

**Minutes of the meeting of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership
held on Wednesday 31 March 2021 at 2.30pm via Microsoft Teams**

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

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

Jonathan Armour (NIFRS), Superintendent Mike Baird (PSNI), Chief Inspector Mervyn Seffen (PSNI), Inspector Gavin Sterling (PSNI)

Apologies: Patsy Begley (NIFRS), Sharon Crooks (NIHE), Councillor Meta Graham

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

The Meeting commenced at 2.33pm.

PCSP178/21 WELCOME

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. The Chair advised Members that Inspector Danny Walsh and Inspector Andy Archibald are both soon due to retire. The Chair took the opportunity to thank them for their support and work over the years and wished them well in their retirement.

Superintendent Baird advised that Inspector Gavin Sterling has replaced Inspector Andy Archibald.

PCSP179/21 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

**PCSP180/21 MINUTES OF POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2020**

The Minutes of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership meeting held on Wednesday 9 December 2020 were approved by Members.

PCSP181/21 MATTERS ARISING

Posters displayed across Mid Ulster District

Pearse McFlynn referred to threatening posters which have been displayed for a number of months across the District and asked what action is being taken by PSNI to have them removed.

Councillor Molloy also raised concerns about the 'threat of violence' displayed on posters, specifically aimed towards members of the GAA, elected Members and Mid Ulster District Council staff, stating that these threats which must be taken seriously.

Superintendent Baird advised that threats are taken very seriously and stated if a poster is illegal, it will be removed. These posters are very distasteful, but are not a criminal offence and is unaware of posters threatening MUDC staff. PSNI have been engaging with communities, encouraging the removal of posters and have had some success. This work continues.

The Chair clarified that a significant number of the posters are placed on DfI poles which are not the responsibility of Mid Ulster District Council.

PCSP172/20 – COOKSTOWN NORTHER COMMUNITY GROUP – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - SID

The PCSP Manager advised Members that discussions have taken place with Cookstown North Community Group and funding has been agreed for the procurement of a Speed Indicator Device (SID).

PCSP182/21 SIDs REPORT

The PCSP Manager provided an update to Members in relation to where SIDs have been deployed and results gathered during the previous two years. An on-line interactive system is currently being developed which will allow instant access to view statistics of each SID and will include the time of day vehicle speeds are recorded. The feedback received from PSNI and the community both agree that SIDs do work and are having a positive impact on reducing speed on our roads.

The PCSP Officer advised Members that PWS Ireland Ltd have been awarded the tender to supply 10 SIDs, which we hope to take delivery of by the middle of April 2021. Speed Indicator Devices are currently allocated on a first come first served basis, with schools taking priority during the school year, with subsequent allocations equally spread across Mid Ulster District Council area. A site inspection is carried out to ensure the location is suitable for a SID to be installed.

Following a discussion, Members agreed that Independent Members, Elected Members and Statutory Agencies continue to contact PCSP Officers to request the allocation of a SID to a particular area. It was also agreed that if an individual or a Community Group contacted PCSP directly regarding a request for a SID, this will be discussed with the Independent Member and/or Elected Member in that particular area to ascertain need.

In response to a question from Councillor Forde regarding the availability of funding for Community Groups to assist with the purchase of a SID, the PCSP Manager referred Members to the 'Police Property Funding' which was recently launched and is providing grants of between £1,000 and £10,000. The closing date for applications is 8 July 2021.

Members made the following comments/recommendations;

Councillor McNamee suggested the development of a calendar detailing allocation dates for SIDs, therefore, Members would know in advance when a SID will be installed in a particular area.

The Chair suggested circulating all necessary requirements for the installation of a SID to Members.

Councillor Burton suggested the recording of car registration number, if technology allowed as this would assist the PSNI greatly with identifying speeding vehicles.

Alexandra Black, Vice Chair sought clarification regarding ownership, insurance and liability if a Community Group were to purchase a SID through secured funding. The PCSP Manager advised that he would check all options and update Members.

PCSP183/21 DRAFT PCSP LEAFLET

The PCSP Manager referred to the draft PCSP Leaflet and asked Members if they wished to have their contact number or e-mail address included in the leaflet.

Following a discussion it was agreed that the leaflet be amended to include Members e-mail addresses. It was also agreed to include the 101 non-emergency number and Crimestoppers number 0800 555111, as suggested by Councillor Burton.

PCSP184/21 PROJECTS UPDATE

The PCSP Manager referred to the Project Report Cards for Quarter 3 and asked if Members required clarification or had any questions relating to the projects. No clarification was sought by Members.

Alexandra Black, Vice Chair advised that she recently attended the OBA Training provided by the NIPB and informed Members that the Project Report Cards formed part of the training.

