

May 21st, 2025

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the meeting to be held on **Tuesday, 27th May 2025** at **6:00 pm**

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 on 25 March 2025

 *Minutes PCSP meeting 25.03.2025.pdf*

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4.0 Matters Arising

5.0 District Commander's Report - Period 1

6.0 PCSP Officer Report

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 *PCSP Officer Report - Appendix 1.pdf*

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7.0 ASB Sub Group Report

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 *Draft Action Sheet of ASB Sub Group 2 meeting held on 15 April 2025.pdf*

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8.0 Date and Time of Next Meeting

6pm 29 July 2025

Invitees

- Cllr Terry Andrews
- Cllr Conor Galbraith
- Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
- Cllr Roisin Howell
- Cllr Aidan Mathers
- Cllr Declan Murphy
- Cllr Henry Reilly
- 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 25th March 2025 at 6.00pm at Council Chamber, Monaghan Row, Newry and remotely via MS Teams

In attendance in Chamber:

Michelle Osborne, *PCSP Independent Member (Vice Chair - Acting Chair for meeting)*
 Superintendent Norman Haslett, *PSNI*
 Chief Inspector Joe Tierney, *PSNI*
 Chief Inspector Adam Ruston, *PSNI*
 Cllr Oonagh Hanlon, *NMDDC*
 Cllr Aidan Mathers, *NMDDC*
 Cllr Declan Murphy, *NMDDC*
 Cllr Kate Murphy, *NMDDC*
 Cllr David Taylor, *NMDDC*
 Cllr Henry Reilly, *NMDDC*
 Joann Doherty, *DOJ*
 Aidan McCabe, *Southern Health Trust*
 Niall Lawlor, *PCSP Independent Member*

In attendance via Teams:

Aileen O Callaghan, *EANI*
 Inspector Paul Connolly, *PSNI*
 Inspector Kelly Gibson, *PSNI*
 Inspector Darren Hardy, *PSNI*
 Cllr Conor Galbraith, *NMDDC*
 Cllr Jill Truesdale, *NMDDC*
 Michael Heaney, *YJA*
 Josephine Morgan, *NIHE*
 Louise Kennedy, *PCSP Independent Member*
 David Vint, *PCSP Independent Member*
 William Slater, *PCSP Independent Member*
 Jacki Urey, *PCSP Officer*

NMDDC Staff Officials in attendance in Chamber:

Martina Flynn, Head of Engagement
 Shannon Creaney, Acting Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager
 Kaitlyn Hanna, PCSP Officer
 Amy McKeown, Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, PCSP and Good Relations

1 Welcome, Chairperson's Remarks and Apologies

Vice Chair Michelle Osborne welcomed Members to the Partnership meeting.

Apologies were received from Cllr Terry Andrews, Cllr Doire Finn, Alison Robb, Roisin Leckey, Gerard Kearney, Claire Crainey, Martina Byrne, Colleen McCreesh and Anne Sheridan.

The Vice Chair thanked members for attending the meeting. She welcomed Chief Inspector Adam Ruston to the district as the new Chief Inspector for engagement. She also welcomed Joann Doherty from DOJ who was in attendance.

The Vice Chair noted that it had been a busy period for events, with the Community Safety & wellbeing event in Newry Leisure Centre in particular being a great success with over 200 members of the public and schools in attendance.

The Vice Chair noted applications for PCSP Financial Assistance closed on the 24th of February and informed members that a list of successful applicants will be issued to members once letters of offers are issued to successful groups.

Vice Chair discussed housekeeping rules before the formal business of the meeting began.

2 Declarations of Interest

None recorded.

3 Draft Minutes of previous PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting held on 28 January 2025

Read: Minutes of PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting held on 28 January 2025 (copy circulated).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor O Hanlon, seconded by Councillor K Murphy it was agreed to approve the Minutes of the Policing Committee and PCSP Meeting held on 28 January 2025 as a true and accurate record.

4 Matters Arising

None recorded.

Policing Committee Business

5 District Commander's Report – Period 5

Read: District Commander's Report – Period 5 (copy circulated)

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

Engagement

Superintendent Haslett began by advising that the Chief Constable had recently gone on record to state that policing has been severely underfunded over the last number of years compared to other public sectors. This has led to police numbers shrinking to levels which he has described as being dangerously low. Superintendent Haslett provided context by stating that the local policing teams across Northern Ireland were approx. 260 officers short, and in terms of Neighbourhood policing teams were approximately 390 officers short. Superintendent Haslett advised that this is affecting how officers are deployed across the district. He advised however, that despite these shortages of numbers, Newry, Mourne and Down Policing team are holding their own in terms of performance across the district.

Superintendent Haslett stated to the partners that despite the cuts in numbers in the neighbourhood teams, there continues to be excellent engagement across the district and that this is captured in the report.

Hate Crime

Superintendent Haslett advised that incidents are down by 20% and the number of hate crimes recorded are down by 34% in Newry, Mourne and Down within the last 12 month rolling period.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Superintendent Haslett stated that ASB levels in Newry, Mourne and Down have continued to remain at low averages, although there has been a slight increase over the last 12-month period by 1%, which accounts for approximately 30 incidents.

