

July 24th, 2025

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the meeting to be held on **Tuesday, 29th July 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 27 May 2025

 *Minutes PCSP meeting 27.05.2025.pdf*

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4.0 Matters Arising

5.0 District Commander's Report - Period 2

6.0 PCSP Officer Report

 *PCSP Officer Report.pdf*

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7.0 ASB Sub Group Report

 *ASB Sub Group Report.pdf*

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8.0 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday 30 September 2025 at 6pm.

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 27th May 2025 at 6.00pm at Council Chamber, Monaghan Row, Newry and remotely via MS Teams****In attendance in Chamber:**

Cllr Terry Andrews, *Chair*
Cllr Aidan Mathers, *NMDDC*
Cllr Declan Murphy, *NMDDC*
Cllr Kate Murphy, *NMDDC*
Cllr Henry Reilly, *NMDDC*
Chief Inspector Adam Ruston, *PSNI*
Sergeant Robin Blair, *PSNI*
Sergeant Ryan Duffy, *PSNI*

In attendance via Teams:

Cllr Conor Galbraith, *NMDDC*
Cllr Oonagh Hanlon, *NMDDC*
Cllr Doire Finn, *NMDDC*
Cllr David Taylor, *NMDDC*
Cllr Jill Truesdale, *NMDDC*
Inspector Kelly Gibson, *PSNI*
Inspector Paddy Heatley, *PSNI*
Martin Healy, *NIFRS*
Aileen O Callaghan, *EANI*
Michael Heaney, *YJA*
Roisin Leckey, *PBNI*
Josephine Morgan, *NIHE*
Martina Byrne, *PCSP Independent Member*
Louise Kennedy, *PCSP Independent Member*
Niall Lawlor, *PCSP Independent Member*
William Slater, *PCSP Independent Member*
Tara Campbell, *PCSP Independent Member*
Anne Sheridan, *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
Shane McGivern, Safer Communities & Good Relations Officer

1 Welcome, Chairperson's Remarks and Apologies

The Chair welcomed Members to the Partnership meeting.

Apologies were received from Aidan McCabe, Gerard Kearney, Michelle Osborne, Superintendent Norman Haslett and Chief Inspector Joe Tierney.

PCSP Chair Cllr Terry Andrews thanked members for attending the meeting. He remarked that this was the first meeting of the 2025/26 financial year and that he looks forward to a busy and successful year as a partnership working across the thematic areas of the PCSP action plan.

The Chair advised members that NMD PCSP has recently received a letter of offer and funding agreement from the Joint Committee from 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026 and that the budget is confirmed to remain the same as the previous financial year.

The chair noted that applications for PCSP Financial assistance are now closed, and all applications have been assessed, over £75,000 has been awarded to a total of 42 projects. The chair noted that this is a considerable investment in local community activity and an excellent way to raise awareness of the PCSP across the district. He added that PCSP staff have been in contact with successful groups and that further information on the projects will be sent to members.

The 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 25 March 2025

Read: Minutes of PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting held on 25 March 2025 (copy circulated).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor H Reily, seconded by Councillor K Murphy it was agreed to approve the Minutes of the Policing Committee and PCSP Meeting held on 25 March 2025 as a true and accurate record.

4 Matters Arising

Cllr Reily asked if there had been any response from the correspondence to the Minister of Justice.

Shannon Creaney advised that a letter was sent on 12th May and to date, no response had been received. Ms Creaney advised that the PCSP are working with colleagues in DOJ to explore other avenues that the letter can be sent through to ensure a response is received as soon as possible.

The Chair confirmed that as per the action sheet, a letter has been sent to the Minister of Justice and advised that when a response is received it will be circulated with members.

Policing Committee Business

5 District Commander's Report – May 2025

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

Chief Inspector Adam Ruston began by offering condolences to An Garda Síochána regarding their colleague Kevin Flatley who was tragically killed in a motorbike accident.

Chief Inspector Adam Ruston provided the District Commander's Report to the Partnership, highlighting the following points:

Chief Inspector Ruston noted that it has been a busy period for the PSNI and the district. In respect of Victim of crime updates, PSNI are currently sitting at 93.2% regarding updates within the 10-day target and they continue to strive to improve this figure. He noted that this figure is moving in the right direction.

