there are 8 Cohorts who are currently being supported by officers and partners within the statutory, community and voluntary sectors. They are being engaged with daily through the support hub to meet their needs within the community.

ASB

ASB remains a priority for the PSNI across the District and there has been an overall decrease in ASB in the last reporting period, however in some areas such as Newry City the reported crime remains higher than other areas. This is being tackled in partnership with Newry BID, via local engagement and a problem-solving folder has been opened on this. It was also noted that ASB in Castlewellan Forest Park has moved out to more residential parts of the town. Inspector Hardy and his team are looking at this issue and working with the local community in the area.

Domestic Abuse

There has been a decrease in reported domestic abuse in the last 365 days within the District. PSNI believe that victims of domestic violence are becoming more confident in reporting to the Police. The previously reported inflated figure of domestic abuse cases in comparison to the rest of the service has started to decrease. Domestic violence remains a focus for the PSNI across the District.

Op Encompass continues to be very successful and welcomed by the schools across the District. Since the start of this school year, police have attended 170 domestic incidents which have met the criteria for the Op Encompass scheme. 350 children and young people have been referred to designated teachers within schools in the past two months.

Road Safety

This reporting period has been a very sad one for the District, since the last PCSP meeting there have been 4 further fatalities in the District related to road traffic collisions. This calendar year there have been a total of 9 fatalities related to 7 separate road traffic collisions. Road Safety remains a focus for PSNI and the data from the SIDs has been used to focus patrolling and to target some of the hotspots for serious collisions. On 13 October Newry City NPT conducted a joint operation with DVA Enforcement and HMRC to check for

vehicles that were not roadworthy and had defects, 12 vehicles received prohibition notices to remove them from the road until the defects could rectified.

Drugs

Drug detections and offences within the District remain constant, there has been a slight decrease within the last 365 days but in general the amount of detections has remained steady. Across the District there is an emerging trend of drugs being brought in via courier and post. PSNI have dedicated the District Support Team to try and tackle this trend. In October, the District Support Team intercepted 6 parcels in the Downpatrick area resulting in 3 suspects being reported to the PPS. Further to this, a search was carried out in the Mayobridge area on 10 November with a large amount of prescription and non-prescription medication seized. Suspected cannabis, magic mushrooms, cocaine and around 20 bottles of whiskey were also seized under the Proceeds of Crime Act. A 'stun gun' type device was discovered at the property. Two females, aged 29 and 35, were arrested for possession of Class A, B and C drugs and also intent to supply.

Crime

The amount of reported crime over the past 365 days based on the most recent figures has decreased by 7.6%. The PSNI Outcome Rate has increased by 3.1% which shows that victims who are reporting crime are receiving an outcome with more offenders being brought to justice. Some of the crime figures such as shoplifting have notably increased and it is believed there may be a link with the cost of living crisis.

Chief Inspector Corbett gave a summary of some of the crimes that the PSNI have dealt with across the District. On 10 October, a 59-year-old male was assaulted by two males in Stream Street Downpatrick, he was punched to the ground and a car was driven at him, two males were arrested and charged.

On 25 October, a house search took place in the Downpatrick area in relation to drug dealing, as a result £8,000 cash was recovered along with gold and silver bars currently awaiting valuation.

General

On 18 October, PSNI responded along with other agencies to a report of two females who were in difficulty when their canoe had capsized on Lough Ross near Crossmaglen. NIFRS entered the water in attempt to rescue the female in the water and their canoe also capsized with a firefighter being thrown into the water. Constable Nelson went into the water to assist and was able to assist NIFRS in getting both females to safety.

Assault on police is something that continues to rise across the District.

Chief Inspector Corbett noted the recent flooding that affected Newry and Downpatrick. The PSNI Silver Control room in Newry remained in operation during the Amber weather alert while there was a threat to life. When this was reduced to Yellow, Officers across the District continued to co-ordinate access to sandbags, road closures, diversions and also increased patrols in Market Street, Downpatrick as some businesses could not fully secure their premises. Chief Inspector Corbett acknowledged the impact that the flooding has had on families, businesses and communities across the District.

A search operation in the Crossmaglen area on 30 October was highlighted. As a result of this search, an assault rifle, 2 shotguns, 3 revolvers and several handguns were found, these are undergoing forensic examination, and an investigation is ongoing.

Two ongoing feuds in the Newry/ South Armagh area were noted, these relate to organised crime gangs. There have been attempted murders in both of these feuds. PSNI have been co-ordinating with colleagues in An Garda Síochána and have had dedicated patrolling and other measures put in place to try to mitigate against any further violence or risk to communities.

Councillor Mathers raised the recent pipe bomb attack at Watson's Road, Newry and noted his disappointment that this was not mentioned in the PSNI report. Councillor Mathers asked for an update on this pipe bomb attack which exploded close to a family home.

