

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
Fermanagh and Omagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership

Policing Committee Meeting in Public

Minutes of the Fermanagh and Omagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership Policing Committee meeting held in public in The Grange, Omagh, on Tuesday 26 March 2019 at 6.16 pm.

Present: Councillors

Allan Rainey (Chairperson), John Coyle, Keith Elliott, Marty McColgan, Thomas O'Reilly and Howard Thornton.

Independents

Norman Kirkpatrick, Monica Coyle, Vida Blake and Eithne McAnespy.

Designated Members

Superintendent Clive Beatty (PSNI), Chief Inspector Graham Dodds (PSNI), Paul Devlin (PBNI) and Ryan McGee (EANI).

Apologies: Councillor Paul Blake, Mairaid McMahon and Sinead Dolan (YJA).

In attendance: Carol Follis (PCSP Manager) and Paula Sheerin (Committee Clerk).

PC 01/19 **Welcome and Apologies**

The Chairperson welcomed Members to the meeting and apologies were accepted.

PC 02/19 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Policing Committee meeting held in public on Tuesday 18 December 2018 were considered and agreed. Proposed by Councillor Howard Thornton and seconded by Monica Coyle.

PC 03/19 **Matters Arising**

21/18 Criminal Justice Inspectorate Northern Ireland Inspection of PCSPs

The PCSP Manager informed the Members that the report from CJINI is still not available and will be forwarded to Members on receipt.

39/18 PCSP Draft Action Plan 2019-2020

Members were informed that the PCSP Action Plan 2019-2020 has been submitted to Joint Committee, who have reviewed the plan and have come back with a few amendments. These amendments have been made and the Action Plan has been resubmitted to Joint Committee.

42/18 Community Safety Wardens Scheme Evaluation

The PCSP Manager informed the Partnership that Insights Solutions have been commissioned to carry out the Evaluation on this scheme. Noting the report will be presented to Members at the next PCSP Meeting on 30 April 2019.

40/18 Text Alert Service

Members were informed that the process of terminating the current provider has commenced. Text Alert Service is within this year 2019-2020 Budget and once letter of offer has been received work can commence.

12- Month update on the Local Policing Plan 2018-2019

Superintendent Clive Beatty presented the Partnership with a 12 Month Update on the Local Policing Plan Priorities 2019 – 2020. The Superintendent noted the report statistics run shy of the twelve months from 1st April 2018 to 16 March 2019 and will release the full yearly statistics when available. The Superintendent provided an overview of the report following the normal Policing Priorities template highlighting the same seven themes.

- 1) Engagement: Continuing dedicated engagement patrols.
- 2) Crime: 4298 crimes recorded, 224 more crimes than this time last year.
- 3) Anti-Social Behaviour: 2943 incidents recorded, up by 212 from last year.
- 4) Domestic Abuse: 795 crimes recorded, up 81 incidents from last year.
- 5) Road Safety: 7 people have lost their lives within the district this year.
- 6) Drugs: 310 drug seizure with 170 people arrested.
- 7) Cybercrime: 99 crimes recorded, up 68 from last year.

The Members commended the Plan and asked questions which were answered accordingly.

Recommended:

- 1) That the Partnership notes the Local Policing Plan Priorities 2019 -2020.
- 2) Correspondence with NIAS and the WHSCT on easing PSNI resources on vulnerable people.

Councillor Marty McColgan left the meeting at 7.00 pm.

“Following the discussion of ASB Classification Members questioned the recording process of ASB figures. The Superintendent noted that Chief Inspector Graham Dodds has been taking the lead on ASB across the district to stream line the process of recording these figures.

Members noted the visible number of people especially within town centres using their mobile phones while driving and queried what measures were being taken. The Superintendent noted officers are carrying out daily operations on speeding, seat belt and mobile phone misuse. High lightening road safety is a constant priority for the police.

Another Member raised their concerns regarding car break ins at beauty spots especially around the border areas. The Superintendent commented on their strong working relationship with the Guardia on this matter. Noting the continuing work by the PSNI and PCSP to erect signage in these beauty spot areas to remind the public to be more conscious. The Superintendent also noted planned operations over the Easter Period concentrating on beauty spots. Members discussed the topic of using the postal service as a medium of obtaining drugs. The Superintendent stated this trend is on the rise and they are working closely with the Royal Mail, internal measures in place scanning machines, employees checking suspicious packages and PSNI Dog teams periodic checks.

A Member raised concerns regarding the amount of police resources spent with Vulnerable people that could be best served with other policing matters. The Member suggested correspondence with the NIAS and the WHSCT on this matter. Designated Members noted the recent creation of the Support Hub in the district aimed at relieving resources on services.

Member raised concerned on the reduction of Crime Prevention Officer from two to one. The superintendent noted that this has been rolled out across Northern Ireland and that all districts have now only one Crime Prevention Officer. Noting

that the Crime Prevention Officer will serve the whole district with support from local policing.

Members noted the raise in cybercrime and queried what local support is available. The Superintendent noted there is a central pool of cybercrime experts in Belfast with a cybercrime unit based locally in Omagh and highlighted the continuing work of local officers on educating schools.

Members discussed the recent topic of ATM Thefts asking for an update from the PSNI and what measures could be taken. The Superintendent noted that the PSNI have set up a designated Crime Task Force and noted that the thefts show traits of an organised crime gang who are forensically aware. Noting possible measures are to encourage Banks to take responsibility for the money making it more difficult for thefts with dyes and or trackers. Also to remind contractors of their own civic duty securing their machinery.

Member raised concerned regarding the delay with the refurbishment of the Enniskillen custody suite querying if the PCSP could help in some way to speed up the process. The Superintendent thanked the Member for the offer noting that a contractor has now been appointed with work scheduled to complete early next year.”

RISING:

The Committee rose at 7.40 pm.

All attendees were present at the beginning of the meeting.

All attendees remained present for the duration of the meeting except for Councillor Marty McColgan who left at 7.00 pm.