PCSP185/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Anti-Social Behaviour – College Gardens area in Magherafelt

Councillor McPeake referred to anti-social behaviour at College Gardens in Magherafelt, in a section of green space which backs onto houses facing Westland Road. Councillor McPeake is working with Councillor Totten to help get this issue addressed. The anti-social behaviour is happening in a

small area of green space close to an NIE Sub Station and a gable wall of a premises owned by Clanmill Housing Association. There is alcohol being consumed, drug-taking and extensive graffiti on both the Sub Station and the gable wall of the premises. Clanmill Housing Association have agreed to paint the wall and NIE have agreed to paint the Sub Station which will remove the graffiti, however, Councillor McPeake stated that it would help if this area could be fenced off.

The PCSP Officer advised Members that it has been determined that Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) owns this area of green space. Councillor Totten has been updated and he intends contacting NIHE to request fencing for the area. PCSP will continue to provide assistance if necessary.

NTE Meeting held on 15/09/2020 – Discussion regarding the development of a ‘Good to Go’ sign for night time economy premises

Councillor Mallaghan referred to a discussion which took place at a Night-Time Economy meeting held on the 15 September 2020 regarding the development of a ‘Good to Go’ sign, which Vintners could display and would give confidence to patrons that the premises is Covid compliant. Councillor Mallaghan asked for an update.

The PCSP Manager advised that this initiative was discussed with the relevant statutory agencies, who were unable to stand over the content of the sign, therefore, it did not proceed. He referred to a Northern Ireland wide Tourism initiative called ‘Good to Go’ which restaurants and pubs can apply for free of charge.

Superintendent Baird advised that this initiative was discussed, but PSNI as a service were not prepared to endorse it, as they were unable to view the risk assessments carried out by Vintners and, therefore, could not state with absolute certainty that the premises were fully Covid compliant.

Councillor Mallaghan said given the enthusiasm at the time it was initially discussed, it is disappointing that the initiative will not proceed.

RAPID Bin in Maghera

Councillor McGuigan referred to the RAPID Bin which was recently installed in Maghera and the very negative feedback it is receiving on social media. Councillor McGuigan also referred to a very informative video produced by another Council area promoting RAPID bins and asked if PCSP could utilise this medium to educate the public regarding the positive benefits of this initiative.

The PCSP Manager advised Members that work is currently taking place in conjunction with Start360 and PSNI with a view to installing a further 5 RAPID bins in various locations across the District. Under normal circumstances a community consultation is carried out prior to a RAPID bin being installed, but due to Covid this was not possible. In relation to the video referred to, the production company involved have been contacted and are in the process of tailoring its content to suit Mid Ulster. When

finalised, this video will be made available to PSNI and other Partners to help promote RAPID bins in a positive way.

Do-nuts on Rural Roads & Incidents of Dog Theft

Councillor Burton referred to the increase in 'do-nuts' on rural roads and named 'Hollands Crossroads' as being particularly bad at present, stating it is only a matter of time until someone is seriously injured or killed.

Superintendent Baird advised Members to continue to report when and where incidents of 'do-nuts' are happening and they will do their best to attend the area.

Councillor Burton referred to the increase in dog theft and asked if there has been many incidents reported in Mid Ulster.

Superintendent Baird stated there has been no dog thefts reported across the District. There is a lot of information on social media regarding dog theft, but there is no evidence of large numbers of dogs being stolen in Northern Ireland at present.

Councillor Burton thanked the Clogher Valley Neighbourhood Policing Team for the help and support provided recently to a lady who reported suspicious vehicles in their area. She also expressed thanks to Agewell and PCSP Officers for their assistance in the matter.

Superintendent Baird thanked the Member for the positive feedback and stated that this would be passed on to the Clogher Valley Team.

Councillor Burton referred to the retirement of Chief Inspector Roy Robinson and proposed sending a card wishing him all the best in his retirement.

Superintendent Baird advised that Roy Robinson, Danny Walsh and Andy Archibald all retired today and that he would pass on the well-wishes.

Litter Picking

In response to a query from Grace Meerbeek regarding the issue of excessive amounts of litter discarded along our roads, the Chair referred to a Council run scheme where communities are provided with litter pickers and bags to carry out a 'litter pick', Council then collect the bags of litter. This has already taken place in numerous areas across the District and is being very well supported by the community.

The Chair advised that a 'litter pick' has been arranged for Moneymore on the 17 April 2021.

Drink Driving Sentences

Alexandra Black, Vice Chair commended the PSNI on apprehending a drunk-driver at the week-end, and stated as a fifth time offender is the message not getting through or should sentencing be reviewed.

In response, Superintendent Baird agreed as this was a fifth time offender, who was driving without a driving licence PSNI would be pushing for a custodial sentence, but sentencing remains with the judiciary.