Engagement

Chief Inspector Ruston noted that it is a busy time for PSNI Neighbourhood teams with continued engagement. Mr Ruston highlighted - East Down Neighbourhood Policing Team between 10th & 14th March were engaged in the BEE Safe Initiative with the PCSP, EA, NMDDC and local primary schools, meeting a significant number of school children and engaging with them about topics such as Road safety, Stranger danger & Internet Safety. Slieve Gullion Neighbourhood officers on 7th April attended St Joseph's High School and covered the topic of Internet Safety, Cyber Bullying & Cyber Crime. Detectives from the PSNI Cyber Crime Branch were also in attendance.

Social Media

Chief Inspector Ruston highlighted social media as a great tool for sharing good news and keeping people updated. He advised currently this district's PSNI Facebook Page has 77,000 followers with a reach of 649,000 people. This is one of the best performing districts in the PSNI for social media reach and for the number of messages being released via social media. He noted that Newry, Mourne and Down PSNI are one of the only districts who actively engage via social media replies/comments.

Hate Crime

Chief Inspector Ruston noted the recent social media attention around hate crime and noted that this is a major focus at the moment particularly regarding Daisy Hill Hospital and incidents involving staff. He added that hate crime figures are actually down for this period with incidents recorded down by 15% and crimes down by 28% - a reduction in comparison to the previous reporting period. In respect of the recent incident in Newry involving staff from Daisy Hill Hospital, Chief Inspector Ruston provided some background information where he noted that a Muslim family were enjoying a family day in the park and that a confrontation took place due to rubbish with a separate party. Subsequent to this, abusive posts were made via social media by an individual towards the family. He added that nothing further came from this particular incident but added that they have engaged with the head of the Muslim Staff Association and that they have an event planned for June in partnership with PCSP to engage with this community. He added that the Newry area in particular is a welcoming and well-integrated area and that these incidents are not very common.

Vulnerability

Chief Inspector Ruston commented on vulnerability and added that Ryan is in attendance from the Support Hub who are currently are working with 10 cohorts who have been supported via the Hub and with 47 vulnerable people who have been identified and are being reviewed on a daily basis.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Chief Inspector Ruston stated that PSNI figures have seen an increase in 1% of recorded ASB crimes, but this is only an increase in 46 incidents. The key locations where reports are coming from are Saul Street Downpatrick, King's Lane Warrenpoint and Daisy Hill Hospital. In particular with Daisy Hill Hospital, Mr Ruston stated the reports appear to be more frequent on Saturdays & Sundays, with incidents mainly involving individuals being aggressive towards staff. He added that they have seen a rise in ASB near Barbican service station, Newcastle and noted that scrambler & quad bikes continue to be an issue. Chief Inspector Ruston also added that the PSNI Neighbourhood Team in Newry recently had success in stopping and seizing a scrambler & a quad and also confirmed that in Slieve Gullion the Dungormley estate sees officers continue to do more regular patrols to target ASB.

Domestic Abuse

Chief Inspector Ruston stated that in this reporting period, Domestic incidents decreased by 123 incidents for the last rolling 365-day period, and domestic recorded offences decreased by 135 incidents. He noted that education work, increased reporting & the One Stop Shop initiative has been reflected in these figures. Chief Inspector Ruston commented on OP Encompass; and stated that this year there has been 565 domestic incidents where the Op Encompass criteria has been met and referred - 1110 children have been referred to schools/further education following exposure to these incidents.

Road Safety

Chief Inspector Ruston noted the tragic fatality in Hilltown involving a young man. He noted that this is the 2nd fatality this year, which is a reduction from 4 in the previous year. Mr Ruston added that the PSNI have been doing a number of road safety operations this month, and highlighted OP Lifesaver on 16th April which was a joint operation with An Garda Síochána. During this operation there were 47 anti-speeding operations including the joint operation with An Garda Síochána - 6 penalty notices were given out and 2 report files.