Chief Inspector Corbett advised that there is currently an ongoing investigation into this incident which CID are dealing with. There was damage caused to a family vehicle, Chief Inspector Corbett assured the Members that this is very much a focus for PSNI.

Councillor Reilly raised the issue of road safety, and noted he has been receiving complaints about the backlog for booking an MOT and asked is there any definitive answer about the legality of a vehicle being on the road in the intervening period between a MOT certificate expiring and getting a test done.

Chief Inspector Corbett advised that PSNI are aware of the backlog in getting an MOT and added that vehicles should not be on the road without a valid MOT test certificate. Inspector Gibson further clarified that in consultation with the Association of British Insurers, the PSNI has agreed not to penalise the driver of a vehicle whose MOT has expired, so long as: 1) The vehicle is in a roadworthy and safe condition. 2) The vehicle is properly insured and 3) The driver can provide proof by showing an MOT appointment notification either in electronic or paper form that a test appointment has been booked for the vehicle. It is therefore critical that a vehicle test has been booked even if the date falls after the MOT expires. If offences are identified in relation to vehicle road worthiness and insurance, this will be dealt with in the usual manner.

Mrs. Leckey discussed domestic violence and remarked that in the last fortnight, 3 non-fatal strangulation incidents were reported to her and asked had the PSNI seen an increase in reports of this crime.

Chief Inspector Corbett advised that this is one of the offences that the PSNI have seen the biggest increase in. It is probably one of the biggest domestic violence offences that PSNI deal with.

Councillor Hanlon commented on road safety in the District, noting that there are a number of road closures around Downpatrick meaning that drivers are using single lane roads as shortcuts. On Monday night, an accident occurred on the Cotterhill Road, which is not built for two-way traffic and Councillor Hanlon was asked to highlight this. Councillor Hanlon met with DFI on the Ballyhornan Road and advised that there was excessive speed along this road.

Addressing the recent flooding in Downpatrick, Councillor Hanlon advised that while she appreciated that the PSNI are currently experiencing serious resourcing pressures that her

recent experience during the initial flooding and clean-up afterwards was not positive. Councillor Hanlon advised that at the time of the flooding she struggled to get in contact with the PSNI, and that there was risk to life when people (including vulnerable people and children) were entering very deep water. During the pumping out operation, NIFRS were struggling to keep people away from the barriers, with Council staff manning the road closures themselves. Councillor Hanlon stated that she appreciated that it is probably a result of the lack of resources and budget cuts, but this was the experience on the ground in Downpatrick. Councillor Hanlon stated that she had spoken to Superintendent Haslett and advised that it needed be to be understood at a senior level in the PSNI that additional resources had been needed on the ground in Downpatrick during the flooding emergency and that the PSNI presence on the ground was lacking. Councillor Hanlon added that this was one of the first instances that budget cuts impacted on the PSNI's ability and capacity to provide an effective local response.

Chief Inspector Corbett responded, acknowledging that the PSNI were stretched from a resourcing perspective during the flooding emergency. Many roads were blocked by fallen trees, and other hazards presented local challenges. A debrief with all agencies is planned for the next few weeks and any learning from that will be escalated through the PSNI.

On the roads issue, Chief Inspector Corbett asked Inspector Hardy to do some local engagement to address the issues raised. Inspector Hardy advised that PSNI are aware of the issues resulting from the road closures. Inspector Hardy added they will get some operations on the Ballyhornan Road and give further attention to the issues on the side roads.

In relation to the flooding debrief, Councillor Hanlon noted that other agencies were able to bring extra resources in from other areas but the PSNI did not appear to be allocated additional resources locally. Councillor Hanlon added that there were two officers on duty in Downpatrick for a time during the flooding who were very good while they were able to be there, unfortunately they had to attend other calls and could not remain on-site.

Councillor Reilly asked Chief Inspector Corbett about a recent newspaper article on drugs and disposable vapes and queried what the facts are around this. Chief Inspector Corbett advised that she was not aware of the specific article but added that there are growing concerns around the substances that are being added to vapes. PSNI are doing education pieces in schools to warn of the dangers of this. Inspector Corner added that the chemical THC is being added to the vape which produces a similar effect to cannabis, this has been identified as an area of concern as vaping has become increasingly popular in the younger demographics. PSNI are working with Secondary Schools speaking to young people around the dangers of THC, vaping and drug use in general. The PSNI have also offered to speak to parents as well around the concerns that they have. NPTs feed information back to the Organised Crime Unit to see if there are emerging trends and try to disrupt the flow of these THC vapes.

Mr Heaney reminded members that the Youth Justice Agency have a vaping referral scheme where children are involved in vaping but are unaware that they are doing anything illegal. The police have an option to refer them to the YJA and they can do some education with the child and parent in the hope that this will prevent any future use or involvement.