Covid-19 figures in Mid Ulster

Superintendent Baird advised that Covid-19 figures are currently the highest in Mid Ulster compared to other Districts. A meeting has been arranged with the Public Health Agency, Environmental Health and the Chief Executive of MUDC to discuss the current situation, and to try to identify the reason for the high number of cases across Mid Ulster.

Superintendent Baird asked Members to continue to encourage communities to abide by Covid regulations especially over the Easter period.

Information issued to Members by e-mail

The PCSP Manager referred to the following documents which were circulated to Members recently by e-mail. Members were advised to contact the PCSP Manager if they have any queries or require further information regarding any of the documents issued.

- Police Property Funding
- Mid Ulster Support Hub Evaluation
- Findings from the Northern Ireland Safe Community Survey focusing on perceptions of crime

PCSP186/21 IMPACT ON DELIVERY OF PCSP ACTION PLAN DUE TO REDUCTION IN STAFF

In response to a question from the Chair regarding impact on the delivery of the PCSP Action Plan due to the reduction in staff, the PCSP Manager advised that it is difficult to quantify at present due to Covid Restrictions. The impact will become more evident when restrictions are eased sufficiently to allow the resumption of Youth Projects and engagements.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

PCSP187/21 The next PCSP meeting will take place on Wednesday 26 May 2021 at 2.30pm.

The Chair thanked Members for attending the meeting and wished everyone a very Happy Easter.

The meeting ended at 3.48pm.



ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

Mid Ulster Policing and Community
Safety Partnership



INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) for 2020– 2021.

The last year has been difficult for many people due to Covid, isolation, loneliness, and the fear of the unknown. We hope that there are brighter days ahead as families are able to meet their loved ones again.

Covid has had an impact on our local areas and to comply with regulations the PCSP has had to restrict its normal activities.

Mid Ulster PCSP is made up of statutory and community members who work together to help make Mid Ulster a safer place to live. As Chair, I would like to express my thanks to our elected, independent and statutory members for their commitment to the PCSP.

As a PCSP, we are committed to engaging and developing solutions that address the community safety issues that matter most in our communities.

The PCSP also has a duty to monitor the performance of the police against the local policing plan. Members continue to do this and regularly meet with the PSNI to review this.

I would like to express my thanks to all who have engaged and worked with us over the past year.

Cllr Christine McFlynn

Chairperson

Mid Ulster Policing and Community Safety Partnership 2020-21

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FUNCTIONS AND PROCESSES

Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) aim to make our communities safer. They are statutory bodies established under the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

PCSPs work in a joined-up way to the benefit of local communities. They are funded jointly by the Department of Justice and the Northern Ireland Policing Board.

There are 11 partnerships, one for each council area.

Each PCSP has a Policing Committee to take forward specific police monitoring and engagement functions, with the wider PCSP taking forward community safety related functions.

PCSPs may also establish delivery groups to address particular community safety issues that arise in their areas.

WHAT PCSPS DO

PCSPs aim to make our community safer by focusing on the policing and community safety issues that matter most in each local council area.

In making communities safer PCSPs will:

- Consult and engage with the local community on the issues of concern in relation to policing and community safety. The Policing Committee has a responsibility to provide views to the district commander and the Policing Board on policing matters
- Identify and prioritise issues of concern and prepare plans for how these can be tackled
- Monitor - a Policing Committee comprising the political and independent members will monitor the performance of the police and work to gain the co-operation of the public with the police in preventing crime
- Deliver a reduction in crime and enhance community safety in the district, directly through its own actions, through the work of the delivery groups or through support for the work of others.

JOINT COMMITTEE

PCSPs receive annual funding from the Joint Committee (the Department of Justice and NI Policing Board) with a legislative aim to work with their local community to help address crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour issues.

There have been many examples of good practice highlighted to Joint Committee by PCSPs throughout the year which showcase the good work being carried out on the ground. Joint Committee has also provided support to PCSPs to use an Outcomes Based Approach (OBA) as a more consistent and better means of measuring impact and improving transparency and accountability in the delivery of their work in local communities.

PCSPs now routinely use all aspects of OBA in their work, with an action plan being completed using indicator and performance measure information; a project card template being used for each initiative and thematic report cards being submitted to Joint Committee every quarter from a governance perspective.

To support PCSPs in their transition to this new way of working, the Joint Committee developed PCSP planning guidance which incorporates the following:

- Information on the OBA process;
- An action plan template which includes a review and summary synopsis to capture the rationale for continuing, amending, or not progressing projects from one year to another;
- A set of agreed performance measures for generic projects;
- A project card template to be completed for each initiative;
- A thematic report card template to be used to help highlight impact at a more strategic level; and
- A framework showing how the work of PCSPs and their use of OBA supports the common Programme for Government Outcome 7 - We have a safe community where we respect the law and each other.