During this reporting period Chief Inspector Ruston advised there had been 89 speeding detections, 74 detections for careless and dangerous driving, 55 arrests for drink or drug driving and 21 detections for using a mobile phone, with a further 14 detections for not using a seatbelt. 28 fixed penalties and referrals were made to the courts for defects with vehicles and a further 77 vehicles were detected having no insurance. The safety partnership speed van was deployed 37 times in the district making 440 speeding detections. Chief Inspector Ruston noted that road safety continues to be a district priority for the PSNI.

Drugs

Chief Inspector Ruston noted that drugs continue to be a priority for PSNI and highlighted some significant seizures. In Kilkeel in April 2025, £860,000 worth of drugs were seized. In Meigh in April 2025 there was £60,000 worth of herbal Cannabis seized. He noted that out of all PSNI districts, Newry, Mourne & Down district continues to have high seizure rates.

Chief Inspector Ruston reported that 549 seizures were made during the rolling period which is the 4th highest performing district out of all of the PSNI with 194 drug arrests. From 1st April 2024 to 30th March 2025 the RAPID bins have been emptied and counted by PSNI, with 38,494 items recovered and disposed of. Chief Inspector Ruston noted that they have had significant stops of vehicles and subsequent seizures in this area.

Crime

Chief Inspector Ruston noted the largest decrease across the PSNI in crime was Newry, Mourne & Down with a 14.7% reduction in recorded crime. He stated that Burglary continues to show a reduction, however there was an upsurge last month from a travelling gang from Dublin targeting South Armagh & Newry. Chief Inspector Ruston also noted shoplifting has shown a reduction of 10%, and said he believed the work of the Newry BID and their joint work with the PSNI Neighbourhood team has had an impact on these figures. Mr Ruston also stated violence against the person had shown a 10% decrease and noted that they are currently sitting with a clearance rate of 32.2% for crimes – above the PSNI average at 31.3%.

Chief Inspector Ruston noted some of the main incidents which has seen good results within the district. In particular there was an armed robbery at the Casino in Monaghan Street Newry on 27th April. The male involved was located quickly by PSNI and was interviewed and charged and has been remanded in Prison. Mr Ruston also commented on an indecent behaviour and sexual incident at Merchants Quay Newry, where a 48-year-old male was swiftly arrested and charged with a number of offences - confirming he remains remanded in Prison.

South Armagh Policing Review

Chief Inspector Ruston noted that there has been no significant change since the last meeting and added that he was hopeful that work would have started in Newtownhamilton by now in terms of the new PSNI Station. He also added that the Cross Border Pursuit policy is still outstanding and noted the increase in ramming incidents.

General

Chief Inspector Ruston touched on one example of good policing work which received a lot of media attention. This incident was a stabbing which took place on Murlough Beach Newcastle in April 2025, where 2 males were promptly arrested. Mr Ruston commented on the great work from the PSNI crews in locating the suspects, and confirmed one male was charged overnight and then remanded in Prison. He added that CID continue to investigate this.

Chief Inspector Ruston noted that since the last meeting they have seen a further 32 officers assaulted while on duty, he added that they are seeing significant levels of violence from people. He added that thankfully in the majority of cases the officers have been able to continue their duty. Mr Ruston also confirmed that since the last report, PSNI had seen a drop in ramming incidents, however in the last few weeks they have seen an increase with 5 separate incidents taking place. In particular, he raised concerns that from an incident last week they now have an officer who has a fractured vertebrae in his back and is likely to be off work for several months. He noted that a series of ramming's took place following burglaries in the South Armagh area, which involved a gang from across the border. Mr Ruston also added that a push is needed on the cross-border pursuit policy to tackle and prevent these incidents of people fleeing across the border following a crime.

Finally, Chief Inspector Ruston commented on the gorse fires that took place in April 2025 around Hilltown & Newcastle which took a significant amount of police resources along with the Fire service. He noted that one male was arrested on suspected arson.

This concluded the PSNI report from Chief Inspector Ruston.

Cllr Aidan Mathers asked if there was an update on PSNI Newry, Mourne and Down liaising with their colleagues in Belfast PSNI who had recently carried out an operation to seize scramblers. Chief Inspector Ruston acknowledged that some work had been done on this. Inspector Kelly Gibson noted that PSNI had been successful in getting one of the perpetrators but further operations that had been planned did not go ahead as the TSG unit that had been bid for had been pulled away to another incident. She noted that work is still ongoing on this and advised that a full updated will be sent to Cllr Mathers following the meeting.

