

**Minutes of the meeting of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership held on Wednesday 26 May 2021 at 2.30pm via Microsoft Teams**

**Present:** Councillor Christine McFlynn (Chair), Councillor Frances Burton, Councillor Anne Forde, Councillor Clement Cuthbertson, Councillor Meta Graham, Councillor Cathal Mallaghan, Councillor Dominic Molloy, Councillor Brian McGuigan, Councillor John McNamee, Councillor Sean McPeake

Alexandra Black (Vice Chair), Sue Chada, Grace Meerbeek, Seán MacGoilla Cheara, Pearse McFlynn, Julie McKeown, Hayley Wilson,

Superintendent Mike Baird (PSNI), Sharon Crooks (NIHE), Neil Gillan (SH&SCT), Michelle Grant (PBNi), Inspector Alison Johnstone (PSNI), Ryan McGee (EA), Inspector Peter McNeill (PSNI), Inspector Gavin Sterling (PSNI)

**Apologies:** Patsy Begley (NIFRS)

**In Attendance:** Michael McCrory (PCSP Manager), Annette McGahan (PCSP Officer), Shauna McCloskey (PCSP Officer), Martina McCullagh (PCSP Assistant)

The Meeting commenced at 2.32pm.

**PCSP188/21 WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and advised that this was her final meeting as Chair of PCSP, as a new Chair will be appointed at Mid Ulster District Council AGM on 7 June 2021. The Chair thanked the PCSP Manager and staff, Elected Members, Independent Members and PSNI for their work and support during the year.

Councillor Burton thanked the Chair for the professional manner in which she carried out her role as Chair, particularly during what was an unprecedented year in all our lives.

Alexandra Black, on behalf of the Independent Members took the opportunity to thank the Chair for all her work throughout the year.

**PCSP189/21 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Members were reminded of their obligation in relation to declarations of interest.

**PCSP190/21     MINUTES OF MID ULSTER POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 31 MARCH 2021**

The Minutes of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership meeting held on Wednesday 31 March 2021 were approved by Members.

**Proposed by:** Councillor Brian McGuigan

**Seconded by:** Julie McKeown

**PCSP191/21     MATTERS ARISING**

**PCSP185/21 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Do-nuts on rural roads**

Councillor Burton stated that 'do-nuts' continue to be an extremely dangerous activity on our roads and understands it is difficult for PSNI to patrol all areas, but requested that it is kept on their radar.

**PCSP185/21 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS – RAPID Bins**

Councillor McGuigan referred to the promotion of RAPID bins and requested an update on the promotional video.

PCSP Officer, Shauna McCloskey reported that all necessary information relating to RAPID bins in Mid Ulster has been provided to the Production Company and it is hoped this will be completed in the near future.

**PCSP192/21     PROJECT UPDATES**

The PCSP Manager referred Members to the Project Report Cards and provided a brief update on Projects.

PCSP Officer, Shauna McCloskey provided Members with an update on two Schools Programme which took place during the year, all be it on a smaller scale due to Covid-19. The 'Who's at the Door' programme delivered by Beam Creative Network in conjunction PSNI schools officers and the 'Positive Relationships' programme delivered by Causeway / Mid Ulster Women's Aid again in conjunction with PSNI schools officers, both proved very successful.

Members were informed that quotation requests have been issued in respect of the 'Positive Relationships' programme these will be evaluated and the programme will be delivered this year.

**PCSP193/21     SIDs UPDATE**

PCSP Officer, Shauna McCloskey advised Members that PCSP currently have 24 SIDs, two of which are being returned due to faults. There is currently 30 locations on the waiting list. The manufacturers have been contacted to ascertain if it is possible for the software to recognise two speed limits at one location at different times of the day, as this is the case at some locations. Members will be updated as soon as a response is received.

The PCSP Officer reminded Members to ensure that a street light number is included when submitting a referral for a SID, as this is essential for installation process. Members were offered assistance if they were experiencing difficulty completing the referral form.

Councillor Burton suggested moving the schools that are currently awaiting a SID to the top of the list to ensure they are installed as soon as possible, as they are required during term-time.

Councillor Burton referred to a request received from Fivemiletown Chamber of Commerce for a SID to be installed close to King George V playing fields in Fivemiletown.

