

March 20th, 2024

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Policing and Community Safety Partnership meeting to be held on **Tuesday, 26th March 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 PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting held 30 January 2024

📄 *Minutes PCSP & Policing Committee 30.01.2024.pdf*

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4.0 Matters Arising

Policing Committee Business

5.0 District Commander's Report - Period 5

PCSP Business

6.0 PCSP Officer report

📄 *PCSP Officer Report.pdf*

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📄 *Appendix 1 - PCSP Officer Report March 2024.pdf*

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7.0 ASB Sub Group Report

📄 *Action Sheet - ASB Sub Group 2 - 07.02.2024.pdf*

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📄 *Action Sheet - ASB Sub Group 1 - 22.02.2024.pdf*

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8.0 Date of next meeting

28 May 2024, 6pm.

Council Chamber, Downshire Civic Centre with a hybrid option.

Invitees

- Cllr Terry Andrews
- Fionnuala Branagh
- Cllr Killian Feehan
- Cllr Conor Galbraith
- Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
- Cllr Roisin Howell
- Cllr Alan Lewis
- Cllr Aidan Mathers
- Cllr Declan Murphy
- Mr Andy Patterson
- Cllr Henry Reilly
- Ms Alison Robb
- Sarah Taggart
- 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 30 January 2024 at 6.00pm remotely via MS Teams****In attendance via Teams:**

Councillor D Murphy, NMDDC
Councillor K Feehan, NMDDC
Councillor C Galbraith, NMDDC
Councillor O Hanlon, NMDDC (Chair)
Councillor A Mathers, NMDDC
Councillor R Howell, NMDDC
Councillor D Taylor, NMDDC
Councillor J Truesdale, NMDDC
Superintendent Norman Haslett, PSNI
Chief Inspector Peter Stevenson, PSNI
Inspector Kelly Gibson, PSNI
Inspector Darren Hardy, PSNI
Inspector Sheila Loughran, PSNI
Sergeant Ryan Duffy, PSNI
Audrey Byrne, PCSP Independent Member
Tara Campbell, PCSP Independent Member
Dan McAvoy, PCSP Independent Member
Michelle Osborne, PCSP Independent Member
David Vint, PCSP Independent Member
Roisin Leckey, PBNI
Joanne Malone, PBNI
Donna Weir, EANI
Aidan McCabe, SHSCT
Michael Heaney, YJA

Council Officials in attendance via Teams:

Alison Robb, Assistant Director Community Development
Damien Brannigan, Head of Engagement
Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager
Shannon Creaney, PCSP Officer
Jacqueline Urey, PCSP Officer
Amy McKeown, Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, PCSP and Good Relations
Shane McGivern, Safer Communities & Good Relations Officer

1 Welcome, Chairperson's Remarks and Apologies

Councillor Hanlon welcomed Members to the first Partnership meeting of 2024 and acknowledged the busy year ahead with the wide range of programmes and events that are scheduled to take place.

Councillor Hanlon advised that the application process for PCSP Independent Members closed on 13 December 2023. There were 20 applications received and 16 candidates shortlisted. Interviews will take place in mid-February with the reconstitution date set for 1 June 2024.

Roisin Leckey added that Joanne Malone has joined PBNI as an Area Manager and would be joining the meeting this evening.

The PCSP Financial Assistance scheme is currently open to applications and will close on 28 February. Information on the scheme has been issued to Members. Councillor Hanlon encouraged all Members to raise awareness around this as far as possible and to encourage applications from local community and voluntary groups.

There are a number of upcoming PCSP events which Members are asked to attend and raise awareness of:

- PSNI/ PCSP Public Engagement meeting in Canal Court Hotel, Newry on Tuesday 6 February at 7pm
- Community and Safety Wellbeing event at Newry Leisure Centre on 26 February, 10am-2pm

Councillor Hanlon added that the draft Local Policing Plan for the District was circulated earlier today. Members are asked to review the content and forward any comments directly to the PSNI by 16 February.

Councillor Hanlon discussed the ASB consultation that was recently launched by the Department for Communities and Department for Justice. Please forward any comments to Martina Flynn by 23 February so that these can be collated into an overall PCSP response.

Councillor Hanlon asked that these key dates/ events be summarised and e-mailed to all Members.

Apologies were noted from Cllr Terry Andrews.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3 Draft Minutes of previous PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting dated 28 November 2023

Read: Minutes of PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting held on 28 November 2023 (copy circulated).

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Galbraith, seconded by Councillor Truesdale, it was agreed to approve the Minutes of the Policing Committee and PCSP Meeting held on 28 November 2023 as a true and accurate record.**

4 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5 District Commander's Report – Period 4

Read: District Commander's Report – Period 4 (copy circulated)

Superintendent Haslett updated on the District Commander's Report to the Partnership, highlighting the following points:

Engagement

There has been a lot of engagement by officers right across the District. For example, Newry City Neighbourhood Team have been engaging with St. Joseph's High School, particularly Year 10s. There have been organised talks on cyber bullying and sexting. Neighbourhood Teams in East Down have engaged with local shop keepers in Downpatrick following the flooding at the end of October/ beginning of November. There was further engagement and beats in December and in the run up to Christmas. The South Down Neighbourhood Team have continued with their Christmas crime prevention theme and were present at the Kilkeel ASDA store on 8 December to provide crime prevention advice to shoppers and provide reassurance to the local business community. There is ongoing engagement around Slieve Gullion, Neighbourhood Officers delivered a sextortion talk to the Crossmaglen Youth Club on 27 November. There has been continued engagement at St. Pauls High School Bessbrook with sextortion talks taking place.