Mrs Weir added that within the Youth Service, the Regional Participation Team have organised the rollout of a survey on a smoke free generation and most of the young people

engaged within their sector will be included in the focus groups for this. This will focus on vaping and the effects of vaping.

6 PCSP Action Plan 2024/25

Read: PCSP Action Plan 2024/25 (copy circulated)

Mrs Flynn advised that the 2024/25 Action Plan was for approval and thanked all Members for their attendance at recent planning sessions and contributions to the Plan. The budget for 2024/25 has not yet been confirmed and we are planning on the basis of this year's budget amount and hope that this figure is protected. Mrs Flynn will revert to the Partnership in the event of any significant reduction in budget.

Mrs Flynn noted that approval to proceed with procurement of PCSP contracted services (including the Community Safety Wardens, Home Secure Service and Social alarm Scheme) for 2024/25 is required. Members will recall at the last PCSP meeting, we had some detailed input from our providers in relation to the impact and benefit of those Schemes. All these contracts end on 31 March 2024 and to ensure that there is no break in service delivery we will commence procurement after Christmas and hopefully have providers appointed by the end of March 2024. This procurement will be done at risk in the absence of a Letter of Offer and this has been done in previous years. Unless there are issues with compliance with Council Procurement Policy we will proceed on this basis.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Galbraith, seconded by Councillor Reilly it was agreed the Committee:

- Note the report
- Approve the attached draft Action Plan for the PCSP for 2024/25

7 PCSP Officer Report

Read: PCSP Officer Report (copy circulated)

Mrs Flynn updated that the PCSP Officer Report is for noting and highlighted the work of staff and the ongoing programme of activities. Road Safety Week recently took place and in partnership with colleagues in PSNI and NIFRS there were a number of 'Your Choice' road safety presentations held in schools across Newry. In St. Joseph's High School, a car crash demonstration took place, Mrs Flynn thanked Councillor Mathers for his assistance in helping to organise this. Mrs Flynn added that these are hugely impactful events and she would be keen to roll these out across the District. Members were asked to inform staff if they knew of any other schools that would be interested in the road safety presentation.

St. Oliver Plunkett Youth Club in Crossmaglen completed a 6 week 'Stay Onside' programme that was delivered with the Irish Football Association. Newry, Mourne and Down are the first PCSP to deliver this and it was specifically timed around the Halloween period to help tackle anti-social behaviour. 30 young people completed the programme and was a great success. Mrs Flynn thanked Councillor Murphy for presenting the certificates on behalf of the PCSP.

Domestic abuse continues to be prioritised, an online training session was held on Tuesday

21 November with Women's Aid and 30 people were in attendance.

Work has continued with partners on a cross-border basis, the informal partnership with Drogheda Implementation Board and Longford County Council has been awarded €30,000 from the Department of Justice in Dublin to establish an All Island Community Safety Network with the view to holding the first event in March 2024 based on domestic abuse and sharing good practice.

Mrs Flynn encouraged Members attend upcoming events as it is an excellent way to raise awareness and see the work that is being done.

Agreed: It was agreed the Committee:

Note the report

8 ASB Sub Group Report

Read: ASB Sub Group Report (copy circulated)

Mrs. Flynn advised that the Action Sheets for both ASB meetings are for approval. The ASB Sub Group meeting 1 took place on 25 October and ASB Sub Group 2 meeting took place on 24 October.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Mathers it was agreed the Committee:

- Note the report
- Agree the attached Draft Action Sheets of ASB Sub Group 1 held on 25 October

2023 and ASB Sub Group 2 held on 24 October 2023.

9 Date of Next Meeting

The next PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting will be held Tuesday 30 January 2024 at 6pm, this will be held in the Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick with a hybrid option available.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6.59pm.

Report to:	Policing & Community Safety Partnership
Date of Meeting:	30 January 2024
Subject:	PCSP Officer Report – January 2024
Reporting Officer	Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager
(Including Job Title):	
Contact Officer	Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager
(Including Job Title):	

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-For decision For noting only х 1.0 **Purpose and Background** 1.1 Purpose To note the report. · To note the attached PCSP Officer Report. 1.2 **Background** The attached report provides Members with an update on the progress of the PCSP Action Plan since the previous PCSP meeting on 28 November 2023. 2.0 Key issues 2.1 None. 3.0 Recommendations 3.1 That the Committee:-Note the report. Note the attached PCSP Officer Report. 4.0 **Resource implications** 4.1 Revenue

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	All actions are budgeted for in the PCSP 2023/24 Action Plan	
	Capital	
	N/A	
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complet the relevant sections)	te
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, speed equality and good relations outcomes	ecific
	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations	\boxtimes
5.2	Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practic and / or sensitive or contentious decision	æ
	Yes □ No ⊠	
	If yes, please complete the following:	
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened	
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation	
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation	
	Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves	
	Consultation period will be 12 weeks	
	Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)	Ш
	Rationale:	
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)	

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6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service	
	Yes No 🗵	
	If yes, please complete the following:	
	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed]
7.0	Appendices	
7.1	Appendix I: PCSP Officer Report – January 2024	
8.0	Background Documents	
8.1	None.	

Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP Officer Report – January 2024

The purpose of this Report is to provide an update on key activities and progress since the last PCSP meeting on 28 November 2023.

An update will also be provided on key areas which have been discussed by Members and where a more detailed update may be considered useful. During this reporting period Members should note progress in the specific areas below –

- **Staffing update** Amy McKeown has taken up post as Monitoring & Evaluation Officer (PCSP & Good Relations). Judith Thompson, PCSP Officer, is currently on long-term sick leave.
- **PCSP Reconstitution** The Policing Board have extended the term of the current PCSP Independent Members to 31 May 2024 (had been 31 March 2024). The recruitment campaign for new PCSP Independent Members re-opened on 15 November 2023 and closed on 15 December 2023 20 applications were received by the initial closing date. Shortlisting took place on 17 January 2024, interviews will take place on 13 & 14 February 2024.
- **PCSP Action Plan 2024/25** the PCSP Action Plan for 24/25 was submitted to Joint Committee in December 2023, there is no confirmation of budget for the incoming year.

Overview of progress against PCSP Action Plan 2023/24

Strategic Priority 1: To ensure effective delivery in response to local need, and improve the visibility and recognition of the work of the PCSP through effective communication and engagement

Theme	Aims & description	Key Activities in this Period (December 2023 – January 2024)
PCSP Delivery	, , ,	PCSP Sub Groups (ASB & Bonfire Sub Groups) have now been reconstituted following the nomination of new Elected Members to the PCSP.

	appropriate structures and mechanisms	ASB Sub Group 2 met in Newry on 13 December 2023; the ASB Sub Group 1 meeting due to take place o 13 December 2023 was postponed due to a high number of apologies received.
Raise awareness of PCSP	To evidence impact through increased awareness of the	Continued development of PCSP social media channels (including Facebook and Twitter). PCSP staff are now responsible for managing all social media channels. Social media continues to be key to communication with local communities and the general public.
	PCSP	We are planning a Community Safety & Wellbeing Expo event for 26 February 2024 in Newry Leisure Centre (in partnership with Start360) – this event will include information on local wellbeing support services, emergency services including the PSNI and NIFRS are also attending.
		PCSP staff have continued to work with cross-border partners and recently joined with Longford County Council and Drogheda Implementation Board to submit an application to the Department of Justice (Republic Of Ireland) Community Safety Innovation Fund $- \in 30,000$ has subsequently been awarded to establish an All Island Community Safety Network (including a Community Safety Practitioner Network).
		This Network will create opportunities to share ideas, good practice and develop projects around community safety, community / police engagement and also provide networking opportunities across all bodies, North & South. The Network will build on the success of the 2022 Beyond Borders Conference and will create further opportunities for the development of practitioner relationships and shared learning opportunities. Funding has been awarded to support a series of cross-border community safety events over the next two years. Each event will have a different theme with guest speakers, workshops and opportunities for best practice / resource sharing. The first event is planned for 12 March 2024 in Drogheda and will focus on Domestic Abuse.

Strategic Priority 2: To improve community safety by addressing local community safety issues, tackling crime and antisocial behaviour

Thoma	Aims &	Koy Activities in this Boried (December 2022 - January 2024)
Theme	description	Key Activities in this Period (December 2023 – January 2024)
ASB	Develop a range diversionary youth & community engagement projects	Both ASB Sub Groups continue to work to the Action Plans for their respective areas.
	Provision of a District-wide Community Safety Warden Scheme	The Community Safety Warden Scheme remains operational across the District. Areas of focus for the CSWs continue to be Newry, Downpatrick, Newcastle and Warrenpoint. Service hours remain under ongoing review and further increased deployment will take place in other areas as required and in response to local need. 504 hours of Community Safety Warden patrols were provided from mid-November 2023 to mid-January 2024. A detailed report is included at Appendix 1.
PCSP Small Grants	Provision of a small grants programme to increase the capacity of the community to address community safety issues	The PCSP Small Grants Scheme for 2023/24 opened on 13 March 2023 and closed on 17 April 2023. 47 applications were received – 45 applications were approved for funding (total value = £85,626). Information on successful projects has been issued to Members separately. All projects are due to complete by 31 January 2024 and we are monitoring all project expenditure to ascertain levels of potential underspend. The Small Grants Scheme for 2024/25 opened on 22 January 2024 and will close on 28 February 2024 – information has been issued to Members for further circulation.