Roisin Leckey advised the partnership that she recently received an email from PHA advising that a particular batch of cannabis circulating in NI at the moment is deemed as dangerous due to supplies being mixed with other toxic substances. Mrs Leckey advised that she would send the partnership members the PHA information on this via email.

Louise Kennedy asked if the policing act includes rammings to be considered under the assault of police officers. Chief Inspector Ruston advised that it was discussed recently at a federation conference where assaults and rammings were mentioned. He advised that it would be covered as an assault on police.

Cllr Doire Finn indicated towards the subject of race and hate crimes. She noted the rise in attention of this subject in the media and asked if reports are being made of these crimes as the figures reported by PSNI are decreasing. Cllr Finn queried if this could be due to intimidation.

Cllr Finn also asked if any community event details could be circulated with Councillors. Chief Inspector Ruston noted that the recent social media post regarding the incident in a park in Newry referenced in his report resulted in a number of reports to PSNI. Mr Ruston indicated that they intend to encourage making reports to PSNI at upcoming events and noted that these incidents are not reflective of the Newry community as generally it is a very welcoming community.

Cllr Henry Rielly thanked the PSNI for their comprehensive report and the work being done across the district. He asked in relation to the racial and hate crime assaults on Daisy Hill Staff, if those committing the assaults were local people on drugs. He also noted the tragic fatal road traffic collision and stated that it shocked the Mourne community. He commended the PSNI campaign against speeding and noticed the difference this campaign made on the roads. He also asked if the 47 weapons offences recorded were in regard to firearms or knives.

Chief Inspector Ruston advised that this would commonly be knives, not live firearms.

Cllr Conor Galbraith noted the recent stabbing incident which happened the previous night. He asked if any of the partners are aware of any educational programmes that are offered to cover topics such as knife crimes. Aileen O'Callaghan from EA advised that EA would work with the PSNI and PCSP with the guns and knives workshop but noted that this depends on the available resources of the PSNI. She added that this is definitely a partnership approach to educate and roll out. She advised she would work with Cllr Galbraith on this further.

Cllr Terry Andrews thanked the PSNI for their ongoing work on the discussed issues and acknowledged the partnerships support. He thanked the PSNI and Chief Inspector Ruston for providing a detailed report.

PCSP Business

6 PCSP Officer Report

Read: PCSP Officer Report (copy circulated)

Shannon Creaney advised that the PCSP Officer Report is for noting.

She reiterated that the PCSP welcome the Letter of Offer and the funding agreement for this financial year from Joint Committee. She advised that a list will be sent to members of the successful PCSP Financial Assistance groups and noted that many of these successful projects cover diversionary activities over the summer months, Ms Creaney advised members will be invited to attend where appropriate.

In addition, Ms Creaney noted that PCSP will be attending many of the upcoming agricultural shows and festivals throughout the district and welcomed members to join PCSP Staff at these events to see what advice and support is being given to the community.

Cllr Reilly asked if there was an update on the mobile SID's.

Ms Creaney advised that PCSP have been in contact with PWS who supply the mobile SID units, and they have confirmed that the order should arrive by end of June 2025.

Ms Creaney confirmed that when the Mobile SIDs become ready for use, members will be made aware via email.

7 ASB Sub Group Report

Read: ASB Sub Group Reports (copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Cllr Kate Murphy, seconded by Anne Sheridan was agreed the Committee:

- **Approve the report**
- **Approve the Action Sheet for the ASB Sub Group 2 meeting held on 15th April 2025**

8 Date of Next Meeting

Cllr Andrews confirmed the next PCSP & Policing Committee Meeting will be held on 29th July 2025 in Civic Centre Downpatrick.

Before closing the meeting, Cllr Terry Andrews noted since being nominated by SDLP Council Group to serve as Chair of the Newry Mourne and Down Policing and Community Safety Partnership, he has been honoured and privileged to serve in the role. Cllr Andrews thanked his Vice Chair Michelle Osborne who had chaired meetings in his absence and thanked her for her support during his term. He noted the busy year as Chair of PCSP, and his frequent visits to events and schools which he found beneficial. He noted in particular the joint effort from multiple services after the effects of Storm Eowyn and thanked the work of the PCSP staff led by Martina and Shannon for their support to his role. Cllr Andrews also noted his congratulations to PCSP staff member Amy Mckeown on the recent birth of her daughter.