Officers have been involved in joint PCSP/ PSNI events during the reporting period. As previously discussed, there is a public meeting to be held on 6 February in the Canal Court Newry. The theme will be violence against women and girls, Inspector Gibson will be presenting on behalf of PSNI.

There are almost 73,000 followers on Facebook with a fortnightly reach of approximately 415,000 people. On Twitter there are almost 9,000 followers. On the Next Door app there are 14,500 Members and in 2023, PSNI posted 168 times on this app.

Hate Crime

In total there has been a 34.6% reduction in hate motivated crime compared to the previous rolling 365 day period. During the same period, hate motivated incidents have decreased by 7.5% and this equates to a reduction of 70 crimes and incidents during that reporting period. The most reported hate crime is sectarian followed by racial crime and then sexual orientation.

Vulnerability

The good work of the PSNI Newry Mourne and Down Support Hub has continued under the stewardship of Sergeant Ryan Duffy. The team currently support 7 cohorts with a total of 60 vulnerable persons on the watchlist which is reviewed on a daily basis.

ASB

ASB levels across the District are now significantly below average and are on a downward trend. There are no significant repeat locations noted of high numbers. A problem-solving folder has been opened for the Burrendale Estate in Newcastle recently. There continues to be sporadic ASB issues in Dobsons Way, Bessbrook. Other than this, there are no other issues of concern.

Domestic Abuse

In this reporting period for the last 365 days, domestic incidents decreased by 109 incidents compared to the previous year. In terms of offences, they have decreased by 328 in total. Superintendent Haslett believes that there is a greater confidence in domestic abuse victims reporting incidents to the PSNI, Women's Aid, Men's Advisory Project and other agencies.

Officers have also received additional training from Women's Aid which enhances their ability to recognise and support victims of domestic abuse. New legislation on controlling and coercive behaviour, stalking offences and most notably non-fatal strangulation have added to this. The number of incidents anecdotally being seen in relation to non-fatal strangulation is quite frequent. Superintendent Haslett commended the work of Inspector Gibson who has taken this portfolio on. The outcome rates on domestic abuse have increased by 3.3% which means that victims are receiving a better service in terms of crimes against them being cleared.

Operation Encompass was discussed, this is a scheme where young people who have witnessed domestic abuse in their homes are referred to their respective schools for counselling. Upon commencement of the 23/24 school year up until 31 December PSNI in the NMD District have attended 334 domestic incidents where Op Encompass criteria has been met and 658 children were referred to schools and designated teachers across the District.

Road Safety

In the last calendar year of 2023 there were a total of 11 fatalities within the NMD District. This compares to 7 fatalities in 2022. Of the 2023 fatalities, 5 were passengers, 2 were pedestrians and 4 were drivers of vehicles. There were 3 fatalities in a multi-vehicle collision in November on the Armagh Road, Newry. Since the last report there have sadly been 2 further fatalities in 2 separate road traffic collisions. On 13 December a 56 year old female driver died on the A1 and on 29 December, a 45 year old pedestrian died following a collision with a vehicle on the Hilltown Road.

Road Safety continues to be a priority, in November officers focussed on drivers without insurance and in December Operation Season Greetings took place, 28 arrests were made for people driving under the influence. 90 detections were made for no insurance.

A number of initiatives took place during the reporting period, on 16 & 24 November speed checks took place across the District. In Downpatrick (this evening 30 January) a joint operation with the DVA and Neighbourhood Police is taking place looking at the road worthiness of vehicles.

A number of hotspots have been identified, these have included roads with 2 or more accidents in December- the Ballyvalley Road in Mayobridge, and the Strangford Road in Downpatrick. There are also repeat locations with 4 or more road traffic collisions where there have been injuries in the last 4 months. These include the Newcastle Road in Dundrum and Armagh Road in Newry. Thursday to Saturday seems to be the most impacted period through the hours of 11am-3pm, 5pm-7pm and 8pm-9pm.

PSNI continue to use data from the SIDs along with areas highlighted as being of community concern and data regarding collisions where someone was killed or seriously injured to regularly update the daily focus and inform deployment of officers across the District.

Drugs

Drugs continue to be a focus, and in the reporting period and slightly afterwards there have been a number of notable successes. The most notable was on 11 December in Jonesborough when the Slieve Gullion Neighbourhood Team stopped and searched a suspicious lorry. 118 Kg of cocaine was discovered with an estimated street value of £10million. The sophistication of the concealment of the drugs and sheer quantity gives an indication of scale of criminality involved. This is an example of effective neighbourhood community policing that have taken a significant quantity of illegal and harmful drugs off the streets.

The Slieve Gullion Neighbourhood Team were also involved in a search in Culloville where a cannabis factory was discovered consisting of 130 cannabis plants and 25kg of cannabis with an estimated street value of £450,000. One suspect was arrested and subsequently remanded.