Mr Haslett advised that there are locations with 4 or more records of ASB from February 2025 which are: Ardmore Drive in Hilltown, Saul Street Downpatrick, The Mall Newry and Donard Park Newcastle.

Domestic Abuse

Superintendent Haslett provided an update on domestic abuse & ending violence against women and girls and advised that this continues to be a priority for the PSNI. He reported that there has been a decrease in incidents of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls by 12% over the last 12 months. Superintendent Haslett noted that domestic incidents have decreased by 129 incidents and the number of reported offences regarding domestic violence has decreased by 264 incidents.

Mr Haslett stated he believes there is a greater confidence in Domestic Abuse victims reporting incidents to the PSNI, Women's Aid, Men's Advisory Project, local charities, or via a third party. He advised that there was new legislation introduced a number of years ago regarding controlling coercive behaviour and stalking offences.

Superintendent Haslett discussed Op Encompass which was pioneered in this district from September 2021 whereby PSNI refer young people who have had adverse childhood experience in witnessing domestic incidents in their homes. In this reporting period, this school year up to 28th February, Police in NMD district have attended a total of 427 domestic incidents where the Op Encompass criteria has been met. A staggering total of 818 children have been referred to schools or further education colleges as they have been exposed to these adverse childhood experiences.

Mr Haslett touched on the One Stop Shop initiative by Armagh & Down Women's Aid whereby partner agencies who may be a support to victims of Domestic Abuse set up a shop in Newry Library for a few hours once a month. Superintendent Haslett noted the parties involved in this initiative - Women's Aid, Citizens Advice, Solicitors, Housing Executive, PSNI & the PSNI Crime Prevention Officer. The scheme began in Autumn of last year and the next session is scheduled for 3rd April. So far in total this year there has been 24 attendees.

Road Safety

Superintendent Haslett provided an update and announced that there have been 0 fatalities on our roads in the Newry, Mourne and Down District since the previous PCSP Meeting. Superintendent Haslett noted a total of 6 fatalities in the district in the last financial year. This compares to 11 fatalities in the previous financial year to date.

Superintendent Haslett confirmed that Road Safety continues to be a priority for the PSNI. Superintendent Haslett advised that during the reporting period there were 62 speeding detections, 59 detections for careless & dangerous driving, 38 arrests for drinking or drug driving and 22 detections for using a mobile phone or not using a seatbelt. Officers detected a further 83 vehicles being driven with no insurance.

During January, the Road Safety Partnership speed camera van was deployed in the district 33 times with 301 speeding detections made. In January & February 2025 it was deployed 39 times with 396 speeding detections.

Superintendent Haslett advised that there has been progress on reintroducing the Kids Court initiative to the district. Mr Haslett spoke with colleagues within their operational support department, and it has been agreed that the Kids Court's will be re-established and piloted in Newry, Mourne & Down from the end of April. A neighbourhood team in Newcastle will be used, and one neighbourhood team from either Newry or South Armagh will deliver this scheme.

Drugs

Superintendent Haslett informed the Partnership that in a rolling 365-day period, drugs statistics have overall decreased in Newry, Mourne & Down.

Superintendent Haslett noted a spike in suspected drug deaths in the district. He noted that there have been 5 deaths since January, of which 2 were in the month of January and 3 in the Month of March. 3 incidents in the Downpatrick area and 2 in Newry. As these incidents are still under investigation Superintendent Haslett could not comment on the detail but advised that the deaths are suspected to be due to prescription drugs.

Superintendent Haslett advised that today he has written to colleagues in the Public Health Authority to arrange a meeting regarding future steps. Mr Haslett advised that arrests will not rectify this issue but instead they will attempt to approach this issue with a preventative angle. He stated that he would be keen to explore preventative education with the partners in the health agency in the near future.

South Armagh Policing Review

Superintendent Haslett discussed the South Armagh Policing Review. He advised that the partnership would know that of the 50 recommendations within the review, 47 lie within Superintendent Haslett's remit as the local district commander to implement. Of those, 45 have now been implemented and closed, or are ongoing in terms of actions on the ground. Mr Haslett advised this will be evident to the community within South Armagh.

Superintendent Haslett also added that recommendation 43 of the report discusses cross border accountability and the establishment of cross border accountability mechanisms through the PCSP in the North and community safety partnerships in the South. Mr Haslett advised that he had written to the Chair on the 2nd of January proposing that once a year, PCSP would invite colleagues from An Garda Síochána from Louth and Monaghan to a PCSP event where PSNI and the Gardai could do a joint presentation to the partnership on how they have tackled cross border crime. Likewise, PSNI would once a year participate in one of their community safety partnership events in the south.

General

Mr Haslett informed the partnership that as of Monday 3rd February, because of the issues regarding numbers of neighbourhood officers in the district, they have merged the 2 Slieve Gullion teams into one single team. This is for the purposes of effectiveness and efficiency.

Superintendent Haslett stated that there has been a 15% decrease in overall crime in the district over the past 12 months. The district clearance rate is 33% with the service average at 31%. Mr Haslett clarified that essentially 1 in every 3 victims is receiving a positive justice outcome when they report an incident to the PSNI.

Mr Haslett noted that almost all crimes are down from last year. Violence against the person is down by 10.5%, violence with injury down by 11.9%, sexual offences are down 3.2%, robberies are down 21.4%, theft down 15.8%, burglaries down 1.2%, criminal damage down 18.8% and shoplifting down by 11.4%.