To conclude, Cllr Andrews thanked both elected members, independent members and statutory members for their help and support throughout his term as Chair and wished success to the incoming Chair and Vice Chair of PCSP as they take on their new role.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6:50pm

DRAFT

Report to:	Policing & Community Safety Partnership
Date of Meeting:	29 July 2025
Subject:	PCSP Officer Report – July 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 27 May 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:

	<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 – July 2025
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None.

Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP Officer Report – July 2025

The purpose of this Report is to provide an update on key activities and progress since the last PCSP meeting on 27 May 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** – Jacki Urey remains as PCSP Officer and is now full-time, covering Downpatrick, Rowallane, Slieve Croob and The Mournes DEA’s. Kaitlyn Hanna remains as the PCSP Officer covering Crotlieve, Newry and Slieve Gullion DEA’s. Nicola Whyte is now maternity cover for the previously vacant PCSP/GR Finance and Monitoring Officer post. Shane McGivern remains in post as Safer Communities and Good Relations Officer.
- **PCSP Action Plan 2025/26** – the PCSP Action Plan for 25/26 was submitted to Joint Committee in December 2024, funding has now been confirmed at the same level as 2024/25 (£407,990 operational budget and £12,500 Member Expenses budget).

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 (May - July 2025)
PCSP Delivery	Organising the work of the PCSP through appropriate structures and mechanisms	PCSP Sub Groups (ASB, Bonfire and SID Sub Groups) have now been reconstituted following the reconstitution of the PCSP on 1 June 2024. ASB Sub Group 1 met in Newry on the 10 June 2025 PCSP Bonfire Sub Group met in Newcastle on 29 May 2025 and online on 3 July 2025.

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 Officers have recently attended a series of events which have assisted with raising awareness of our work – these events have included attendance at Dromantine Sunday and Newry Agricultural Show. Feedback from these has been very positive and the events have also created new opportunities for partnership working.</p> <p>Officers are continuing to plan for attendance at a number of shows and Festivals throughout the Summer months e.g. Newry Water Festival.</p>
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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 (May – July 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.</p> <p>A meeting with local housing associations and members of ASB Sub Group 1 also took place in Newry on 17 June 2025.</p> <p>PCSP also facilitated talks with the PSNI in Newry High School and Shimna Integrated College in Newcastle, focusing on ASB issues, including vaping / alcohol use.</p>

		Officers have recently liaised 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. This has included diversionary water safety events with young people from Downpatrick, Slieve Croob and The Mournes DEA's as well as diversionary activities in Warrenpoint / Newry.
	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>448 hours of Community Safety Warden patrols were provided from 16 May 2025 – 5 July 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>50 applications were received – 42 applications have been approved, with a total of £77,324.90 awarded.</p> <p>Pre-commencement workshops for successful PCSP Small Grants applicants took place on the 3 June in Newry and 5 June in Newcastle with a large number of representatives from successful groups in attendance.</p> <p>PCSP Staff continue to visit and support these groups throughout the duration of their PCSP Small Grant projects.</p>
Theme	Aims & description	Key Activities in this Period (May – July 2025)
Drugs and Alcohol	To support the delivery of a range of	Officer attendance at SEDACT and SDACT meetings in this Period.

	programmes, and develop a range of awareness raising campaigns	<p>We have recently facilitated Theresa Burke to deliver a series of drug awareness 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. PCSP staff are currently planning for further roll out of this talk in schools / youth groups / community centres from September 2025 onwards when the new school term begins.</p> <p>We also recently worked with the DSM Foundation to facilitate the drug use awareness play 'I love you mum – I promise I wont 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.</p> <p>A series of talks with ASCERT and PSNI have also been facilitated by PCSP in June 2025 at Shimna College in Newcastle and Newry High School to raise awareness of the dangers of vaping, drugs and alcohol consumption.</p>
	To support the development of the RAPID Bin initiative across the NMDDC area	<p>A total of 20 RAPID Bins are now installed across the District.</p> <p>An update on the most recent collections from the RAPID Bins will be provided at the Partnership meeting.</p> <p>Newry, Mourne and Down recently attended an event with partners in Connections teams, PSNI and PHA on 10 June 2025 to discuss ongoing work in this area. NMD PCSP also spoke at this event, highlighting areas of best practice with the RAPID Bins within our district.</p>
Domestic Crime / Abuse and Sexual Violence	To support the delivery of a range of programmes, and develop a range of awareness	<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 in both Downpatrick and Newry.</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</p>