In Rathfriland, the District Support Team searched an address and discovered a cannabis factory with 300 cannabis plants with an approximate street value of £200-300,000. One arrest was made and remanded in custody.

Crime

Over the reporting period in the last 365 days overall crime in the District has decreased by 8% from the previous rolling year. The outcome rate has increased by 3.3% up to 33.4% which means the victims of crime are receiving a better service.

Offences against the person in the reporting period decreased by 18.5%, criminal damage decreased by 4.1%, shoplifting decreased in December with particular successes at Five Ways in Newry. Burglary overall is down 2.4%, robbery is down 26.1% and residential burglary is down 4.5%.

South Armagh Policing Review

PSNI have now implemented 38 out of the 48 recommendations which equates to 79% of the total. Superintendent Haslett reported to the Northern Ireland Policing Board Partnership Committee on progress on 25 January. PSNI will be convening a further Independent Advisory Group meeting in the near future.

General

Superintendent Haslett discussed the pipe bomb on 1 January at Drumgullion Avenue in Newry, this was found to be a viable device and is a worrying development.

On 30 October at Crossmaglen, Neighbourhood Officers and Officers from the Crime Ops Department located a very significant hide of weaponry, this included an assault rifle, a shotgun, 11 handguns, a significant quantity of ammunition, 6,000 litres of laundered fuel and 3 fuel pods. This is currently under further investigation by the Organised Crime Department.

Superintendent Haslett discussed the recent flooding and the significant impact that this had in Newry and Downpatrick. PSNI chaired tactical co-ordination groups involving Council, DFI Roads, DFI Rivers and NIFRS.

Superintendent Haslett asked the Partnership to consider the proposed Newry, Mourne and Down Local Policing Plan for coming year. The business plan is very much based on the NI Policing Plan with the 3 Outcomes being: a safer community; confidence in policing and having engaged and supportive communities. It doesn't differ much from the previous year but any commentary would be welcome from the Partnership.

Councillor Hanlon reminded Members that the closing date for comments on the Local Policing Plan is 16 February and encouraged everyone to reply to this.

Discussion

Michelle Osborne advised that she was recently invited to a CRJ event, this was part of the Digging Deeper Project looking at policing and accessibility. The group visited Newtownhamilton PSNI Station, Crossmaglen PSNI Station and Dundalk Garda Station. Mrs. Osborne noted that no one answered at the Newtownhamilton Station. At Crossmaglen, PSNI Officers did arrive via car and spoke to attendees. Mrs. Osborne felt that there was a big difference between the PSNI Stations and the Garda Station. At the Garda Station, attendees were allowed to come in and were able to speak to someone there. Mrs. Osborne enquired did Superintendent Haslett have any comment on this.

Superintendent Haslett agreed that there is a big difference between PSNI and Garda Stations, even just by the way they look. The thrust of the South Armagh Policing Review was about how policing is felt and experienced by the local community. There have been many discussions about what those stations actually look like. Neither Crossmaglen and Newtownhamilton are reporting Police Stations and the nearest station for people to produce documentation is Newry. Superintendent Haslett stated he would be interested to look at the CRJ report and Terms of Reference on this and would not comment until he had considered this. If there are issues in relation to accessibility at these stations then these will be looked at but he would hoped that this would not defer from the bigger picture of PSNI visibility, accessibility and responsiveness since the South Armagh Policing Review was launched in August 2021.

Councillor Hanlon discussed Road Safety and the data used from SIDs. Councillor Hanlon has been approached by many residents in Strangford who feel that speed increases around the ferry time, it was asked is this something that PSNI can use as a time to have enforcement in place and send a clear message via social media to slow down? The fact

that this is such a narrow road into Strangford and that there is a residential area on one side and a school on the other, it is creating a lot of anxiety in the area. Feedback from residents is that they would like to see some more PSNI enforcement in the area.

Superintendent Haslett added that there are a number of factors that inform where officers go to enforce speed detection. Some would be from analyst reports (some of this data is shared in the report), some from the SIDs data and some from local community concerns. Superintendent Haslett stated that PSNI would take Councillor Hanlon's concern forward and there should be more visibility seen in this area in the coming weeks.

Councillor Mathers discussed drug related issues in the Newry area and welcomed the efforts of PSNI in relation to this. Councillor Mathers feels that much more needs to be done and stated that drug dealers are doing business openly without fear of being arrested. Councillor Mathers discussed an incident at Newry Leisure Centre the previous evening. There was what seemed to be an arranged fight that took place between two males in their 20s in the car park where the old swimming pool was located. A video being shared online shows that one of the males sustained serious face injuries. Councillor Mathers asked that the PSNI give this area of Newry some attention over the coming days given that there has also been an attempted break in and some other anti-social activities taking place.

Superintendent Haslett disagreed with the statement that people are dealing drugs without fear of arrest. Superintendent Haslett added that if the PSNI have information that people are dealing drugs then pro-active steps will be taken to make arrests. Superintendent Haslett asked that any information on drug dealing be shared with the PSNI.

Councillor Truesdale concurred with the point about the issue of speeding at Strangford and the concern within the community about this issue. Councillor Truesdale was also asked to bring to the attention of the PSNI concerns of speeding in Bryansford Village which links in with Donard Park in Newcastle. An incident occurred last week in Donard Park where a car was doing donuts in the overflow carpark and was challenged by a local man who asked the driver to stop. The driver left the scene and it was reported.