The PCSP Manager provided a brief overview of the interactive link for SID Statistics and asked Members to forward any further suggestions that could improve the link. The link will be added to the PCSP Facebook page and circulated to Members.

Superintendent Baird thanked the PCSP Manager and stated that the statistics being produced will be very helpful to them in the future.

#### **PCSP194/21    MEMBERS SURVEY RESULTS**

The PCSP Manager stated that the survey shows Members would prefer to have face to face meetings and avail of further training. The NIPB are currently working on a training schedule which will be issued to PCSP Managers in due course.

#### **PCSP195/21    NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SURVEY RESULTS**

Members noted the results of the Neighbourhood Watch Survey.

#### **PCSP196/21    BLACKOUT PLAY**

The PCSP Manager advised that the DoJ have highlighted that the 'Blackout Play' could be rolled out this year. The performance relates to real life experiences of being in the Justice system as a consequence of taking drugs/alcohol and what life decisions may have led them to be within the system.

The PCSP Manager advised that the DoJ are unable to solely fund the performance this year and wished to gauge the interest and ability of PCSPs to contribute towards this project. The cost would be in the region of £2,000 to £3,000 in order to have an impact across Mid Ulster area.

Following a discussion, Members made the following comments;

Alexandra Black, Vice Chair stated the content of the play would be invaluable and would be supportive of making a contribution.

Julie McKeown stated that if this prevented a young person making a wrong decision that impacted upon the rest of their life it would be money well spent and save money in the long run.

Councillor Burton queried how it would be rolled out and by making a contribution how many schools would have the opportunity to view the play.

Members agreed in principle to making a contribution on the proviso that the PCSP Manager obtain a more in-depth analysis of costings from the DoJ.

**PCSP197/21    PCSP INDUCTION TRAINING**

The PCSP Manager referred Members to the report of the recent Outcome Based Accountability (OBA) training provided by the Northern Ireland Policing Board. Members noted the results contained in the report.

**PCSP198/21    PCSP LEAFLET**

The Chair stated that the PCSP leaflet looks well and has excellent content.

The PCSP Manager advised Members to contact PCSP officers in order to make arrangements to collect a supply of leaflets or if required they could be issued by post.

**PCSP199/21    POLICE PROPERTY FUNDING**

The PCSP Manager reminded Members that community groups can still avail of funding through the Police Property Funding, grants of £1,000 to £10,000 for eligible projects. Applications for funding will need to demonstrate that the project engages with local police, contributes to building community safety and confidence in policing and is aligned to a charitable purpose. The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Thursday 8 July 2021.

**PCSP200/21    ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Scams**

Councillor McGuigan referred to the increasing number of methods used to scam individuals out of vast amounts of money and suggested that PCSP highlight this issue to increase awareness and help make the general public more vigilant.

Superintendent Baird referred to the 'Banking Protocol', a UK-wide scheme that enables bank branch staff to alert their local police force when they suspect a customer is being scammed. Superintendent Baird offered to provide posts from their website to assist with scam awareness raising.

Councillor Burton referred to a very successful 'breakfast scam event' which was held prior to Covid, whereby local businesses were invited to attend and guest speakers provided excellent advice on how to recognise and avoid becoming a victim of a scam.

The PCSP Manager stated the 'breakfast scam event' can be looked at again, dependent on covid restrictions, These events were held in conjunction with the Crime Prevention Officers and bank officials also attended and provided advice and information.

### **East Timorese Group – collection of second hand items**

Grace Meerbeek advised Members that she works very closely with the East Timorese community across the district and wished to express her disappointment with the lack of support provided by Mid Ulster District Council when the group were collecting second-hand items to send to East Timor.

Councillor Cuthbertson reassured the Member that he would raise this issue with Council on their behalf, as it is not a PCSP issue. He also stated that he had recently visited a group in Dungannon who are collecting items for East Timor and praised their work and the work of all groups involved in this endeavour.

The Chair commended the work of the PSNI, especially the recent drug seizures across the district, pledging continued support from Mid Ulster PCSP.

Superintendent Baird thanked Councillor McFlynn for her work as Chair of Mid Ulster PCSP, during what has been a very difficult year. He also thanked the PCSP Manager and team for support provided throughout the year.

### **PCSP201/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next PCSP meeting will take place on Wednesday 8 September 2021 at 2.30pm.

The Chair thanked Members for attending the meeting.

The meeting ended at 3.35pm.