	raising campaigns	<p>on how to access Domestic and Sexual Violence Support Services and how to contact the Womens Aid DASS Worker.</p> <p>PCSP staff were also in attendance at the DASS Showcase event at Southern Trust Headquarters in Craigavon, showing our commitment to supporting the initiative in our district.</p> <p>We recently hosted a PCSP stall at an Ending Violence Against Women and Girls event in Kilkeel.</p>
Community Safety & Vulnerability	To develop and implement a range of community safety initiatives for vulnerable persons	<p>Continued attendance at local multi-agency partnership meetings including Newry, Mourne & Down Intercultural Forum and local Inter-Agency Forums.</p> <p>PCSP Officers are attending Newcomer Stakeholder Forum meetings in Newry and Newcastle.</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 Muslim Family Connect Day in Ballyholland and at an event in Downpatrick for newcomer families to the area.</p>
	Newry, Mourne & Down Community Support Partnership	The Community Support Partnership continues to engage with a number of vulnerable adults; the most recent meeting took place on 16 June 2025. 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.
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</p>

		<p>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"> • Clanrye Group – Slieve Gullion Forest Park • Sacred Heart Grammar School (with pupils from Abbey Grammar School also in attendance). • At Jennings Park Football Festival in June 2025 <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 also worked with PSNI Roads Policing and the local PSNI Neighbourhood Team to facilitate a Kids Court in the Newtownhamilton area in June 2025.</p> <p>A bike safety event was also recently facilitated in All Childrens Integrated Primary in Newcastle, where children were also provided with hi-vis vests from PCSP.</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 Since 1 April 2025 – 1 July 2025 a total of 40 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	<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 Forkhill, Castlewellan and Bessbrook.</p> <p>Throughout the months of June and July, PCSP have attended agricultural shows throughout the district, which provide further opportunity to engage with the rural community and offer trailer and property</p>

	(including rural crime)	<p>marking services. This has included Newry Agricultural Show in Bessbrook, Dromantine Sunday and Castlewellan Show.</p> <p>Plans for upcoming trailer marking events are being finalised for August / September.</p>
	To promote and develop the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme	Following the reaccreditation process there are now 60 active and fully accredited NHW Schemes across the District.

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

Theme	Aims & description	Key Activities in this Period (May – July 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/police engagement is progressing well via planned events and other activities (as outlined above). Staff have currently increased engagement with the PSNI over the summer period at local summer schemes and youth clubs etc as well as facilitating PSNI attendance at local community events and fun days.

	community with the PSNI	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. Over the summer months, this vehicle proves to be very popular with local summer schemes and festivals, and plans are currently in place to facilitate its use at a number of these events during June/July/August.
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Summary of Community Safety Wardens Reports: 16th May – 5th July 2025

	No. Incidents attended	No. Incidents reported to PSNI	Total Hours Patrolled
Downpatrick	5	0	112
Newcastle	6	0	112
Newry	9	0	112
Warrenpoint	6	0	112
Total	26	0	448

Notes:

This reporting period covers late May Bank Holiday & beginning of school summer holidays.

Examples of Incidents Attended by Wardens:

Newry 17.05.25 – While on patrol at 22.00 the Warden's headed up Monaghan Street, around by the Bus Station and back down Hill Street. On their patrol, wardens see two men who seemed to be in a heated discussion outside Cobbles. One walked away and got into a taxi and the other one headed over in the direction of the Canal Court. The wardens stay close by to ensure that a fight does not break out.

Newry 17.05.25 – at 22:40 the wardens were on patrol at Abbey Way Carpark. The Fire Brigade were at the carpark putting out a fire that someone had started. The wardens stay close by to offer their assistance with diverting traffic and ensuring the area is kept clear.