Councillor Truesdale added that as the lighter nights come in, the drivers will return to Donard Park from where they set off and race around a loop via Bryansford to see who will get back first to Newcastle. Councillor Truesdale asked is there anyway of setting something up to pre-empt what is going to happen again.

Superintendent Haslett asked was the incident in Donard Park reported to PSNI. Councillor Truesdale was informed that the incident had been reported. Inspector Loughran informed the meeting that an operation was planned for the previous Sunday with the DVA but this had to be cancelled due to the storm. She noted that the PSNI are aware of the issues in Newcastle and asked Councillor Truesdale to e-mail herself and Sergeant Gracey with regarding the concerns in Bryansford Village.

Councillor Hanlon advised that the PCSP had organised a one-off meeting in relation to Donard Park which was positive in terms of the actions that came from this.

6 PCSP Officer Report

Read: PCSP Officer Report (copy circulated)

Mrs Flynn highlighted the work of staff and the ongoing programme of activities. There are a lot of upcoming events, some of which are closed such as the schools and youth group events. For those events that were noted in the Chair's opening remarks, it would be great if Members could raise awareness and attend if possible. In relation to the data from the SIDs, there have been consistently raised concerns specifically in Camlough over the last few years. In this reporting period the number of recorded violations over 70 mph is 298, the lowest number for some time. There has been recent profiling in the media highlighting the danger of speeding in Camlough so it is encouraging to see the decrease in violations.

PCSP are supporting the Women's Aid conference in Newry on 28 February 28 and information has been previously circulated. Mrs. Flynn attended the launch of the event last week and it was raised that the number of men who have registered is very low. If any male Members would like to attend, Mrs. Flynn asked that they contact her directly.

UTV have approached PCSP staff to cover one of the drug awareness talks by Teresa Burke. It is hoped that this will happen in the next number of weeks and will be useful in terms of raising awareness of the PCSP.

Agreed: It was agreed the Committee:

- **Note the report**

7 ASB Sub Group Report

Read: ASB Sub Group Report (copy circulated)

Mrs. Flynn advised that there is one Action Sheet for approval. This is for the ASB Sub-Group 2 Meeting which took place on 13 December. The December ASB Sub-Group 1 meeting was postponed due to the number of apologies received.

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

- **Note the report**
- **Agree the attached Draft Action Sheet of ASB Sub Group 2 held on 13 December 2023.**

8 Date of Next Meeting

The next PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday 26 March 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 6.39pm.

Report to:	Policing & Community Safety Partnership
Date of Meeting:	26 March 2024
Subject:	PCSP Officer Report – March 2024
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-

For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report. To note the attached PCSP Officer Report.
1.2	<p>Background</p> <p>The attached report provides Members with an update on the progress of the PCSP Action Plan since the previous PCSP meeting on 30 January 2024.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	None.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<p>That the Committee:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Note the attached PCSP Officer Report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	<p>Revenue</p> <p>All actions are budgeted for in the PCSP 2023/24 Action Plan</p> <p>Capital</p>

	N/A
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>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 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
7.1	Appendix I: PCSP Officer Report – March 2024

8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None.

Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP Officer Report – March 2024

The purpose of this Report is to provide an update on key activities and progress since the last PCSP meeting on 30 January 2024.

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). Interviews for PCSP Independent Members took place on 13 & 14 February 2024 – the panel have agreed that 12 candidates are suitable for appointment (9 Appointees & 3 Reserves). Final appointments are subject to PSNI and NIPB checks.
- **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.
- **PCSP Contracted Services** – procurement is now complete for all PCSP contracted services (Community Safety Wardens, Home Secure Scheme and the Social Alarm Scheme). Appointment of service providers for all services is now subject to final signing of contracts (due to complete by 1 April 2024).

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 (February – March 2024)
PCSP Delivery	Organising the work of the PCSP through	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 Newcastle on 7 February 2024; ASB Sub Group 1 met in Newry on 22 February 2024.
Raise awareness of PCSP	To evidence impact through increased awareness of the PCSP	<p>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.</p> <p>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 – €30,000 has subsequently been awarded to establish an All Island Community Safety Network (including a Community Safety Practitioner Network).</p> <p>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 Network was launched in Dublin on 28 February 2024 by the Minister for Justice – Helen McEntee TD – and the first event took place in Drogheda on for 12 March 2024 (focus on Domestic Abuse). Over 100 people attended, including representatives from the PSNI, An Garda Siochana, the Departments of Justice (NI and RoI), PCSPs, RoI Community Safety Partnerships and a wide range of community & voluntary agencies. Women’s Aid ArmaghDown attended and facilitated a discussion session on their DASS Project (previously funded by the PCSP).</p>

