

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Fermanagh and Omagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Minutes of the Fermanagh and Omagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership meeting held on Tuesday 28 June 2022 at 7.00 pm in The Grange, Omagh.

Present: **Councillors**
Paul Blake (Chairperson), Keith Elliott, Josephine Deehan, Tommy Maguire, John McClaughry, Barry McElduff, Thomas O'Reilly and Paul Stevenson.

Independent Members
Monica Coyle, Norman Kirkpatrick, Bernie McCrory, Margaret McCrory, Sarah McQuaid, Vida Lake and Maria Thompson.

Designated Members
Sinead Dolan (YJA), Helen Hicks (NIHE), Helen Hicks and Superintendent Mervyn Seffen.

Apologies: Noeleen Hayes, Pauline Treacy, Nicola McSherry (NIFRS), Podge McKeon (NIFRS), Peter Melarkey (NIFRS).

In attendance: Carol Follis (PCSP Manager), Sandra Armstrong (PCSP Officer), Peter McLoughlin (ASCERT).

PCSP 17/22 **Welcome and Apologies**
The outgoing Chairperson welcomed the PCSP Members to the meeting and welcomed the new Chairperson, Councillor Paul Blake. In his welcome Cllr Elliott thanked the outgoing Vice Chairperson for her commitment to the PCSP in the past year and to the Members for their support.

The Chairperson announced that Sarah McQuaid had been elected to the position of PCSP Vice Chairperson. He also congratulated PCSP Members Cllrs Barry McElduff and Allan Rainey on their appointments as Chair and Vice Chair respectively of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.

The Chairperson also informed the meeting that Paul Devlin (PBNI) is retiring and going forward the PBNI would be represented on the PCSP by Colm Duffy. He thanked Paul for his contribution to the PCSP over the years and wished him well for his retirement.

Apologies were accepted.

PCSP 18/22 **Declarations of Interest**
No declarations of interest were declared.

PCSP 18/22 **Notification of AOB**
PSNI estate – Cllr John McClaughry
FODC restructure – PCSP Manager.

PCSP 19/22 **Presentation from Western Drug and Alcohol Co-ordination Team (WDACT)**
Sandra Armstrong and Peter McLoughlin gave a presentation on the RAPID Bin initiative. RAPID is a community-led initiative supported regionally by the PSNI and Public Health Agency, and locally by the Western Drug and Alcohol Coordination Team and the PCSP. The PCSP will be promoting

RAPID Bins at the two shows this year and the Members received a briefing that included the location of the bins, the number and types of drugs deposited, current trends etc.

The Chairperson thanked Sandra and Peter for their presentation and for contribution to the discussion that followed.

PCSP 20/22

Minutes

The minutes of the PCSP meeting held on Tuesday 26 April 2022 were considered and approved. Proposed by Cllr Keith Elliott and seconded by Cllr Josephine Deehan.

PCSP 21/22

Questions from Members of the Public

No questions were received.

PCSP 22/22

Members' Questions

The following question was received from Cllr Keith Elliott taken from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Regeneration and Community Committee meeting 14 June 2022.

On the proposal of Councillor Armstrong, seconded by Councillor Thompson, that the Council:

Makes representations to the PSNI District Commander for Fermanagh and Omagh and the Neighbourhood Policing Team Sergeant to request that priority be given to addressing issues in relation to anti-social vehicular behaviour across the Council area.

Response: Supt. Mervyn Seffen

Thank you for the question and I wish to reassure the member that the issue of anti-social driving is something that we take seriously across the District, and it is an issue which my Neighbourhood policing teams are focused on. I appreciate the impact that anti-social driving can have on our community and their quality of life, particularly in areas where such behaviour is a repeated problem.

As District Commander, I can assure you that where incidents of such behaviour are reported to police that we will take appropriate action, along with our partners to address the problem.

As the member will be aware, we have worked with the PCSP and other stakeholders to address incidents of repeated anti-social driving right across the District.

This includes through the education of those involved, including programs delivered to young drivers in local schools and working with local car enthusiasts and student from SWC to produce a video aimed at educating those involved of the impact that anti-social driving can have on others. We have also worked with a range of partners to address repeat incidents of anti-social driving at the Quay lane car park in Enniskillen which, along with enforcement of road traffic legislation included changes to the infrastructure of the carpark.