MEMBERS

The size of each PCSP varies across Northern Ireland. Mid Ulster PCSP has ten political members appointed by Mid Ulster District Council and nine independent members of the community who are appointed by the NI Policing Board.

Together these members form the Policing Committee of the PCSP. In addition, PCSPs have representatives from seven designated bodies.

The Chair of each PCSP is a councillor and the Vice Chair is an independent member.

In 2020-21 Mid Ulster PCSP consisted of the following members:

Ten local Councillors;

Councillor Christine McFlynn (Chair)

Councillor Frances Burton

Councillor Clement Cuthbertson

Councillor Anne Forde

Councillor Meta Graham

Councillor Cathal Mallaghan

Councillor Dominic Molloy

Councillor Brian McGuigan

Councillor John McNamee

Councillor Sean McPeake

Nine independent members of the public;

Alexandra Black (Vice Chair)

Sulakashana Chada

Grace Meerbeek

Seán MacGíolla Cheara

Ciaran McElhone

Paul McErlean

Pearse McFlynn

Julie McKeown

Hayley Wilson

And representatives from designated statutory bodies;

Education Authority

Northern Health and Social Care Trust (NHSCT)

Southern Health and Social Care Trust (SHSCT)

Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS)

Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE)

Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI)

Probation Board for Northern Ireland (PBNI)

Youth Justice Agency

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The PCSP agreed the following strategic objectives and priorities for 2020-21

Strategic Objective 1 – to successfully deliver the functions of the Policing and Community Safety Partnership for the area

Key priorities:

- Engage with local community and statutory groups
- Implement the PCSP's plan
- Put in place relevant implementation structures and delivery mechanisms
- Raise awareness of PCSP, crime problems, and projects

Strategic Objective 2 – to improve community safety by tackling crime and anti-social behaviour

Key priorities:

- To reduce the level of ASB, including anti-social driving
- To reduce the level of violent crime, including alcohol related crime
- To reduce fear of crime and reduce the risk of being a victim of crime, especially among older people

Strategic Objective 3 – to improve community confidence in policing

Key priorities:

- Ensure local accountability
- Ensure that policing delivery reflects the involvement, views, and priorities of local communities
- Ensure improved policing service delivery in partnership with local communities
- Ensure effective engagement with the police and the local community
- Ensure engagement with police is built into projects

Mid Ulster PCSP consults and engages with the local community on policing and community safety issues of concern. The PCSP then identifies and prioritises these and prepares plans for how they can be tackled.

The PCSP aims to deliver a reduction in crime and enhance community safety, directly through its own actions, through the work of delivery groups or through support for the work of others.

DELIVERING

The projects listed below have been developed or funded by the PCSP in response to the priorities identified through the consultation. These activities also provide the PCSP with an engagement opportunity that informs its future work.

PCSP Structure

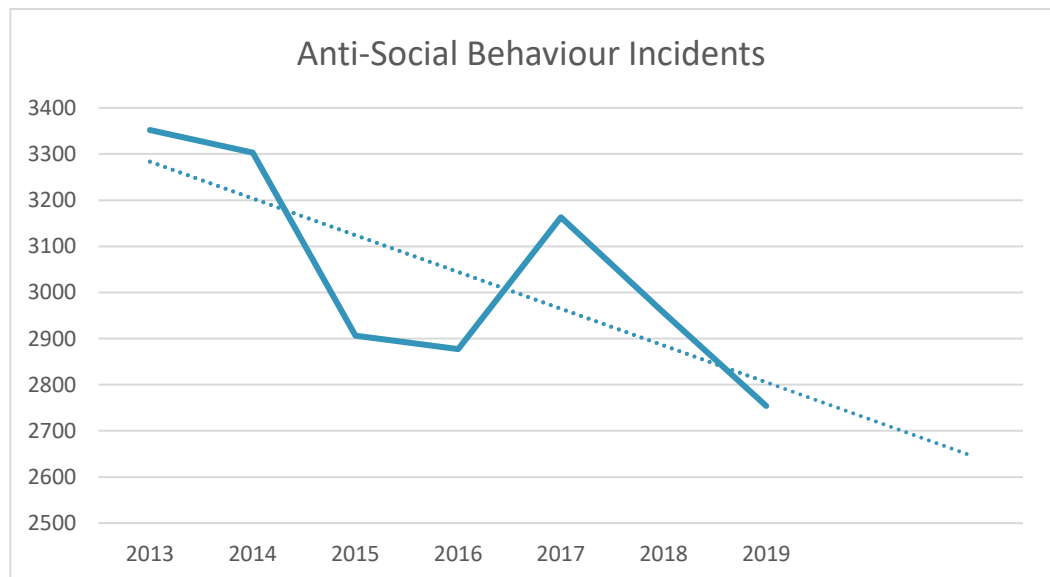
The PCSP has an overall main body, the PCSP itself. It also has three thematic groups to deliver on their relevant action plan, these are:

- Anti-social Behaviour Group
- Night-time Economy Group
- Vulnerable Victims of Crime Group

Under the PCSP, the Policing Committee has a separate and distinctive role to monitor the performance of the police against the local policing plan. The Policing Committee will pass on any relevant issues that arise to the thematic groups or main PCSP for delivery. Targeted engagement with community was delivered through each of the thematic groups

Anti-Social Behaviour

Since 2015, Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) has decreased consistently across the district. The Mid Ulster area now has the lowest levels of ASB across NI.



However, ASB remains a concern for our community and Mid Ulster PCSP's long-term strategy is for targeted initiatives to engage with those involved with antisocial behaviour and create a change.

Projects implemented in 2020/21:

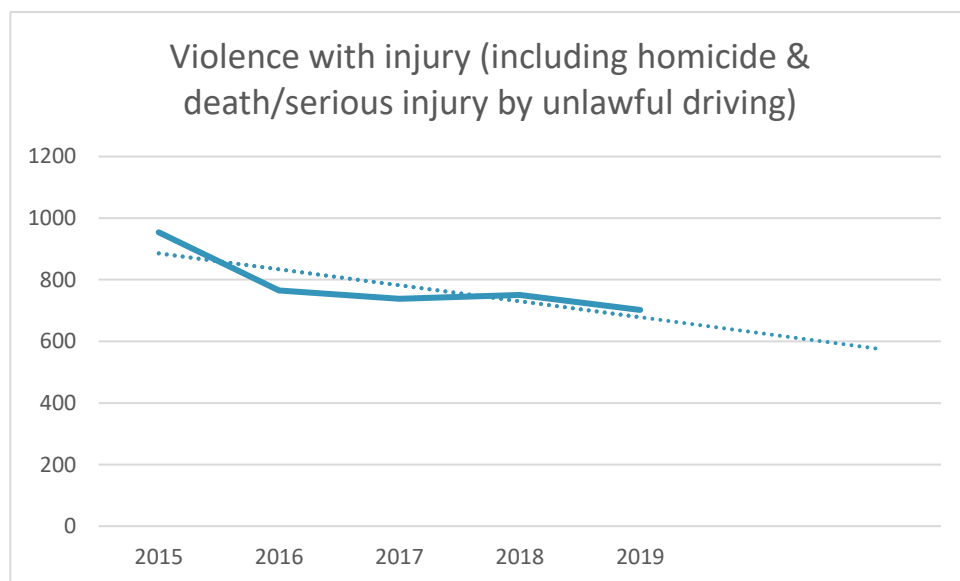
The Youth Engagement Programme (YEPs) are delivered by PSNI, EA Youth Service, Youth Justice Agency and PCSP Officers to targeted areas across Mid Ulster. In 2020/21 one programme was commenced. However due to coronavirus the PCSP were not able to complete the course or finalise the results for the year.

Crash Car Simulator: The Crash Car Simulator provides four people at a time the opportunity to experience a simulated car crash. This project was delivered to five schools across the district, with 150 participants. It provides a hard hitting road safety education, with 100% stating that it had increased their knowledge of road safety issues.

Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) – The devices measure and display the speed of oncoming vehicles in areas with restricted speed limits. They were erected at sites throughout the district and provided an average speed reduction of 5pmh. Feedback from the local communities and partners was very positive.

Nighttime Economy

In 2015 Mid Ulster PCSP developed a strategy to engage with and work with stakeholders in the Nighttime Economy, including Coach operators, vintners, voluntary and statutory partners. The strategy was to develop an enhanced co-ordinated approach to the issues associated with the Night-time economy. The PCSP wanted more people to enjoy the District's night-time economy but in a safer way.