Superintended Haslett returned to the subject of assaults on police officers. In the last reporting period officers have attended 11 separate incidents where 13 officers having been assaulted. These assaults range

from kicks, punches, officers having been spat on and 2 separate incidents involving the ramming of police vehicles. These happened on the 24 January in Newry and the 25 January in Bessbrook.

Superintendent Haslett touched on one incident which took place in Downpatrick which was an attempted murder on the 14 March, whereby 2 females were attacked in Downpatrick. One male was arrested, charged and is currently remanded in prison. Mr Haslett added that this was a particularly horrific attack and would like to pay tribute to the officers who were first on the scene who rendered first aid to the victims, established the scene and rapidly located and arrested the suspect.

Mr Haslett discussed changes to the senior management team. He advised Chief Inspector Adam Ruston has joined from Armagh & Banbridge District on promotion as the new Engagement Chief Inspector for the District. Chief Inspector Joe Tierney has been promoted into the district and is the new Performance Chief Inspector. There are also some changes to the local neighbourhood teams, Inspector Kelly Gibson has now reverted to her Newry Neighbourhood post. Temporary Inspector Paul Connolly will be taking over in Slieve Gullion. In Newcastle, Inspector Shiela Loughran has retired after 30 years of admirable service to the Police Service, and she has been replaced by Inspector Paddy Heatley. These changes will be emailed to partners this week.

Superintendent Haslett noted that partners will have in their meeting papers a draft of the proposed Local Policing Plan for 2025-2026. This Local Policing Plan is based on the Northern Ireland Policing Plan which will be launched by the Chief Constable at the next sitting of the Northern Ireland Policing Board. The 3 main themes that the Chief Constable wishes to focus on is victims of crime, the community and the PSNI workforce.

This concluded Superintendent Haslett's report.

Cllr A Mathers commented on the recent death of a lady in the Meadow area last week, he thanked Superintendent Haslett and Inspector Ruston for responding to his calls in relation to this. He advised that family members from Belfast of the deceased had reached out to him in relation to the death. Because of the information sharing from PSNI, he was able to offer some comfort to the family in terms of rumours that were circulating at that time.

Cllr O Hanlon thanked Martina Flynn and her Team for the Ending Violence Against Women & Girls conference, she noted that it was very well organised and that the speakers were very good. She noted that the attendance reflected the importance of the subject and its need to educate the community. Cllr Hanlon also noted her thanks to Jacqui Urey regarding setting up the One Stop Shop initiative in Downpatrick, she thanked Louise Kennedy for also supporting this initiative. Cllr Hanlon stated that there were numerous people who approached her to state how they welcomed this programme in the area. Cllr Hanlon added that it was important to note the domestic incidents that have taken place in Downpatrick, particularly the fatality in Saul Street and the knife crime incident. She asked Superintendent Haslett to clarify what support families received after these incidents. Superintendent Haslett replied to advise that generally for these incidents a family liaison officer would be appointed, and the investigating officers would have an obligation under their service policy and procedure to give very regular updates to the victims of crime in terms of changes or updates during the investigation.

Louise Kennedy referred back to Cllr O Hanlon's question and advised that if there were a victim of crime that they would get a referral to Victim Support Northern Ireland. She also commented on the attempted murder case to note the prevalence of violence against women and girls. She also commended the officers involved for their response and hoped that they would also receive adequate support.

Louise Kennedy also noted the Local Policing Plan and the inclusion of violence against women. She noted that one of the measures is repeat victimhood. She asked if the police have considered repeat perpetrators in terms of moving from one victim to another. She also reiterated her request in terms of statistics for multiple offences and only the most major offence being reported and again asked if this is affecting the statistics.

Superintendent Haslett thanked Louise for her questions. He noted that victims will be automatically referred to Victim support and Women's Aid and that this is being reminded to officers to push this referral.

Superintendent Haslett commented on repeat offenders and added that they have a specific repeat offenders unit based in Ardmore & Downpatrick specifically looking at offenders who offend regularly. He noted that they are very aware of this, and that information sharing is in place with other partners including social services and Victim Support. He noted an action to ensure information on the statistics is sent to Louise Kennedy from PSNI.

Inspector Kelly Gibson noted that for repeat victims of domestic abuse, this is something that the PSNI and PPU are very aware of and monitor and that through the DASH assessment they would identify this as an issue. She added that they wish to push the domestic violence and abuse disclosure scheme, where someone can apply for disclosure on a new partner or family members partner. This mechanism allows individuals to make enquiries about individuals that they, a family member or a friend are in a relationship with and if a sufficient risk is identified then a process is implemented to notify the person in a relationship with the offender.

Cllr H Reilly thanked the partnership for the Ending Violence against Women and Girls Conference, he noted how horrific some of the experiences being shared were. He also noted that the fear to call the police is shocking. He commented on the fact that a perpetrator receiving a quick bail after being arrested for such an incident can make it worse for the victim in some cases.