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

Theme	Aims & description	Key Activities in this Period (February – March 2024)
ASB	Develop a range diversionary youth & community engagement projects	<p>Both ASB Sub Groups continue to work to the Action Plans for their respective areas.</p> <p>The PCSP has funded a diversionary programme in Downpatrick where participants from the recent Fresh Start programme have engaged in a soccer programme co-ordinated by the PSNI. Attendees have also included members of the Bulgarian community and a 17yr old Sudanese male currently living in MACs. Feedback has been excellent and it is hoped that the participants will continue to engage in other programmes.</p> <p>The PCSP is working in partnership with the Respect Project (along with Arbour Housing and Radius Housing) on the provision of an 8-week diversionary programme in the Newry area (commencing April 2024).</p> <p>We are also working with partner agencies on Summer provision in the Downpatrick, Rowallane and Slieve Croob DEAs.</p>
	Provision of a District-wide Community Safety Warden Scheme	<p>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.</p> <p>392 hours of Community Safety Warden patrols were provided from mid-January to early March 2024. A detailed report is included at Appendix 1.</p>
PCSP Small Grants	Provision of a small grants programme to increase the capacity of the community to	<p>The PCSP Small Grants Scheme for 2024/25 opened on 22 January 2024 and closed on 28 February 2024. 51 applications were received – the assessment panel will convene on 20 March 2024, with Letters of Offer to be issued to groups by April / May 2024.</p>

	address community safety issues	
Theme	Aims & description	Key Activities in this Period (February – March 2024)
Drugs and Alcohol	To support the delivery of a range of programmes, and develop a range of awareness raising campaigns	<p>Officer attendance at SEDACT and SDACT meetings in this Period.</p> <p>A Community Wellbeing event took place in Newry Leisure Centre on 26 February 2024 (in partnership with Start360). This was a very successful event – attended by 30 stakeholders (with information stands), 100 members of the public and almost 300 students from local Secondary Schools. A similar event is being planned for Downpatrick Leisure Centre on 9 September 2024.</p> <p>We are currently working with Davina’s Ark on a media project focusing on the issue of increased cannabis use in our local communities (completion date – April 2024).</p>
	To support the development of the RAPID Bin initiative across the NMDDC area	<p>A total of 21 RAPID Bins have now been installed across the District.</p> <p>An update on the most recent collections from the RAPID Bins will be provided at the Partnership meeting on 26 March. Almost 50,000 items of prescription medication were recovered from local Bins in 2022/23.</p>
Domestic Crime / Abuse and Sexual Violence	To support the delivery of a range of programmes, and develop a range of awareness raising campaigns	<p>Inter-agency work progressed in this period – Officer attendance at the Down Subgroup of the South Eastern Domestic & Sexual Violence Partnership and the Southern Area Domestic Violence Partnership.</p> <p>The PCSP supported the Women’s Aid ArmaghDown conference which took place in Newry on 28 February 2024 – this was a well-attended event, with excellent feedback from attendees.</p> <p>A Domestic Violence awareness session took place with local students took place in the Southern Regional College, Newry on 7 March 2024.</p>

<p>Community Safety & Vulnerability</p>	<p>To develop and implement a range of community safety initiatives for vulnerable persons</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>PCSP Officers are attending Newcomer Stakeholder Forum meetings in Newry and Newcastle. Personal safety / crime prevention talks were delivered to groups including the Clanrye Group (Newry) and students in the Southern Regional College (SRC).</p> <p>Continued attendance at DEA Fora to provide updates on PCSP work and linkages.</p>
	<p>Newry, Mourne & Down Community Support Partnership</p>	<p>The Community Support Partnership continues to engage with a number of vulnerable adults; the most recent meeting took place on 7 March 2024. Since its formation in late 2019 the Partnership has provided dedicated support to 34 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.</p>
<p>Road Safety</p>	<p>To support and promote road safety initiatives</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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 have now moved to a remote data monitoring model for 15 of the Signs – this has resulted in a much more efficient information management system and allow for savings in both staff time and travel costs.</p> <p>We have received notice of concern about the siting of the SID on Milltown Street, Burren – a local building contractor has advised that the SID is located on land which he owns, and which has been zoned for planning. The SID therefore needs to be relocated (to a site close to the current location). We have been liaising with the Department for Infrastructure about this – they advise that DfI control the verge where the SID is located as the carriageway is defined as being from centre of one hedge/boundary to the opposite centre of hedge/boundary so the Department therefore have the right to erect signs on any verge under the Department’s control (as is the case here). The contractor owns the bed and soil to the centre of the carriageway - which is common in most cases – but does not have legal control. The contractor has agreed to cover all costs associated with the relocation but an alternative site will have to be agreed by DfI and the PCSP; we hope that this can be resolved by May 2024.</p>

		<p>The Castlewellan SID has been removed as factory repairs are required; the SID on the Chancellor’s Road, Newry is also not reading at present as it has been moved from its point (likely deliberately).</p> <p>‘Your Choice’ Road Safety presentations took place at Newry Leisure Centre on 26 February 2024 and the Southern Regional College (Greenbank Campus) on 4 March 2024. Both presentations included 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.</p> <p>PCSP Staff attended the PSNI Roadsafes Roadshow in St. Patrick’s Grammar School, Downpatrick on 14 March 2024 – students from four local Secondary Schools attended this event, which featured a series of hugely impactful presentations.</p>
<p>Fear of Crime, Burglary & Crime Prevention</p>	<p>To support communities to protect themselves and their property to reduce the fear of crime</p>	<p>The Home Secure Service remains open to referrals (52 referrals were received in January & February 2024); 100% of beneficiaries report feeling safer as a result of the interventions.</p> <p>The Social Alarm Scheme also remains operational. We are continuing to liaise with the PSNI to identify further beneficiaries for the Scheme (this is a targeted Scheme, aimed at high-risk individuals referred by the PSNI). Over 40 referrals (18 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</p>
	<p>To develop a range of crime prevention interventions (including rural crime)</p>	<p>A number of Crime Prevention events have taken place across the District in partnership with NPTs and the PSNI Crime Prevention Officer. These have included events in Newry, Warrenpoint, South Armagh, Drumaness and Downpatrick.</p> <p>Crime prevention & awareness raising events have also taken place in local shopping centres (including events with the local Jobs & Benefits Service).</p>
	<p>To promote and develop the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme</p>	<p>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) – we expect to see the number of NHW Schemes reduce by over 50% across the District by the end of the reaccreditation process (revised estimated number of Schemes – 54).</p>