Theme	Aims & description	Key Activities in this Period (December 2023 – January 2024)	1
Drugs and Alcohol	To support the delivery of a range of programmes, and develop a range of awareness raising campaigns	Officer attendance at SEDACT and SDACT meetings in this Period. We are currently working with Davina's Ark on a media project focusing on the issue of increased cannab use in our local communities (completion date – March 2023).	s
	To support the development of the RAPID Bin initiative across the NMDDC area	A total of 21 RAPID Bins have now been installed across the District. An update on the most recent collections from the RAPID Bins will be provided at the Partnership meeting of 30 January. Almost 50,000 items of prescription medication were recovered from local Bins in 2022/23.	n
Domestic Crime / Abuse and Sexual Violence	To support the delivery of a range of programmes, and develop a range of awareness raising campaigns	Inter-agency work progressed in this period – Officer attendance at the Down Subgroup of the South Easter Domestic & Sexual Violence Partnership and the Southern Area Domestic Violence Partnership. The PCSP is contributing towards the cost of a conference being organised by Women's Aid ArmaghDown to mark their 40th anniversary – this will take place in Newry on 28 February 2024 (information has been issue to Members regarding the event). PCSP staff are working on the design and development of covert 'coffee reward cards' which will be a sameans of getting the Domestic & Sexual Abuse Helpline number to victims & potential victims of domest abuse. The barcode of the card will contain the Helpline number but no other obvious identifiers and is designed for working professionals to pass to an identified victim / potential victim (not for intended for gener promotional material or circulation in the wider population).	co ed fe cic

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		An online awareness session for employees in close contact / wellbeing services took place in late November
		an in-person awareness session with local students took place in the Southern Regional College, Newry on 22 January – both sessions were delivered by Women's Aid ArmaghDown.
Community Safety & Vulnerability	To develop and implement a range of community safety initiatives for vulnerable persons	Continued attendance at local multi-agency partnership meetings including and Newry, Mourne & Down Intercultural Forum, Locality Planning Groups (Newry & South Armagh) and local Inter-Agency Forums. PCSP Officers are attending Newcomer Stakeholder Forum meetings in Newry and Newcastle. Personal safety / crime prevention talks were delivered to groups including the Brain Injury Group (Camlough) and students in the Southern Regional College (SRC). We are involved in a breakfast workshop on Child Sexual Explicitation in Newry on 20 March (9.30am – 11.30am, venue tbc). This will be a free event open to all sectors with key speakers around recognising and responding to CSE and providing information on local supports available.
		Continued attendance at DEA Fora to provide updates on PCSP work and linkages.
	Newry, Mourne & Down Community Support Partnership	The Community Support Partnership continues to engage with a number of vulnerable adults; the next meeting will take place on 8 February 2024. Since its formation in late 2019 the Partnership has provided dedicated support to 33 individuals. This support has included help to access a range of services (including mental health, addiction and general health services), assistance with housing issues and return to education, employment and volunteering opportunities.
Road Safety	To support and promote road safety initiatives	Continued support to Road Safe NI (Newry, Mourne and Down Committee). The Road Ahead Support Group continues to meet and offer support to families and individuals impacted by Road Traffic Collisions. We are assisting with the organisation of the local heat of the NI Primary School Road Safety Quiz (being held in the Mourne Country Hotel on 2 February).
		28 SIDs are now installed across the District. Data has been downloaded from SIDs across the District and a detailed report prepared for Members (see Appendix 2). There has been a further decrease in speed and the

		number of speed limit violations in the vicinity of the Signs. We are moving to a remote data monitoring mode for 15 of the Signs – this will result in a much more efficient information management system and allow for savings in both staff time and travel costs.
		'Your Choice' Road Safety presentations are planned for St. Mark's High School, Warrenpoint (26 January) and Shimna College, Newcastle (8 February). Both presentations will include a car crash demonstration with PSNI and NIFRS colleagues outlining what happens at the scene of an RTC and the role of their respective agencies.
Fear of Crime, Burglary &	To support communities to protect	The Home Secure Service remains open to referrals (42 referrals were received in November & December 2023); 100% of beneficiaries report feeling safer as a result of the interventions.
Crime Prevention	themselves and their property to reduce the fear of crime	The Social Alarm Scheme also remains operational. We are continuing to liaise with the PSNI to identity further beneficiaries for the Scheme (this is a targeted Scheme, aimed at high-risk individuals referred by the PSNI). Over 40 referrals (16 so far in 2023/24) have now been made to this Scheme and a number of arrests have been made at the homes of victims after alarms were triggered due to perpetrators arriving at the premises
	To develop a range of crime prevention interventions	A number of Crime Prevention events have taken place across the District in partnership with NPTs and the PSNI Crime Prevention Officer. Further events are planned for the coming weeks – information will be issued to Members once available.
	(including rural crime)	Crime prevention events took place in local shopping centres in Newry City in the run-up to Christmas 2023.
	To promote and develop the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme	There are currently 117 active and fully accredited NHW Schemes across the District, accounting for 138 NHW Co-Ordinators (some schemes are large and require 2 Co-Ordinators). PCSP Staff are currently working on the reaccreditation of all NHW Schemes (this happens every 4 years) – several Co-Ordinators have advised that they intend to step down from their role while no response has been received from approx. 30% of Co-Ordinators. We expect to see the number of NHW Schemes reduce by up to 40% across the District by the end of the reaccreditation process.
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Strategic Priority 3: To improve Confidence in Policing through collaborative problem solving with communities.