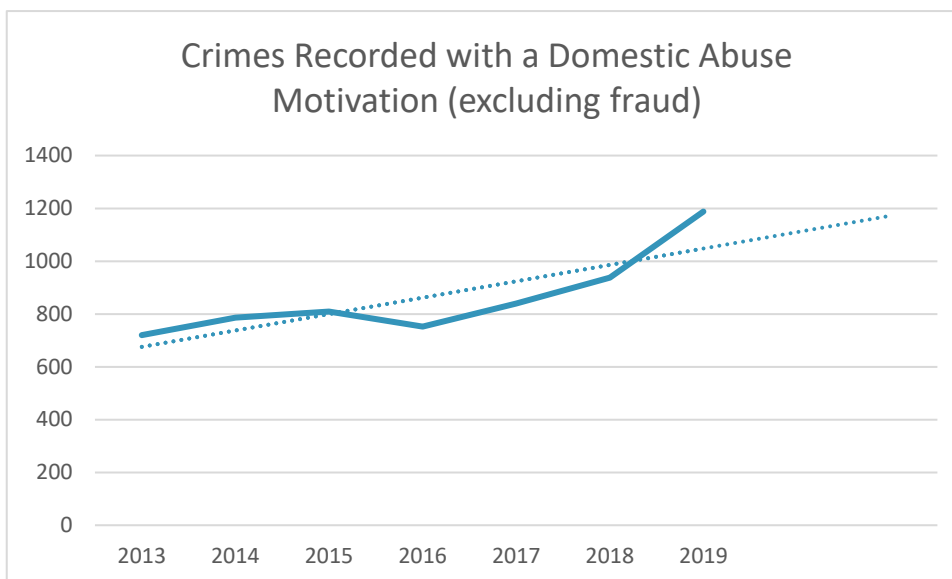
Over the last four years the crime profile of our largest night-time economy town, Cookstown town centre, has changed from one of violent crime to low level crime. This is positive for the residents and business owners in the town. It is now one of the safest places in Northern Ireland

Defibrillators: Defibrillators have been installed and are all operational in the main night-time economy towns, Cookstown, Magherafelt, Dungannon and the Moy.

Cost of Your Night Out campaign ran over Christmas 2020. The aim of the campaign was to highlight that Penalty Notices would be given out for public urinations, disorderly behaviour, criminal damage, and being drunk.

Vulnerable Victims of Crime

Crimes with a domestic violence motivation are still high and increased over the lockdown periods.



The PCSP aims to reduce fear of crime and reduce the risk of being a victim of crime, especially among older people. During 2020/21 the PCSP implemented the following:

Behind Closed Doors - A 'Behind Closed Doors' domestic violence bus and adshel advertising campaign was delivered over the Christmas period. This campaign highlighted the issue of domestic violence during its peak period. The message was for both male and female victims and signposted them to the 24 Hours Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse Helpline **0808 802 1414**

High Risk DV Victims Security - The PCSP provided security equipment for High Risk Domestic Violence Victims. 8 security installations were completed in 2020/21, with 100% of installation delivered within one week of the referral. 100% of recipients stated that they feel safer.

Positive Relationships Programme - The PCSP Positive Relationships programme which was delivered to 473 pupils in 4 post primary schools

across Mid Ulster. This project was delivered by Mid Ulster Women's Aid in partnership with PSNI CASE Officers.

Participants reported the following increase in their awareness:

- Positive/Healthy Relationships (88.1%)
- Unhealthy Relationships (88.1%)
- Warning signs of abuse (90.48%)
- Dating Violence (92.86%)
- Risks & consequences associated with sexting (80.95%)
- Cyberbullying (66.67%)
- Controlling behaviours (85.71%)
- 92.86% agreed or strongly agreed that domestic violence can happen to anyone
- 88.1% agreed or strongly agreed that they could identify support services
- 86% of teachers said the programme increased their awareness

Bike Marking: Three events were held with 100% of attendees stating that it had increased their awareness of bike security.

Agewell - PCSP support Agewell to contribute to a reduction in fear of crime and being a victim of crime for older people. 456 home maintenance visits were carried out in 2020/21. 100% stated their feeling of safety has increased due to the project.

Who's at the Door: This Internet Safety Programme was delivered in partnership with PSNI Case Officers - "Who's at The Door" was delivered by Beam Creative Network in 16 schools to 216 key stage 2 pupils across Mid Ulster.

96% said the session taught them more about internet safety and how to keep themselves safe online. 83% said the session taught them more about the dangers of cyberbullying. 77% said the session taught them more about where to access help and support services.

Policing Committee

Mid Ulster PCSP's Policing Committee provides views on local policing to the District Commander and to the Policing Board and monitors performance of the police against the local policing plan. At its policing performance meetings, the PCSP scrutinises the District Commanders reports and highlights areas of concern.

The PCSP held three Policing Committee meetings during the year. In February 2021, the Policing Committee met with the PSNI Area Commander to discuss the draft Local Policing Plan and take onboard the views of members.

The PCSP increased community confidence in PSNI through targeted engagement events across the district and integrated PSNI engagement into delivery projects where possible.

Awareness

The PCSP undertakes several awareness raising schemes to help disperse community safety messages

Text Alert: PCSP has a text alert scheme that provides community safety alerts to those who register on it. 191,101 text alerts on community safety messages were sent in 20-21.

Behind Closed Doors: DV Awareness Campaign ran at Christmas

Cost of your Night Out: Penalty Notice Awareness Campaign ran at Christmas

School Screens 20 post primary schools have PCSP screens displaying multiple community safety campaigns

Safer U App provides information on crime prevention, scans and support services and is unique to the Mid Ulster area.