Cllr C Galbraith commended officers for their efforts in Downpatrick recently, he noted his concerns that it is accompanied with a similar rise in drug and alcohol related offences. He noted the serious effect of these crimes on the victims and on their families as well as the effect on the local community. Cllr Galbraith asked if a letter could be written from the PCSP asking the Minister of Justice to work collaboratively with the Minister of Health and Minister of Education to bring forward an action plan and resource implementation plan to reduce violent offending and the risk of re-offending.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Galbraith, seconded by Cllr Taylor it was agreed to compose a letter to the Minister of Justice asking to work collaboratively with the Minister of Health and Minister of Education to bring forward an action plan and resource implementation plan to reduce violent offending and the risk of re-offending.

Aidan McCabe echoed the comments from others regarding the EVAWG Conference and congratulated Martina and the PCSP team. He noted to the other males on the committee to ensure that they attend in numbers for future similar events as he stated there is a responsibility for men to encourage other men to attend and raise awareness of the dangers associated with being a woman.

Cllr D Taylor sent his apologies for not being able to attend the conference and asked if the presentations or material could be distributed to PCSP Members.

Cllr J Truesdale commended the conference and the information that was shared during it. She asked if the videos could be shared for distribution on social media. She thanked Martina and the PCSP team for organising this event. She suggested the idea of mini conferences with the same message to go out across the district.

Cllr J Truesdale commented on the horrendous figures coming from Op Encompass and noted that there is room for work from PCSP on what exactly an adverse childhood experience is and how it affects a child for the remainder of their life.

Aileen O'Callaghan spoke on the EVAWG conference and commended the team. She agreed with Aidan McCabe that there is a need to increase attendance of young men at these types of events to get the message across. Aileen O'Callaghan noted that the EA have a local assessment of need that has been ongoing where they engage with young people across the district, and they have had substantial stakeholder engagement with the young people. She added that young girls are stating that they are fearful and that they do not feel safe or protected. She stated that it is an area for work for the PCSP to engage with the youth services and engage with young people on this topic.

William Slater noted his congratulations to the team for organising the EVAWG conference and stated that the testaments from the speakers were very powerful. He added that he hopes to see further similar events where the issues are covered such as promoting of positive male role models and responsible use of social media.

Martina Flynn thanked members for conveying their thanks and noted that it was very much appreciated. She noted the large amount of work that went into organising this conference and passed on her thanks to all members of staff that assisted with this. She noted that there are a number of events planned over the next year and another large conference is being organised in partnership with Women's Aid as today's conference was the start of the conversations on this topic. She added that they will take away all information gathered from this conference and create an EVAWG Action Plan for the Council, with some very clear actions that will be taken forward on a corporate level. Mrs Flynn also added that training awareness sessions took place with the elected members, business engagement events with local businesses and that financial assistance for EVAWG closed in February. She noted that the budget is only £135,000 and they received applications totalling £280,000, she added that unfortunately not all projects can be funded because of the limitations in the budget. She noted that they have approached The Executive Office to see if there is any potential for further allocation to this council area that we would be considered in order to maintain the momentum that has been created. Mrs Flynn added that presentations and videos from the conference can be circulated with members.

Cllr O Hanlon noted the ratio of women to men at the conference and added that if a future event takes place more young men could be invited.

Niall Lawlor followed on by praising the EVAWG Conference and noted the importance of male presence at these events. Mr Lawlor added that the participation from school aged males in his workshop at the conference should be noted as they spoke very eloquently and engaged with the subject very well. He noted that their perspective was really important.

Superintendent Haslett apologised that he could not attend the conference. He asked that in future planning for these events that the police from both sides of the border could present as they could add important inputs.

Martina Flynn responded to say that last year they did organise a cross-border event on domestic violence which included presentations from PSNI and AGS. Mrs Flynn noted that while PSNI are one partner there are many other partners in terms of addressing EVAWG in a meaningful way from a corporate perspective. She added that today's conference was focused on hearing from the victims, as it was important to hear their input to understand the impact of EVAWG and domestic abuse. She added that all stakeholders will be involved in planning going forward, but she maintains that it is crucially important to maintain the victim at the centre of everything that we do. She also clarified that there was young male representation from local schools, Youth Voice and the EA. She added that there may be space to organise a male only event, but that also through the support of financial assistance projects, some of these will focus on working with young males.

Kelly Gibson noted that Women's Aid and PSNI have been involved in a school's programme working with young males and females in relation to domestic violence and abuse. She added that PSNI will attend and discuss the consequences of these offences. She stated that this is a very successful programme and would be keen to see it rolled out across other schools across the district.

Cllr A Mathers apologised for not being able to attend the conference but noted that during the conference he was dealing with a young vulnerable woman in his Political Office.

PCSP Business

6 PCSP Officer Report

Read: PCSP Officer Report (copy circulated)

Shannon Creaney advised that the PCSP Officer Report is for noting. Ms Creaney noted that it has been a busy period of events, notably the Community Safety & Wellbeing event that took place in Newry Leisure Centre with over 200 people in attendance. She also noted that 4 schools across the district have received the DSM Foundation Play which is a Drug awareness play for schools based on a true story. She added that PCSP] hope to bring this to further schools in future. Ms Creaney thanked members for their comments and those that attended and supported the EVAWG conference today. Ms Creaney also reiterated her thanks to PCSP Officer Jacqui Urey for her work on the One Stop Shop in Downpatrick and also to Louise Kennedy for supporting this initiative.