Strategic Priority 3: To improve Confidence in Policing through collaborative problem solving with communities.

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Theme	Aims & description	Key Activities in this Period (February – March 2024)
Improve community confidence in policing	Advocate for policing and effectively monitor local police performance and progress of the local Policing Plan	<p>A PCSP/PSNI Community Engagement meeting took place on Tuesday 6 February 2024 in the Canal Court Hotel, Newry. This was well attended, with presentations focused on Domestic Abuse and Ending Violence Against Women & Girls.</p> <p>A similar event will take place in Downpatrick (St. Patrick Centre) on 24 April 2024 – Members are encouraged to attend and raise awareness of the event.</p> <p>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.</p>
	Support the engagement of the local community with the PSNI	<p>Community/police engagement is progressing well via planned events and other activities (as outlined above).</p> <p>We have worked in partnership with the Newry City NPT on the development of an Engagement Booklet for Primary School children – this was launched at St. Patrick’s Primary School in Newry on 26 February 2024.</p> <p>We supported the Slieve Gullion South NPT with a two-day work experience / familiarisation programme in Newry on 22 & 23 February 2024 – over 20 students from local schools and colleges attended, feedback from students and teachers has been excellent so it is hoped to run the programme again in the near future.</p> <p>The PSNI/PCSP Mobile Unit remains 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.</p>

Summary of Community Safety Wardens Reports: 13 January 2024 – 2 March 2024

	No. Incidents attended	No. Incidents reported to PSNI	Total Hours Patrolled
Downpatrick	19	0	98
Newcastle	29	1	98
Newry	20	0	98
Warrenpoint	21	0	98
Total	89	1	392

Notes:

This reporting period covers schools' mid-term break.

Examples of Incidents Attended by Wardens:

Downpatrick 19.01.2024 – Wardens patrolling around Down Leisure Centre come across a group of teenagers drinking alcohol. Wardens approach the group and ask them to dispose of the alcohol and move on from the area, which they did.

Downpatrick 26.01.2024 – Wardens in the Lynn Doyle Place area come across a large group of teenagers drinking alcohol and making a lot of noise. Wardens ask the teenagers to dispose of the alcohol and lower their volume in respect of those living nearby.

Downpatrick 03.02.2024 – Wardens patrolling the Dunleath area come across two young teenagers messing around on electric scooters on the main road. Wardens speak to the young teens and remind them of the dangers of doing this, before asking them to move onto the footpath and into a safe area.

Downpatrick 24.02.2024 – Wardens at the St. Patrick's Centre see a group of teenagers drinking alcohol and vaping. Wardens approach the group and ask them to dispose of the alcohol and move on from the area, which they did.

Newcastle 03.02.2024 – Wardens patrolling Island Park see a large group of young teenagers drinking alcohol. The group attempt to run off when the Wardens approach, and the Wardens notice that one of the teenagers is unable to run and was starting to be sick due to excessive alcohol. Wardens ensure the young female is okay before taking her phone and calling her parents. The Wardens wait with the young female to ensure her parents arrive and she gets home safely.

Newcastle 17.02.2024 – Wardens at Donard Car Park see a group of teenagers drinking at the toilets. Wardens approach the group and ask them to dispose of the alcohol and move on from the area, which they did.

Newcastle 02.03.2024 – Wardens in Donard Car Park see a group of cars parked up revving their engines and playing loud music. Wardens approach the drivers and ask them to turn the music down and stop revving their engines in respect to those living nearby, which they did.

Newcastle 09.03.2024 – Wardens patrolling Island Park spoke to a several people who complained that youths were throwing stones at their campervans. Wardens patrolled the area but no sign of the youths.

Newry 19.01.2024 – Wardens patrolling the Meadow area see a group of teenagers gathered drinking alcohol. Wardens approach the group and ask them to dispose of the alcohol and move on from the area.

Newry 02.03.2024 – Wardens at Barcroft Park hear a group of teenagers playing loud music. Wardens approach the group and ask them to turn the music down in respect of those living nearby.

Warrenpoint 19.01.2024 – Wardens at Bridle Loanan see two teenagers in a heated argument. Wardens approach the teenagers and calm them both down before sending them off in different directions to prevent a fight breaking out.

Warrenpoint 20.01.2024 – Wardens at The Square Car Park see two cars parked up playing loud music. Wardens approach the drivers and ask them to turn the music down in respect of those living nearby.