Newry 23.05.25 – The wardens finished their patrol around by the Bus Station. They came across a few older teens hanging about at the bridge near the bus station with suspected alcohol. The wardens approach the group and ask them to dispose of their alcohol, which they did.

Newry 31.05.25 – at around 22:00 the wardens headed back down along Monaghan Street and noticed two people who appear to be intoxicated outside the Canal Court hotel. The wardens approach the two people and stay with them until a taxi arrives to ensure they get home safely.

Newry 14.06.2025 – The wardens started patrol from the Meadows and around by the Newry Leisure Centre. At the Leisure Centre, they came across three teens messing about on scooters. The wardens stop the three teenagers and speak with them about the dangers of doing this and asked them to be careful of traffic.

Newry 14.06.2025 - At 22:00 The wardens made their way to Barcroft Park and up around the Pound Road. They noticed a group of teens drinking and vaping at

the steps. Wardens spoke to the group of teenagers and got them to move on and dispose of their alcohol without any issues.

Warrenpoint 30.05.25 – The wardens started patrol along the Main Street. They came across two teens messing about at the Bus stop. The wardens approach the teenagers and ask them to be mindful of messing around close to the road and at a bus stop where traffic will be moving.

Warrenpoint 31.05.25 – While patrolling Bridle Loanan the wardens came across a group of youths that were smoking; they ran off once they saw the wardens approach them. The wardens continued to patrol this area to ensure the group did not return.

Warrenpoint 04.07.25 – at 19.00 the wardens started their patrol from Duke Street and then onto Clermont Gardens. They noticed a few young people hanging about, messing on scooters. They had a chat with them, and they moved on with no issues.

Warrenpoint 04.07.25 – at 21.40 the wardens finished their patrol up at Clonallon Park. Here they seen two youths who were vaping and seemed to have bags with them of what appeared to be alcohol. The wardens approached the young people, and asked them to dispose of the alcohol, which they did.

Downpatrick 14.06.25 – at 19:00 the wardens started their patrol from the Town Centre. There seemed to be a lot of Police presence about the town and lots of teens loitering about. Police seem to be monitoring the area, and the wardens maintained a presence to ensure their assistance was available if needed.

Downpatrick 27.06.25 – at 19.00 the wardens started to patrol from the Colmcille Hill area. There had been mention of a protest starting from this area on social media, but only a few cars were parked up in the area. The wardens stayed nearby to ensure people did not begin to congregate or begin to protest.

Downpatrick 05.07.25 - at 22.00 the wardens continued around the Downshire after receiving a report from a member of the public that teens were congregating there. Wardens approached the area and ensured that no young people had gathered.

Newcastle 14.06.25 – at 21:00 the wardens patrolled along the Main Street and around by the Bus Station. At the bus station, they came across a few teenagers with backpacks. The teenagers seemed to be acting suspiciously, so the wardens approached them to ensure they were not carrying alcohol or misbehaving.

Newcastle 20.06.25 – at 21.40 the wardens finished their patrol at Donard Park where there were a number of cars parked up. One car in particular was playing loud music. Wardens approached the driver and asked them to keep the music down in respect for those living nearby, which they did.

Newcastle 21.06.25 – at 20.00 the wardens patrolled Donard Park and checked around the tennis courts before heading out the Bryansford Road. On their patrol,

they came across a few young teenagers loitering. Wardens spoke with the group to ensure they were okay and not drinking alcohol, before asking them to move on from the area.

Newcastle 27.06.25 – at 19.00 Wardens started to patrol on the Main Street. Three teens were gathering outside various shops along the main street and were messing around. Wardens approached the teenagers and asked them to stop messing, to ensure they are not disrupting customers.