Cllr D Taylor thanked Shannon Creaney for her work on the DSM Plays. He noted that he worked with Shannon to ensure that the play would be shown in Newtownhamilton High School and that he was able to attend also. He added that the play has a local context, and it was important to show this play and promote the message to young people about drug use. He added that the local schools have provided feedback and showed their appreciation to the PCSP from both staff and pupils.

Kelly Gibson commented on the One Stop Shop and added that from this there has been 3 arrests from Autumn to present based on disclosures that have been made.

7 ASB Sub Group Report

Read: ASB Sub Group Reports (copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor D Taylor, seconded by Councillor A Mathers it was agreed the Committee:

- **Approve the report**
- **Approve the Action Sheet for the ASB Sub Group 1 & 2 meetings held on 18th February and 6th March 2025**

8 Date of Next Meeting

The next PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting will be held Tuesday 27 May 2025 at 6pm.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6:52pm

ACTION SHEET- POLICING COMMITTEE AND PCSP – 25 March 2025

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	Lead officer	Actions Taken/Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
5.0	District Commander's Report – Attempted murder in Downpatrick on 14 March.	Compose a letter to the Minister of Justice asking to work collaboratively with the Minister of Health and Minister of Education to bring forward an action plan and resource implementation plan to reduce violent offending and the risk of re-offending.	S Creaney	Letter sent to Justice Minister on 12 May 2025.	Y

Report to:	Policing & Community Safety Partnership
Date of Meeting:	27 May 2025
Subject:	PCSP Officer Report – May 2025
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Shannon Creaney, Safer Communities and Good Relations Manager (Acting)
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Shannon Creaney, Safer Communities and Good Relations Manager (Acting)

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

For decision	For noting only	x
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	Purpose <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 25 March 2025
2.0	Key issues
2.1	None.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That the Committee:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Note the attached PCSP Officer Report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Revenue All actions are budgeted for in the PCSP 2025/26 Action Plan Capital N/A
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i> It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.2	<i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, please complete the following:

	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened	<input type="checkbox"/>
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.3	<i>Proposal initiating consultation</i> 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"/> Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Rationale:</i>	
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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, please complete the following: Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/>	
7.0	Appendices	
7.1	Appendix I: PCSP Officer Report – May 2025	
8.0	Background Documents	
8.1	None.	

Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP Officer Report – May 2025

The purpose of this Report is to provide an update on key activities and progress since the last PCSP meeting on 25 March 2025.

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 –

- **PCSP Staffing Update** – Kaitlyn Hanna has recently been appointed as the PCSP Officer covering Slieve Gullion, Newry and Crotlieve DEA's. Jacki Urey remains in post covering Slieve Croob and The Mourne's DEA's. Recruitment is currently ongoing for the vacant PCSP Officer post.
Amy McKeown (PCSP/GR Finance and Monitoring Officer is currently on maternity leave. Recruitment is currently ongoing to provide temporary cover for this post.
- **PCSP Small Grants** - The PCSP Small Grants Scheme for 2025/26 closed at 12 noon on 24 February 2025. Applications have now been assessed, and the Grants and Funding Unit are in the process of issuing letters of offer to successful groups. A list of successful applicants will be shared with Members once all letters of offer are issued.
Pre-commencement workshops for successful PCSP Small Grants applicants will take place on the 3 June in Newry and 5 June in Newcastle.

Overview of progress against PCSP Action Plan 2025/26

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 (March – May 2025)
PCSP Delivery	Organising the work of the PCSP through appropriate structures and mechanisms	<p>PCSP Sub Groups (ASB, Bonfire and SID Sub Groups) have now been reconstituted following the reconstitution of the PCSP on 1 June 2024.</p> <p>ASB Sub Group 1 met in Newry on the 6 March 2025. ASB Sub Group 2 met in Newcastle on the 15 April 2025</p>

		Dates for the next PCSP Bonfire Sub Group Meetings have been issued to sub group members.
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 held a Community Safety and Wellbeing Event in Newry Leisure Centre on Tuesday 4th March 2025. Over 200 members of the public were in attendance, and this included representation from 6 local secondary schools and 30 local support agencies.</p> <p>PCSP Officers have recently attended a series of events which have assisted with raising awareness of our work – these events have included attendance at the Age Friendly Chat & Connect Event in Bessbrook, Warrenpoint FC Family Fun Day and the SRC Stressbusters Roadshow in Newry. Feedback from these has been very positive and the events have also created new opportunities for partnership working.</p> <p>Officers are currently planning for attendance at a number of shows and Festivals throughout the Spring/Summer months e.g. Dromantine Sunday.</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 (March – May 2025)
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>In the previous 3 months, PCSP has worked in partnership with partner agencies across the Council District to address ASB issues. These included talks with the PSNI in St Marks High School Warrenpoint and Newry High School and a stall at the SRC Stressbusters Roadshow event in Newry.</p> <p>Students from 6 local secondary schools across Newry were invited to the Community Safety and Wellbeing Event in Newry Leisure Centre on 4 March 2025.</p>