	strategic Friority 3. To improve confidence in Folicing through conaborative problem solving with confindinties.		
Theme	Aims & description	Key Activities in this Period (December 2023 – January 2024)	
Improve community confidence in policing	Advocate for policing and effectively monitor local police performance and progress of the local Policing Plan	No public meetings in this period - a PCSP/PSNI Community Engagement meeting is planned for Tuesday 6 February (from 7pm) in the Canal Court Hotel, Newry. A similar event will take place in the Downpatrick area once a date can be confirmed by the PSNI. We are aware of current challenges facing the PSNI (including budget / workforce) and the local impact on availability of NPT Officers to support some events etc.	
	Support the engagement of the local community with the PSNI	Community/police engagement is progressing well via planned events and other activities (as outlined above). We have worked in partnership with the Newry City NPT on the development of an Engagement Booklet for Primary School children (due to be launched early February), and with the Slieve Gullion South NPT on a 4-week Stay Safe programme for local Primary Schools. This will include Home Safety, Online Safety, Outdoor Safety & Road & Bike Safety. We are also supporting the Slieve Gullion South NPT with a two-day work experience / familiarisation programme in Newry on 22 & 23 February. The PSNI/PCSP Mobile Unit is proving very popular and plans are in place to ensure that it continues to be widely deployed across the District. We have recently resourced the cost of some upgrades to the Unit's software and game consoles and are confident that this will extend the use of the vehicle even further.	

Appendix 1

Summary of Community Safety Wardens Reports: 17 November 2023 - 13 January 2024

	No. Incidents attended	No. Incidents reported to PSNI	Total Hours Patrolled
Downpatrick	28	0	126
Newcastle	40	0	126
Newry	35	0	126
Warrenpoint	27	0	126
Total	130	0	504

Notes:

This reporting period covers Christmas & New Year.

Examples of Incidents Attended by Wardens:

Downpatrick 02.12.23 – Wardens at Viastown Road see a group of teenagers messing about and pushing each other onto the road. Wardens approach the group and ask them to stop, before reminding them of the dangers of messing around near a busy road.

Downpatrick 23.12.23 – Wardens patrolling the Knocknashina area hear a group of teenagers playing loud music and vaping. Wardens ask the group to keep the music down in respect of nearby residents.

Downpatrick 05.01.24 – Wardens patrolling around Rathkeltair House see teenagers who appear to be arguing and shouting loudly at each other. Wardens approach the teenagers and see they are intoxicated. Wardens diffuse the situation and ensure the teenagers calm down before sending them off home in different directions.

Newcastle 17.11.23 – Wardens come across two homeless men while patrolling the Main Street. Wardens ensure the men have some food and water and check they are okay.

Newcastle 02.12.23 – Wardens patrolling Donard Park hear a group of drivers who are parked, revving their engines, and playing loud music. Wardens approach the cars and ask them to turn down the music and stop revving the engine in respect of residents nearby, which they did.

Newcastle 22.12.23 – Wardens at Island Park see a group of young teenagers smoking and drinking alcohol. Wardens approach the group and ask them to dispose of the alcohol and cigarettes, which they did.

Newry 01.12.23 – Wardens at the Leisure Centre see a group of around 10 young males in the carpark drinking alcohol. Wardens approach the group and ask them to dispose of their alcohol and move away from the area, which they did.

Newry 09.12.23 – Wardens patrolling Sugar Island see two young women who seem to be very intoxicated. Wardens get the women water and wait with them until their taxi arrives to ensure they get home safely.

Newry 16.12.23 – Wardens patrolling around Barcroft Park see a group of teenagers drinking alcohol and vaping at the steps. Wardens ask the teenagers to dispose of their alcohol and move on from the area, which they did.

Warrenpoint 25.11.23 – Wardens heading towards Clonallon Park see three children on bikes cycling on the road. Wardens stop the children and ask them to keep off the road as they are wearing dark clothing and have nothing reflective on.

Warrenpoint 09.12.23 — Wardens at Bridle Loanan see a group of young teenagers gathered in the park, drinking alcohol and smoking. Wardens approach the group and ask them to dispose of their alcohol and move on from the area, which they did.