In addition, we have carried out a number of enforcement operations aimed specifically at anti-social driving and modified vehicles with our colleagues in Roads Policing and the Driver and Vehicle Agency (DVA).

I would encourage people to report any concerns to police at the time of the incident, so that we can respond appropriately and to enable us to identify repeat locations of such behaviour.

PCSP 23/22

Update from Designated Members

No written or verbal updates were presented.

PCSP 24/22

PCSP Activity Report April – June 2022

The PCSP Manager gave a presentation on PCSP activity for the period April–June 2022. Highlights include Emergency Services Day, Open Water Swimming classes, Bike Safe and visits to community groups to relay various community safety messages. The Members commented on the variety and amount of work delivered and asked that their thanks are conveyed to the PCSP staff team for their hard work and commitment to the delivery of the Action Plan. The Members also agreed that the style of reporting allowed them to get a better picture of the type and reach of the activity.

PCSP 25/22

PCSP Standing Orders

The PCSP Manager brought this to the meeting for the second time as per Standing Orders. The Members commented that the two workshops and the discussion at the previous PCSP meeting allowed sufficient time for consideration of the revision of the Standing Orders and that it should be approved at this meeting. Proposed by Cllr Thomas O'Reilly and seconded by Cllr Keith Elliott.

Recommended

- That the revised Standing Orders are adopted.

PCSP 26/22

Traveller Engagement Initiative

The PCSP Manager informed the meeting that the Joint Committee had approved the proposal for the Traveller Engagement Initiative. She explained that this is very much a pilot initiative the outcome of which is unknown. The PCSP Manager suggested that it would be beneficial to establish a Task & Finish Group that would assume the oversight of the project and report to the Partnership as required. The following Members were put forward for the Task & Finish Group: Cllrs Paul Blake, Keith Elliott, Tommy Maguire and Thomas O'Reilly. Independent Members Monica Coyle, Bernie McCrory, Margaret McCrory. Designated Members Scott Fallis, Johnny Hamill and Helen Hicks. Proposed by Cllr Keith Elliott and seconded by Cllr Thomas O'Reilly.

The Members requested that as much as can be facilitated meetings of the Task & Finish Group should take place inside normal working hours.

Recommended

- That a Task & Finish Group is established.

PCSP 27/22

PCSP Communications Strategy

The PCSP Manager gave a brief overview of the revised strategy. Proposed by Cllr Thomas O'Reilly and seconded by Bernie McCrory. It was suggested that consideration is given to how the PCSP can use bloggers to promote its work to a wider audience.

Recommended

- That the Communications Strategy is adopted.

PCSP 28/22

Update from Funding Task & Finish Group

The PCSP Manager provided the meeting with updates from the Funding Task & Finish Group that had previously been emailed to all Members. The Members agreed that it is beneficial to bring these updates to PCSP meetings for noting. Proposed by Cllr Thomas O'Reilly and seconded by Norman Kirkpatrick.

PCSP 29/22

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Accreditations

The following scheme was presented for accreditation: Springfield. Proposed by Cllr Keith Elliott and seconded by Sarah McQuaid. The Members queried how best to promote the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch and asked if it is possible to produce an article on how it works and some of the success stories.

Recommended:

- That an article on Neighbourhood Watch is produced.

PCSP 30/22

Any Other Business

Cllr John McClaughry raised a query relating to the availability of electric charging points in the police estate and if staff can use these points to charge their own vehicles. Supt. Seffen explained that the charging points are for PSNI fleet vehicles only. He added that the provision of charging points is included in the estates strategy that is ongoing and that the PSNI had recently taken delivery of 27 electric cars.

The PCSP Manager informed the meeting that resulting from restructure within Community Services in the Council she has taken on additional responsibilities but would remain as the primary contact for the PCSP and continue to attend and report at PCSP meetings. She confirmed that a PCSP Team Leader role would be recruited shortly, and that Members would be kept informed of the appointment. The Members congratulated the Manager on the promotion and wished her well in her new role.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PCSP will take place on Tuesday 27 September 2022 at 7.00 pm venue to be confirmed.

RISING:

The Committee rose at 8.25 pm. All Members were present from the start of the meeting with the exception of Norman Kirkpatrick who arrived at 7.26pm.