		<p>PCSP also worked with Councils Environment Health Department to facilitate the 'Bee Safe,' event for Primary Schools throughout the District during March 25.</p> <p>Officers are currently liaising with the PSNI, EA Staff and DEA Coordinators to plan and facilitate ASB Diversionary events for young people throughout the District across June/July/August.</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>524 hours of Community Safety Warden patrols were provided from 17 March 2025 – 10 May 2025. A detailed report will be circulated with members before the meeting.</p>
PCSP Small Grants	Provision of a small grants programme to increase the capacity of the community to address community safety issues	<p>Applications for the PCSP Small Grants Scheme for 2025/26 opened on 13 January 2025 and closed on 24 February 2025.</p> <p>All applications have now been assessed, and the Grants and Funding Unit are in the process of issuing letters of offer to successful groups. A list of successful applicants will be shared with Members once all letters of offer are issued.</p> <p>Pre-commencement workshops for successful PCSP Small Grants applicants will take place on the 3 June in Newry and 5 June in Newcastle.</p>
Theme	Aims & description	Key Activities in this Period (March – May 2025)
Drugs and Alcohol	To support the delivery of a range of programmes, and develop a range of	<p>Officer attendance at SEDACT and SDACT meetings in this Period.</p> <p>We have recently facilitated Theresa Burke to deliver a series of presentations to schools and colleges throughout the District. The most recent presentations took place at Lecale Trinity Grammar School Downpatrick and Sacred Heart Grammar School in Newry.</p>

	awareness raising campaigns	We also recently worked with the DSM Foundation to facilitate the drug use awareness play 'I love you mum – I promise I won't die,' in local secondary schools throughout the District. This play took place in Sacred Heart Grammar School in Newry and Lecale Trinity Grammar School in Downpatrick in February 2025, as well as in Newtownhamilton High School and St Joseph's Boys High School in Newry in March 2025. Staff are currently working with the DSM Foundation to look at facilitating this play in more schools across the District in the 2025/6 Financial Year.
	To support the development of the RAPID Bin initiative across the NMDDC area	A total of 20 RAPID Bins are now installed across the District. An update on the most recent collections from the RAPID Bins will be provided at the Partnership meeting on 27 May.
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>We continue to support the new One Stop Shop initiative which Women's Aid launched in Newry on 3 October 2024 and have worked with Women's Aid to help facilitate the development of a monthly One Stop Shop in the Downpatrick area.</p> <p>We have also recently provided pop-up information banners to Daisy Hill Hospital in Newry for display within their patients waiting areas such as A&E and the Maternity Clinic. These banners include information on how to access Domestic and Sexual Violence Support Services and how to contact the Womens Aid DASS Worker.</p> <p>We recently supported the "Together We Walk," Womens Aid Armagh Down and Volunteer Now event.</p> <p>We are currently supporting Council programmes for 'Ending Violence Against Women and Girls,' and recently supported the Stakeholder Conference on this topic in the Canal Court Hotel Newry on 25th March 2025.</p>
Community Safety & Vulnerability	To develop and implement a range of	Continued attendance at local multi-agency partnership meetings including Newry, Mourne & Down Intercultural Forum, Locality Planning Groups (Newry & South Armagh) and local Inter-Agency Forums.

	community safety initiatives for vulnerable persons	<p>PCSP Officers are attending Newcomer Stakeholder Forum meetings in Newry and Newcastle.</p> <p>Personal safety & crime prevention talks were recently delivered to vulnerable adults and groups in Newry and Crossgar. This also included a talk to the Clanrye Group young people at Slieve Gullion Forest Park.</p> <p>Support agencies for vulnerable persons attended the PCSP Community Safety and Wellbeing Event in Newry on 4 March 2025.</p> <p>PCSP continue to attend Age Friendly Strategic Alliance meetings and are continuing to support a number of initiatives with the councils Health Improvement worker (inequalities).</p> <p>PCSP have recently held a stall at the Silver Screening event in Canal Court, Newry and Age Friendly Chat and Connect event aimed at elderly members of the community.</p>
	Newry, Mourne & Down Community Support Partnership	<p>The Community Support Partnership continues to engage with a number of vulnerable adults; the most recent meeting took place on 6 November 2024. Since its formation in late 2019 the Partnership has provided dedicated support to 36 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>
Road Safety	To support and promote road safety initiatives	<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 19 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>PCSP has recently supported and facilitated the NIFRS “Your Choice,” presentation in the below areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the Community Safety and Wellbeing Event in Newry on 4 March (6 local secondary schools with pupils in attendance)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clanrye Group – Slieve Gullion Forest Park • Sacred Heart Grammar School (with pupils from Abbey Grammar School also in attendance). <p>These presentations include a 'cut out' demonstration from a car by the Fire Service to reinforce the impact of RTC's.</p> <p>PCSP has also recently provided Hi-Vis vests to a number of groups to facilitate pedestrian safety in the darker mornings and evenings. These have included Shrigley Community Association and Shamrocks Youth Club in Newry.</p> <p>PCSP are currently working with PSNI Roads Policing and the local PSNI Neighbourhood Team to facilitate a Kids Court in the Newtownhamilton area.</p>
Fear of Crime, Burglary & Crime Prevention	To support communities to protect themselves and their property to reduce the fear of crime	<p>The Home Secure Service remains open to referrals (In the 2024/26 Financial Year 276 referrals were received); 100% of beneficiaries report feeling safer as a result of the interventions. Since 1 April 2025 a total of 19 referrals have been received.</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 100 referrals 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. A total of 274 trigger calls have been made by Alarm beneficiaries since the Scheme became operational.</p>
	To develop a range of crime prevention interventions (including rural crime)	<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, Crossgar and Bessbrook.</p> <p>PCSP recently held a Trailer Marking event with the local Neighbourhood Team in Ballynahinch on the 18th of January 2025 and Kilkeel on the 22nd of February 2025.</p> <p>PCSP are planning to attend upcoming agricultural shows throughout the district, which will provide further opportunity to engage with the rural community and offer trailer and property marking services.</p>