Table Showing Data collected from SIDs 19th May – 19th July 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	37	65.7	21.5	0	6.0	5:00 AM
Ardglass	35	38.1	13.4	7	5.66	4:00 AM
Ballynahinch	32	24.2	5.2	0	6.29	5:00 AM
Burren	41	74.7	41.9	50	No Reduction	6:00 AM
Camlough	44	78.0	50.9	329	12.97	6:00 AM
Castlewellan	35	42.9	11.3	0	8.0	6:00 AM
Clough	35	42.2	13.5	19	5.0	5:00 AM
Crossmaglen	41	59.2	35.3	0	5.8	5:00 AM
Culloville*	42	22.1	6.6	1	3.66	6:00 AM
Darragh Cross*	41	17.0	4.8	0	4.44	2:00 AM
Downpatrick*	41	17.6	4.8	64	7.5	5:00 AM
Dundrum	37	50.8	20.4	179	4.51	4:00 AM
Kilcoo	42	75.0	44.4	43	4.28	5:00 AM
Killeavy*	37	3.7	0.6	0	5.33	6:00 AM
Kilkeel	36	49.4	18.4	29	No Reduction	4:00 AM
Killough	33	30.5	5.0	0	3.21	8:00 AM
Killyleagh	38	62.6	27.2	3	5.31	7:00 AM
Leitrim	34	35.6	7.3	0	17.24	6:00 AM
Mayobridge	38	64.5	26.4	0	3.03	6:00 AM
Meigh	41	64.2	37.0	27	14.54	5:00 AM
Newcastle	32	20.8	6.8	1	5.38	4:00 AM

Newry (Camlough Road)	35	42.8	12.8	17	3.66	6:00 AM
Newry (Chancellors Road)*	38	8.4	2.0	8	No Reduction	3:00 PM
Newtownhamilton	42	68.5	41.3	7	5.29	2:00 PM
Rostrevor	43	61.1	37.8	91	6.06	4:00 AM
Saintfield	37	41.3	18.6	13	7.0	5:00 AM
Strangford	37	60.2	24.0	272	4.06	7:00 AM
Warrenpoint	36	52.5	17.4	5	1.66	2:00 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 5.56%
- On average 45.48% 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 17.24% reduction in speed caused by the SID.

Report to:	Policing & Community Safety Partnership
Date of Meeting:	29 July 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 1 meeting held on 10 June 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 27 May 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 1 meeting held on 10 June 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 1 meeting held on 10 June 2025	
8.0	Background Documents	
8.1	None.	

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

Action Sheet of PCSP ASB Sub Group 1 Meeting held on 10 June 2025 at 6PM in Ballybot House, Newry.

Present:

- Chairperson:** Cllr Aidan Mathers
- Elected Members:** Cllr Aidan Mathers
- Independent Members:** David Vint, Anne Sheridan, Michelle Osborne
- Statutory Partners:** Warren Roberts (PSNI), Conor Valentine (PSNI), Maureen O’Gorman (EA), Hannah Cooke (YJA), Karen Martial (YJA), Josephine Morgan (NIHE), Aisling Powers (NIHE)
- Council Officials:** Shannon Creaney, Kaitlyn Hanna
- Apologies:** Colleen Mcreesh, Robin Blair (PSNI), Cllr David Taylor

ITEM	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	FOR COMPLETION – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed.
ASB/001	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	All were welcomed to the meeting by ASB Sub Group 1 Chair and apologies were recorded as above.	

ASB/002	ASB Sub Group 1 Action Plan	<p>The Group discussed the below areas previously identified as priority for the ASB Sub Group 1 Action Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newry DEA – Newry City • Crotlieve DEA – Burren and Warrenpoint • Slieve Gullion DEA – Crossmaglen, Bessbrook and Newtownhamilton 	
ASB/003	Update from Agencies	<p>Update received from PSNI. Update received from PCSP. Update received from EA. Update received from NIHE. Update received from YJA</p>	YJA to share information on their available support to communities with PCSP to be shared with Sub Group members.
ASB/004	Current / Emerging Issues	<p>Discussion around concerns of E-Scooters & Scramblers</p> <p>Rise in ASB in Meadow Area of Newry</p> <p>Update given by Cllr Mathers on 'No Drinking' signs to be replaced by council</p>	Kaitlyn to re-share PCSP press releases on E-Scooters and Scramblers across social media. Press releases also to be shared with ASB Sub Group 1 Members.

ASB/005	Date of Next Meeting	The group agreed to schedule a meeting for September 2025	K Hanna to circulate the next meeting date, time and location with group.
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