MEMBERS ATTENDANCE 2020/21

Elected Members	Meetings Held	Meetings Attended	Attendance Percentage
Councillor Christine McFlynn (Chair)	4	4	100%
Councillor Frances Burton	4	4	100%
Councillor Clement Cuthbertson	4	4	100%
Councillor Anne Forde	4	4	100%
Councillor Meta Graham	4	3	75%
Councillor Cathal Mallaghan	4	4	100%
Councillor Dominic Molloy	4	4	100%
Councillor Brian McGuigan	4	3	75%
Councillor John McNamee	4	4	100%
Councillor Sean McPeake	4	3	75%
Independent Members			
Alexandra Black (Vice Chair)	4	4	100%
Sulakashana Chada	4	3	75%
Grace Meerbeek	4	3	75%
Seán MacGíolla Cheara	4	4	100%
Ciaran McElhone	4	4	100%
Paul McErlean	4	3	75%
Pearse McFlynn	4	2	50%
Julie McKeown	2	2	100%
Hayley Wilson	4	3	75%
Designated Members			
Education Authority	4	1	25%
Health & Social Care Trusts	4	3	75%
NI Fire & Rescue	4	2	50%
NI Housing Executive	4	2	50%
Probation Board NI	4	3	75%
Police Service of Northern Ireland	4	4	100%
Youth Justice Agency	4	3	75%

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS



**Department of Health Consultation on
Future Planning Model: Integrated Care System NI Draft Framework
Mid Ulster District Council Response
September 2021**

Introduction

Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) welcomes the opportunity to respond to Department's Consultation on Future Planning Model: Integrated Care System NI Draft Framework. MUDC supports a health service model that enables collaborative working. The Mid Ulster Community Plan, which MUDC are the legislative facilitators of, is also founded upon the principles of collaboration, integration and partnerships which reach across traditional boundaries, with organisations, groups and individuals coming together to collectively plan and deliver services and interventions. Council itself has a strong record of working with health partners to improve health and social wellbeing outcomes for our population and would welcome any framework that strengthens this working and maximises the benefits of these outcomes to the people of Mid Ulster.

The Mid Ulster Community Plan is also underpinned by the identification of the needs of individuals and communities and one of its 15 outcomes is to ensure that right services are provided in the most appropriate place, at the right time. MUDC are keen to see how this Framework will attribute to the achievement of this outcome.

As an advocate for the benefits of Community Planning, MUDC fully endorses a model that is based on the principle of local level decision making. Community Planning clearly demonstrates the benefits to delivering services at a local level to meet local need.

Values and Principles

Many of the values and principles detailed in the Framework mirror those of the Mid Ulster Community Plan and once again MUDC welcomes a Framework that will support the full realisation of the Mid Ulster Community Plan within the district.



However, as the lead facilitator for Community Planning, Council is all too aware how difficult these principles are to deliver in reality. In order to ensure they are fulfilled throughout the sector, will require it to be strongly endorsed by all levels, from Minister to administrator. It will require a significant change in organisational culture. Health services require a level of specialism and rightly so considering the importance of an individual's health. However, this has at times led to a culture that can be reluctant to work with those outside the sector, regardless of the common goal. MUDC would offer its assistance in any way, to support the sector in fulfilling these values and principles.