	To promote and develop the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme	Following the recent reaccreditation process there are now 60 active and fully accredited NHW Schemes across the District.
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Strategic Priority 3: To improve Confidence in Policing through collaborative problem solving with communities.

Theme	Aims & description	Key Activities in this Period (March – May 2025)
Improve community confidence in policing	Advocate for policing and effectively monitor local police performance and progress of the local Policing Plan	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	<p>Community/police engagement is progressing well via planned events and other activities (as outlined above). Staff are currently planning to increase engagement with the PSNI over the summer period at local summer schemes etc.</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: 14th March – 10th May 2025

	No. Incidents attended	No. Incidents reported to PSNI	Total Hours Patrolled
Downpatrick	2	0	126
Newcastle	5	0	136
Newry	18	0	136
Warrenpoint	10	0	126
Total	35	0	524

Notes:

This reporting period covers St Patricks Day & the Easter holidays.

Examples of Incidents Attended by Wardens:

Downpatrick 16.03.2025 – Wardens doing their final patrol around the outskirts of town, including the local playparks, come across a group of young people gathered in Knocknashina. Wardens advise the group to leave and head home as it was nearly 11pm. The group then left the area.

Newcastle 04.04.2025 – Wardens come across a group of young people outside of Lidl messing about. They approach the group to speak with them and ask them to move on from the area.

Newcastle 14.03.2025 – When patrolling Island Park, the wardens notice a large group of teenagers sitting around the Lake drinking alcohol. Wardens advise the young people to leave the area and dispose of the alcohol – which they did.

Newcastle 25.04.2025 – When patrolling the area of the tennis courts, the wardens notice a group of teenagers vaping. Wardens approach the group and advise them to stop vaping, before asking them to move away from the area.

Newry 16.03.2025 – Wardens begin their patrols at the Meadow's area and notice two young people on motorbikes driving with no helmets on. The wardens try to approach the young people to advise them of the dangers of not wearing a helmet. The wardens continued to patrol this area throughout the night but did not see them again.

Newry 16.03.2025 – Throughout the evening, wardens come across several incidents of young people drinking. This was in areas including: Whitegates, Sugar Island and Barcroft park. In each incident the wardens spoke to the groups, asked them to dispose of their alcohol and ensured they left the area to go home.

Newry 16.03.2025 – When doing their patrol at approx. 10pm the wardens came across a group of girls who were very intoxicated. The wardens ensure the girls were okay, before calling a taxi for them. Wardens wait with the group of girls until their taxi arrives to ensure they were safely on their way home.

Newry 30.03.2025 – At approx. 8pm when patrolling at Sugar Island, along the pubs and around the Bus Station and car parks, Wardens come across two men drinking at the public benches along the canal. The wardens spoke with the men, advised them to put away their alcohol, and eventually got them to move away from the area.

Warrenpoint 14.03.2025 – When patrolling the main street, wardens come across a group of young people throwing rubbish around outside of Friar Tucks. The wardens asked the young people to move away from the area and lift their rubbish. The young people cleaned up their mess and left the area.

Warrenpoint 15.03.2025 – The wardens walking near the funfair come across two young people fighting. The wardens stopped the fight and called for two taxis to send both young people involved home. Wardens wait with the young people until taxis arrive to ensure they get home safely in separate directions and do not continue to fight.

Warrenpoint 15.03.2025 – Wardens walking along Bridal Lonan come across a group of young people gathered drinking alcohol. The wardens speak with the group and ask they dispose of the alcohol, before convincing them to leave the area and go home.

Warrenpoint 02.05.2025 – Wardens patrolling around the old police station and Clonallen park notice a group of teenagers vaping and playing loud music. The wardens speak to the young people and ask them to keep the music down to respect those living nearby - which they did.