Warrenpoint 09.02.2024 – Wardens patrolling near Bridle Loanan see a group of teenagers drinking alcohol and vaping. Wardens approach the group and ask them to dispose of the alcohol and move on from the area.

Appendix 2

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Table Showing Data collected from SIDs 23 January 2024 – 14 March 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	60.5	19.5	0	4.83%	06:00
Ardglass	35	40.5	14.6	3	6%	16:00
Ballynahinch	33	27.4	6.2	0	7.4%	05:00
Burren	40	67.4	34.5	19	No Reduction	06:00
Camlough	44	75.6	49.0	339	16.38%	07:00
Castlewellan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clough	36	46.7	15.3	9	4.83%	05:00
Crossmaglen	41	57.9	35.0	0	7.3%	05:00
Culloville*	43	25.2	7.3	0	3.33%	05:00
Darragh Cross*	41	17.1	4.4	3	5%	11:00
Downpatrick*	41	15.4	3.7	17	6.66%	06:00
Dundrum	37	51.9	21.5	85	4.37%	10:00
Kilcoo*	43	24.9	8.1	37	3.42%	05:00
Killeavy*	37	5.0	0.8	0	6.25%	06:00
Kilkeel	35	42.4	12.2	12	No Reduction	05:00
Killough	34	41.5	8.1	0	4.48%	17:00
Killyleagh	38	60.1	26.3	6	6.25%	08:00
Leitrim	34	39.0	8.4	0	17.93%	18:00
Mayobridge	37	63.7	23.7	0	3.43%	06:00
Meigh	40	60.8	33.2	42	13.93%	05:00
Newcastle	33	25.8	7.2	5	5.55%	05:00

Newry (Camlough Road)	35	39.7	12.4	36	3%	10:00
Newry (Chancellors Road)*	38	7.0	1.6	0	0.64%	23:00
Newtownhamilton	41	70.3	38.4	11	6.47%	21:00
Rostrevor	42	57.3	33.7	149	8.43%	06:00
Saintfield	37	42.5	19.6	6	7.33%	06:00
Strangford	38	64.6	29.3	167	4.37%	08:00
Warrenpoint	35	46.5	14.7	11	1.03%	08:00

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.

Castlewellan SID is currently with PWS Signs for repair, therefore it was unable to be read for this report.

Key trends from data

- The overall average percentile reduction in speed caused by SIDs was 5.87%
- On average 18.53% 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 17.93% reduction in speed caused by the SID

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

Action Sheet of PCSP ASB Sub Group 2 Meeting held on 7 February 2024 at the Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle at 7pm

Present:

Chairperson: Cllr Conor Galbraith

Statutory Partners: Sgt Kenneth Gracey (PSNI), Bernadette McDowell (YJA)

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

Independent Members: Audrey Byrne, Dan McEvoy

Council Officials: Jacqueline Urey (NMDDC)

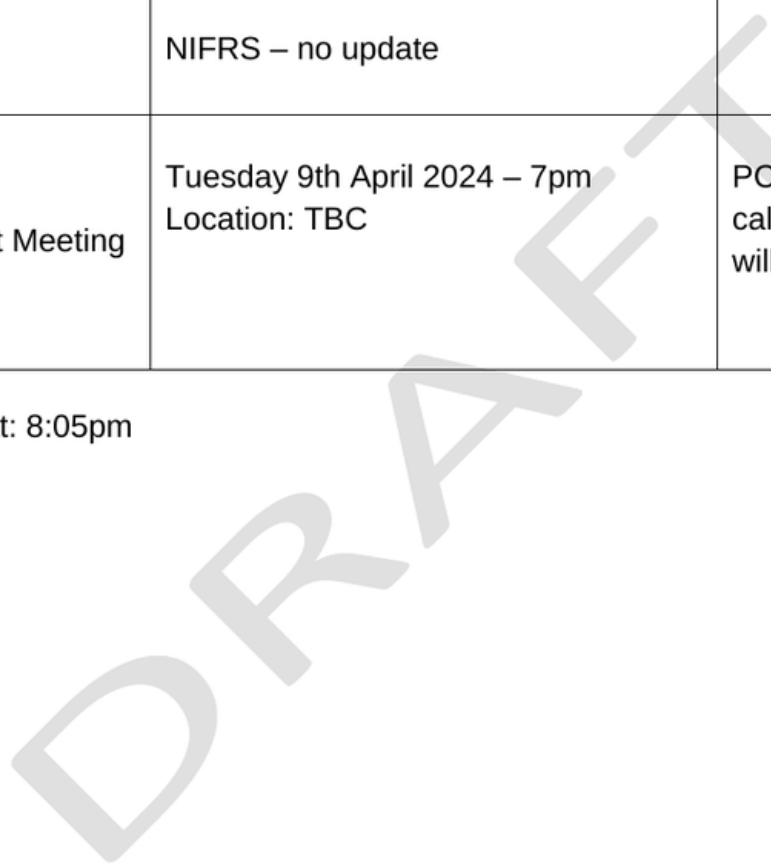
Apologies: Damien Brannigan (NMDDC), Martin Healy (NIFRS), Bronagh Magorrian (NIHE), Tara Campbell (Independent Member), Martina Flynn (NMDDC), Sgt Cochrane/Sgt Dunn (PSNI), Insp Darren Hardy (PSNI), Insp Sheila Loughran (PSNI)

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 Truesdale. -minor correction to a name spelling	PCSP / J Urey (completed 08/02/2024)
ASB/003	Current and emerging issues	<u>General Discussions</u> 1. Newcastle - Recent death of a young man and a car meet organised in his memory to be held on 09/02/2024 (evening) in Newcastle/Donard Car Park. The potential of many cars and associated implications for the local community and policing response was discussed. Sgt Gracey informed members of PSNI knowledge of event and planned operation.	