Warrenpoint 23.12.23 – Wardens patrolling The Square area see cars parked up playing loud music. Wardens approach the cars and ask them to turn the music down in respect for those living nearby, which they did.

Appendix 2

Table Showing Data collected from SIDs 20 November 2023 - 2 January 2024

Location of SID	85% of vehicles were travelling at this speed (MPH)	% Speed violations over 30mph (*40mph)	% Speed violations over 35mph (*45mph)	No. speed violations over 70mph	Average % reduction in speed caused by SID	Time of highest number of Speeding Offences (>30MPH*)
Annalong	36	60.6	19.4	0	4.68	06:00 AM
Ardglass	35	38.5	13.8	15	6.0	10:00 AM
Ballynahinch	33	28.7	6.2	1	7.03	05:00 AM
Burren	39	64.4	32.0	15	No Reduction	07:00 AM
Camlough	44	74.0	47.0	298	15.83	06:00 AM
Castlewellan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clough	35	45.9	14.6	6	5.0	05:00 AM
Crossmaglen	40	55.4	33.0	0	6.0	05:00 AM
Culloville*	42	19.6	5.1	0	3.42	05:00 AM
Darragh Cross*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downpatrick*	40	13.6	3.3	21	6.85	06:00 AM
Dundrum	37	53.9	22.8	106	4.68	08:00 AM
Kilcoo*	42	22.8	7.4	48	3.51	05:00 AM
Killeavy*	37	4.1	0.6	0	6.56	06:00 AM
Kilkeel	34	37.0	9.9	25	No Reduction	10:00 AM

		41.2	7.8	0	4.13	15:00 PM
Killough	34	11.2	7.0	0	1.15	15.00 111
Killyleagh	38	59.8	26.1	7	5.62	16:00 PM
Leitrim	34	38.4	8.4	0	18.62	15:00 PM
Mayobridge	37	61.8	21.8	0	3.12	06:00 AM
Meigh	39	54.8	28.2	20	13.12	13:00 PM
Newcastle	32	22.7	6.0	0	5.18	05:00 AM
Newry (Camlough						
Road)	35	38.3	12.1	51	3.33	10:00 AM
Newry						
(Chancellors						
Road)*	38	8.4	1.8	1	No Reduction	19:00 PM
Newtownhamilton	41	70.6	38.3	4	6.47	19:00 PM
Rostrevor	-	-			-	-
Saintfield	37	41.1	18.8	24	7.33	06:00 AM
Strangford	38	63.5	28.2	282	5.0	15:00 PM
Warrenpoint	36	47.2	15.0	13	2.0	23:00 PM

Notes:

Downpatrick, Newry (Chancellors Road), Darragh Cross, Kilcoo, Killeavy and Culloville SID are placed in a 40mph zone and therefore the table has been amended to reflect speed trends for these areas (by an asterix).

7 new SIDs have now been installed across the District. The new SID locations are in Annalong, Ballynahinch, Culloville, Killeavy, Killough, Leitrim, and Mayobridge. These signs have been active since August 2023.

Castlewellan SID and Rostrevor SID were unable to generate data for download due to Bluetooth issues. These issues have been reported to PWS Signs.

Darragh Cross SID was unable to be read due to a road closure from a fallen tree on the day SIDs were being read.

Key trends from data

- The overall average percentile reduction in speed caused by SIDs was 5.74%
- On average 17.10% of vehicles going past the SIDs were traveling over 35mph (*45mph).
- The SID which caused the highest reduction in speed was Leitrim SID with an average of 18.62% reduction in speed caused by the SID.

Report to:	Policing & Community Safety Partnership
Date of Meeting:	30 January 2024
Subject:	ASB Sub Group Report
Reporting Officer	Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager
(Including Job Title):	
Contact Officer	Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager
(Including Job Title):	

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-For decision x For noting only 1.0 Purpose and Background 1.1 Purpose To consider and agree the Draft Action Sheet of the ASB Sub Group 2 meeting held on 13 December 2023. 1.2 Background The attached Draft Action Sheet provides Members with an update on the work of the ASB Sub Groups since the last PCSP Committee meeting on 28 November 2023. 2.0 Key issues 2.1 The ASB Sub Group 1 meeting due to take place on 13 December 2023 was postponed due to a high number of apologies received. 3.0 Recommendations 3.1 That the Committee:-Note the report. Agree the attached the Draft Action Sheet of the ASB Sub Group 2 meeting held on 13 December 2023.