Table Showing Data collected from SIDs 14th March – 19th May 2025

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	58.2	17.7	1	6.33	05:00 AM
Ardglass	35	38.2	13.5	15	5.66	04:00 AM
Ballynahinch	33	26.5	6.0	0	6.66	04:00 AM
Burren	41	74.8	42.7	23	No Reduction	10:00 AM
Camlough	45	77.9	51.9	270	12.7	06:00 AM
Castlewellan	35	42.3	11.5	0	8.66	06:00 AM
Clough	35	43.0	13.6	21	5.0	04:00 AM
Crossmaglen	40	58.0	34.5	2	7.0	05:00 AM
Culloville*	43	24.0	7.0	0	3.05	05:00 AM
Darragh Cross*	41	16.8	4.2	6	4.44	03:00 AM
Downpatrick*	41	17.4	4.6	70	6.66	05:00 AM
Dundrum	37	50.5	20.1	5	4.5	05:00 AM
Kilcoo	42	75.4	45.0	48	4.28	04:00 AM
Killeavy*	37	4.3	0.7	0	5.48	05:00 AM
Kilkeel	37	51.3	19.1	20	No Reduction	04:00 AM
Killough	34	36.0	6.7	0	4.48	8:00 PM
Killyleagh	38	62.0	27.4	5	5.62	07:00 AM
Leitrim	34	36.8	7.8	0	17.58	07:00 AM
Mayobridge	38	64.9	26.0	0	3.03	05:00 AM
Meigh	41	66.7	39.4	21	14.70	05:00 AM
Newcastle	32	21.4	6.6	4	5.0	04:00 AM

Newry (Camlough Road)	35	43.3	14.2	31	3.33	05:00 AM
Newry (Chancellors Road)*	39	9.1	2.1	4	0.3	2:00 PM
Newtownhamilton	42	74.4	43.7	15	6.0	2:00 PM
Rostrevor	42	59.5	34.8	77	8.12	05:00 AM
Saintfield	37	41.3	18.5	9	7.0	05:00 AM
Strangford	37	59.9	24.1	257	4.0	07:00 AM
Warrenpoint	36	52.2	17.2	9	1.33	1:00 PM

Notes:

Downpatrick, Newry (Chancellors Road), Darragh Cross, 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.

Key trends from data

- The overall average percentile reduction in speed caused by SIDs was 5.74%
- On average 20% 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 17.58% reduction in speed caused by the SID.

Report to:	Policing & Community Safety Partnership
Date of Meeting:	27 May 2025
Subject:	ASB Sub Group Report
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Shannon Creaney, Safer Communities and Good Relations Manager (Acting)
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Shannon Creaney, Safer Communities and Good Relations Manager (Acting)

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

For decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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 15 April 2025
1.2	Background The attached Draft Action Sheets provide Members with an update on the work of the ASB Sub Groups since the last PCSP Committee meeting on 25 March 2025
2.0	Key issues
2.1	None.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That the Committee- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report. Agree the attached Draft Action Sheet of the ASB Sub Group 2 meeting held on 15 April 2025
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Revenue All actions are budgeted for in the PCSP 2025/26 Action Plan Capital N/A
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i> It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.2	<i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, please complete the following:

	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened	<input type="checkbox"/>
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>
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</p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks</p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
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: Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.0	Appendices	
7.1	Appendix I: Draft Action Sheet of ASB Sub Group 2 meeting held on 15 April 2025	
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 Tuesday 15th April 2025 at 7PM in The Newcastle Centre, Newcastle

Present:

- Chairperson:** Cllr Jill Truesdale
- Elected Members:** Cllr Henry Reilly, Cllr Oonagh Hanlon
- Independent Members:** Niall Lawlor, William Slater, Louise Kennedy
- Statutory Partners:** Inspector Hardy (PSNI), Inspector Heatley (PSNI), Maureen O’Gorman (EA), Bernadette McDowell (YJA)
- Council Officials:** Jacqueline Urey (NMDDC)
- Apologies:** Sgt Gracey (PSNI), Sgt Cochrane (PSNI), Louise Kennedy (Independent), Tara Campbell (Independent)

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.	
ASB/002	Adoption of previous Action Sheet	Action Sheet agreed. Proposed by William Slater and seconded by Niall Lawlor.	

ASB/003	Update of Outstanding Actions from last meeting	<u>Actions completed:</u> (1)Inspector Hardy passed on 101 service feedback (2)EA updated Members on Killough service provision (3)Cllr Truesdale shared update on reopening of Annalong public toilets (4)Inspector Hardy continues to monitor Killyleagh St, Crossgar (5)Inspector Heatly continues to monitor Manse Road, Kilkeel (6)Inspector Hardy continues to monitor Castlewellan (7)Inspector Hardy continues to monitor quads and scramblers in Downpatrick	<u>Actions Outstanding from previous meeting/s:</u> None
ASB/004	Current / Emerging Issues	(1) Donard Car Park - Cllr Truesdale shared that NMDDC Outdoor Leisure has scheduled a meeting with Mourne DEA Councillors for the 28 th April 2025. ASB SG members requested the discussions be shared at next Partnership meeting (2)Annalong Slipway (3)NSU-hard to reach young people no longer engaging (4) Cranfield – concerns of ASB over Easter period (5)Downpatrick – Lyn Doyle area issues raised, PSNI has been monitoring.	(1)PCSP Officer to advise PCSP Manager of Donard Car Park meeting and the Sub Group request to update all members in next PCSP Partnership at meeting (actioned 16/04/2025) (2)EA to update area Youth Worker (3)PCSP to update NSU (4)Inspector Heatley to monitor
ASB/005	Development of ASB SG Plan 2024/2025	No further areas added	PCSP Officer - continue to populate with PCSP and partnership ASB interventions
ASB/006	Updates from Agencies	Update received from PSNI Update received from PCSP Update received from EA Updated received from YJA	
ASB/007	Date of Next Meeting	To be scheduled	PCSP Officer to send calendar invite and papers to members.

Meeting concluded at 7:42PM