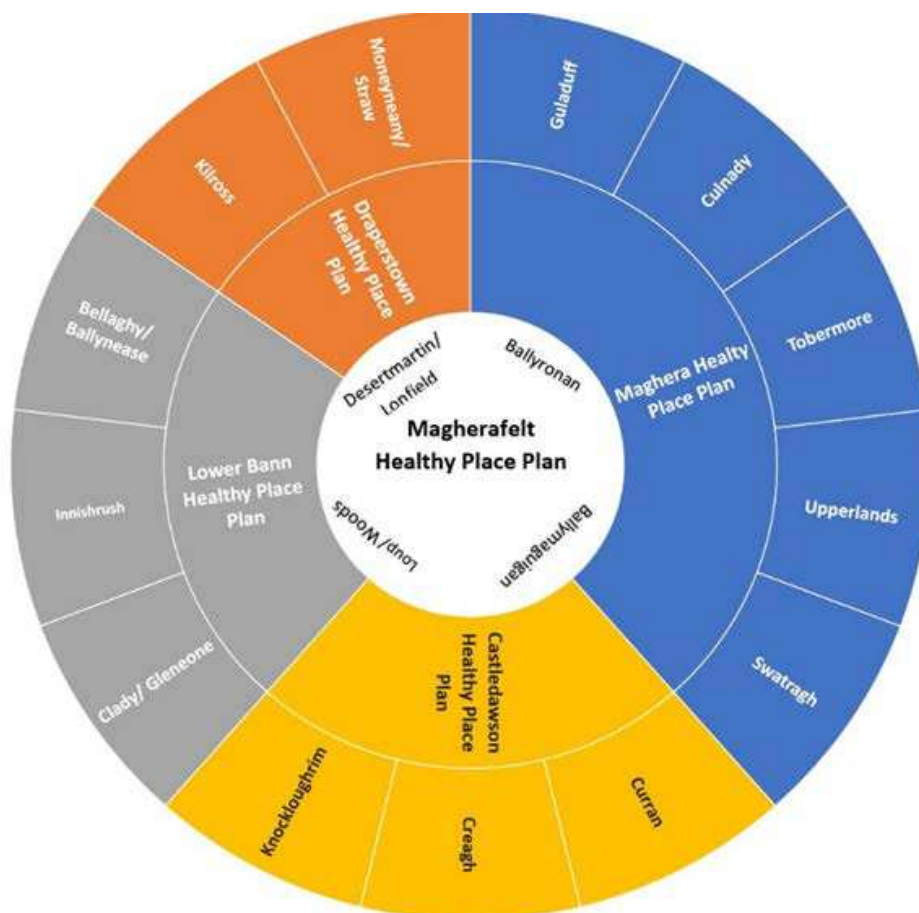
Integrated Care System NI Model

Whilst MUDC fully supports a model that **is based on the principle of local level decision making which is underpinned by a population health**, it has significant concerns regarding the formation of both the Area Levels and Locality Levels and how they align to the Mid Ulster Council area. The Council believes that a significant barrier to addressing the health needs of the Mid Ulster population is because the district straddles two Health Care Trusts. When developing and delivering health programmes in the district, in partnership with the Health partners, its is for the majority of cases, only with one Trust. Gaining the participation of both trusts to deliver a district wide service or programme is often challenging and it can prove frustrating as to how different the two Trusts operate and are managed. The details provided in this paper does not provide MUDC with confidence that this practice will cease under a new Framework. MUDC would seek greater assurances that the new structure has considered in detail, how council areas that sit across more than one Health Trust, will be better served.

MUDC also has reservations to the reference made to Local District Electoral Areas (DEAs) within the structure. Whilst Council is aware that a few Councils have adopted a DEA approach to certain services, mainly community development, it also understands that this approach is not without its challenges. MUDC can see merit in engaging with communities and citizens through a DEA fora but would not support a DEA structure for decision making or delivery purposes.



Mid Ulster Community Planning currently considering the development of Health Place Plans across the district. As oppose to a DEA model, initial concepts look at developing Healthy Place using a Hub and Spoke model as illustrated in the example below:



Each town would act as the main service 'Hub' for the villages and settlements that make up the 'Spokes' of this service wheel. The 'Hubs' will provide a full array of health & wellbeing services such as, GPs, dentists, other Health Trust services, leisure centres, sporting grounds etc. However, it is important the 'Spokes' provide a level of adequate services to meet the health & wellbeing needs of their communities. The 'Spoke' Healthy Place Plans would analyse health data for the area, looking specifically at evidence relating to any health inequalities experience in the geography, map current service provision (supporting the strategic development of existing rural community assets as places where people can meet, interact, access services and enhance their health and wellbeing), identify gaps and develop actions to fill these gaps and improve the health & wellbeing outcomes for the community. Development



and delivery of the Healthy Place Plans would operate on a Community Planning approach, bringing statutory service providers and local communities together to design services and projects to best suit the needs of the people living there, promoting community development led health and wellbeing interventions. Whilst this action is only in a conceptual phase, Mid Ulster District Council feels that there is potential within the Integrated Care System Framework to bring it to fruition.

MUDC agrees with the inclusion of Community Planning Partnerships in the AIPB membership. However, MUDC also feels that Council should be represented at this Board, given its integral part to service delivery at a local level. MUDC are aware that frameworks and policies often mistake Councils and Community Planning Partnerships as one and this is not the case. After fulfilling its role as a facilitator of the Community Planning process, Council are an equal partner in terms of delivery and fulfilment of the Plan. Again, MUDC would stress its position that both Community Planning and local government needs to be represented at the board, as separate entities.

The paper states that **Involvement** (in the ICS model) **goes beyond the HSC sector, bringing in all partners who can help to improve health and wellbeing outcomes, reduce health inequalities, and tackle wider issues which can affect our health and wellbeing.** MUDC would reinforce the importance that the Regional Group will need to incorporate departments across the NI Executive. It has been clearly underlined in numerous health reports, that health is not just a health problem and cannot be addressed by the health sector alone. MUDC therefore seeks strong cross departmental representation at this level.