4.0	Resource implications	
4.1	Revenue	
	All actions are budgeted for in the PCSP 2023/24 Action Plan	
	Capital	
	N/A	
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complet the relevant sections)	te
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, spe equality and good relations outcomes	ecific
	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations	\boxtimes
5.2	Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practic and / or sensitive or contentious decision	æ
	Yes □ No ⊠	
	If yes, please complete the following:	
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened	
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation	
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation	
	Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves	
	Consultation period will be 12 weeks	
	Consultation period will be 12 weeks	
	Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)	

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	Rationale:	
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)	
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service	
	Yes □ No ⊠	
	If yes, please complete the following:	
	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed	
7.0	Appendices	
7.1	Appendix I: Draft Action Sheet of ASB Sub Group 2 held on 13 December 2023.	
8.0	Background Documents	
8.1	None.	

Newry, Mourne and Down Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)

Action Sheet of PCSP ASB Sub Group 2 Meeting held on 13th December 2023 at the Newcastle Centre, Newcastle at 7pm

Present:

Chairperson: Cllr Galbraith

Statutory Partners: Sgt Kenneth Gracey (PSNI),

Donna Weir (EA), Bernadette McDowell (YJA)

Elected Members: Cllr Oonagh Hanlon, Cllr Conor Galbraith, Cllr Henry Reilly,

Cllr Jill Truesdale

Independent Members: Audrey Byrne, Tara Campbell

Council Officials: Jacqueline Urey (NMDDC)

Apologies: Damien Brannigan (NMDDC), Martin Healy (NIFRS),

Bronagh Magorrian (NIHE), Dan McEvoy (Independent Member), Martina Flynn (NMDDC), Sgt Cochrane/Sgt Dunn (PSNI), Insp Darren Hardy (PSNI), Insp Sheila Loughran

(PSNI)

ITEM	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	ACTIONS FOR COMPLETION
ASB/001	Welcome and Apologies	All were welcomed to the meeting. Introductions and apologies are recorded above.	
ASB/002	Adoption of previous Action sheet	Action Sheet agreed. Proposed by Cllr Reilly and seconded by Cllr Hanlon.	
ASB/003	Current and emerging issues	1.Lower Square, Kilkeel – car ASB 2.Ben Crom area, Kilkeel ASB	Points 1 – 5 Sgt Gracey to pass on information for action

		3.Fearon Close, Kilkeel – drug	
		dealing	
		acaming	
		4.D. Common Maria Donada and filiti	
		4.De Courcy Way, Dundrum – graffiti	
		5.Bann Car Park, Castlewellan –	
		nearby residents reporting	
		disturbances.	
		Discarded needles – Cllr Truesdale	
		has connected with the NMDDC re	
		development of large clinical sharps	
		disposal bin on Council site.	
	ASB Sub Group	Members agreed on the action plan	
ASB/004	Action Plan	provided – there were no further	
	Action Flan	additions.	
		DCNI ACD statistics surrent lavels	
		PSNI – ASB statistics, current levels	
		of response/staffing. PSNI continue to	
		monitor and action accordingly. Sgt	
		Gracey gave detailed overview of recent ASB in The Burrendale Estate.	
		It was stressed that issues need to be	
		reported either to the PSNI or through	
		Crimestoppers – this will allow	
		resources to be employed in	
		identified areas. Crimestoppers	
ASB/005	Updates from	leaflets (x 400) have been given to	
A3B/003	Agencies	Newry St Unite for leaflet drop in	
		Kilkeel area.	
		PCSP – Update on recent meetings	
		and conversations with partnership	
		agencies re no Needle & Syringe	
		Exchange Service in Newcastle;	
		reported increase in use of	
		injectables and information on the	
		needle drop bin pilot scheme in	
		Glasgow. Update on drugs work in	

	schools – PHA have no provision for work in primary schools. Update on spice vaping sessions in post primary schools provided by Connections (via Ascert). NIHE – no update	PCSP / J Urey to follow up on requested meeting with Connections to discuss pilot needle bin scheme in Glasgow and the lead from Needle & Syringe Exchange Service.
	EA – Engaging with as many young people as possible particularly in hard-to-reach areas. Continued engagement in partnership working. Staff are undertaking drug and vaping training. Launch of new project – Mini Horizons – targeting young males and diverting from ASB activities and working on developing an understanding of the consequences of risk taking behaviours. YJA – Continuing to engage with individuals with offending behaviour and those on the cusp of offending and continuing promotion of healthy behaviours. Receiving positive feedback on the Fresh Start IFA Programme.	
Other	Audrey Byrne informed the Sub Group that Independent Member, Dan McEvoy (not in attendance) requested to have noted that he did not see Community Safety Wardens in Downpatrick over Halloween and the more recently held Christmas event.	To note that Warden reports confirm presence in Downpatrick on 31 October 2023.

			Wardens not scheduled to be on patrol for Christmas event – confirmed to Mr McEvoy (via e- mail) on 4
ASB/006	Date of Next Meeting	Tuesday 6 th February 2024 – 7pm Location: Newcastle Centre, Newcastle Promenade.	PCSP / J Urey to send invites and papers in due course.

The meeting concluded at: 7:50pm