		<p>2. Newcastle – Cllr Truesdale requested Community Safety Wardens attend Island Park on a regular basis.</p> <p>3. Kilkeel - Tara Campbell via email advised members that she had spoken with Cllr Rice re encouragement of concerned residents to use the confidential Crimestoppers service.</p> <p>4. Downpatrick - Dan McEvoy requested to know if Community Safety Wardens will be patrolling Downpatrick on St Patricks' Day.</p> <p>5. Downpatrick – positive comments from members of current work and the continued lower ASB statistics.</p>	<p>PCSP / J Urey to pass request to M Flynn (completed 08/02/2024)</p> <p>PCSP / J Urey to pass request to M Flynn (completed 08/02/2024)</p>
ASB/004	ASB Sub Group Action Plan	Members agreed on the Action Plan provided – there were no further additions.	
ASB/005	Updates from Agencies	<p>PSNI – Police continue to monitor and action accordingly. Sgt Gracey gave general overview of ASB in Kilkeel, the Burrendale and Burren Meadow estates. There was a recent assault in the Island's area - Sgt Gracey engaging with partnerships for a joined up approach. Sgt Gracey shared recent Silver Planning Meeting re St Patrick's Day policing.</p> <p>PCSP – Update on recent meetings and conversations with partner agencies re Needle & Syringe Exchange Service in Newcastle. Simon Community working to establish a drop in venue – offering needle exchange, education and overdose Naloxone injectable</p>	<p>PCSP / J Urey to continue engagement with identified partners.</p>

		<p>supplies and training. Re recent Donard Car Park ASB meeting - no update received from Damien Morgan</p> <p>NIHE – no update</p> <p>EA – no update</p> <p>YJA – Continuing to engage with individuals with offending behaviour and those on the cusp of offending and continuing promotion of healthy behaviours.</p> <p>NIFRS – no update</p>	
ASB/006	Date of Next Meeting	<p>Tuesday 9th April 2024 – 7pm Location: TBC</p>	<p>PCSP / J Urey to send calendar invite. Papers will follow in due course.</p>

The meeting concluded at: 8:05pm



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

Action Sheet of PCSP ASB Sub Group 1 Meeting held on Thursday 22nd February 2024 at 6PM in CCG Ballybot House, Newry.

Present:

Chairperson: Cllr Aidan Mathers

Elected Members: Cllr Aidan Mathers, Cllr David Taylor

Independent Members: Michelle Osborne

Statutory Partners: Constable Mary Flannigan (PSNI), Niall Fitzpatrick (NIHE), Maureen O’Gorman (EA).

Council Officials: Shannon Creaney

Apologies: Martina Flynn (NMDDC), Insp Adam Corner (PSNI), Sgt Warren Roberts (PSNI), Sgt Cathy McDonald (PSNI), Gerard Kearney (NIFRS).

ITEM	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
ASB/001	Welcome and Apologies	All were welcomed to the meeting and apologies were recorded as above.	

	Matters arising from Action Sheet from meeting held on 25 October 2023.	All actions from the previous meeting have been completed.	
ASB/002	ASB Sub Group Action Plan	Members were updated on any additions made to the ASB Sub Group Action Plan.	S Creaney to continue to update ASB Sub Group Action plan as events / issues occur.
ASB/003	DOJ/DFC Anti-Social Behaviour Consultation	Members discussed the DOJ/DFC ASB Action Plan and together compiled a response on behalf of ASB Sub Group 1, focusing in particular on the issue of Drinking in Public.	S Creaney to compile all feedback discussed during this agenda item so it can be added to the overall NMD PCSP response to the consultation.
ASB/004	Update from Agencies	Update received from PSNI. Update received from PCSP. Update received from EA. Update received from NIHE.	M O’Gorman (EA) discussed the success of the Drive Safe Programme the EA are currently running in Burren. Cllr Mathers requested this be brought to the Newry Area. EA to look at the possibility of delivering this – although cost has been highlighted as an issue. S Creaney to look at potential for PCSP to help in the delivery of this.

ASB/005	Current / Emerging Issues	<p>Cllr Mathers discussed increasing ASB issues in the Clanrye Avenue area of Newry.</p> <p>Cllr Taylor discussed the issue of scramblers being used in the Shandon Park Area.</p>	<p>PSNI to increase patrols in this area.</p> <p>PSNI to increase patrols and PCSP/PSNI to include information about the dangers of scramblers at any upcoming road safety demonstrations.</p>
ASB/006	Date of Next Meeting	<p>May 2024 - at request of Sub Group Members.</p> <p>(Date & Venue TBC).</p>	<p>The Sub Group agreed that ASB Sub Group 1 meetings should now take place quarterly, instead of bi-monthly.</p>

The Meeting ended at 7.15pm