

## **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 27 April 2021 at 7.30 pm via MS Teams.

**Present:**

**Councillors**

John McClaughry (Chairperson), Paul Blake, Josephine Deehan, Stephen Donnelly, Keith Elliott, Deborah Erskine, Tommy Maguire, Thomas O'Reilly and Allan Rainey.

**Independent Members**

Monica Coyle (Vice Chairperson), Noeleen Hayes, Norman Kirkpatrick, Vida Lake, Bernie McCrory, Margaret McCrory, and Maria Thompson.

**Designated Members**

Superintendent Alywin Barton (PSNI), Sinead Dolan (YJA), Oonagh McAvinney (NIHE).

**Apologies:**

Sarah McQuaid and Ryan McGee (EA).

**In attendance:**

Carol Follis (PCSP Manager) and Maggie McManus (Committee Clerk). Hugo Sweeney (FODC) and Josephine Treanor (FODC).

PCSP 01/21

**Welcome and Apologies**

The Chairperson welcomed the PCSP Members to the meeting. Apologies were accepted.

PCSP 02/21

**Presentation New Community, New Beginnings: The Syrian Community in the FODC Area**

Hugo Sweeney, Good Relations Officer, FODC and Josephine Treanor Community Services, FODC gave a presentation on New Community, New Beginnings: The Syrian Community in the FODC Area. The Chairperson thanked Hugo and Josephine on behalf of the Members, for their very informative presentation.

Following the presentation Members were invited to participate in a question and answer session.

**Question 1**

Councillor Maguire: Contact with the Mosque in Enniskillen.

**Response**

Hugo responded that the Council is liaising with those involved with the Mosque to ensure they access available supports.

**Question 2**

Councillor Blake: Ethnic backgrounds of the Syrian community.

**Response**

Hugo informed the meeting that there are very diverse ethnic backgrounds amongst the Syrian community that need to be understood when seeking to offer supports. Research is currently being carried out which will provide a clearer picture of the different ethnicity nuances at play. Josephine added

that establishing relationships and building trust is crucial to be able to respond to needs.

### **Question 3**

Councillor Deehan: Housing issues/healthcare assessments/access to interpreter services.

#### **Response**

Josephine Treanor stated that most rentals work well and are managed by the NIHE via a housing management company. Extern and Barnardos support refugees for 16-week period when they arrive, however local advocacy is also required when this period of intensive support ends. She added that a needs assessment undertaken with the Syrian community highlighted the need for quality interpreter support, as language and understanding of terminology and systems is still a big issue. The Ambassadors programme funded through PCSP Community Cash is one solution to this providing advocacy from within the Syrian community.

### **Question 4**

Councillor Rainey: Background of the Syrian community – urban/rural, educational attainment, choice to settle in Northern Ireland.

#### **Response**

Hugo Sweeney referred back to the presentation, which stated that the refugees come from different religious and geographical areas and have varying levels of education/skills. Regarding choice to settle in Northern Ireland Hugo said that refugees did not have a choice of what country/region for relocation but that after a period of time they can request to relocate nearer to family Members.

#### **Recommended:**

That the PCSP Manager distribute the Needs Assessment to Members.

PCSP 03/21

#### **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were declared.

PCSP 04/21

#### **Notification of AOB**

Councillor Erskine – Request from Lack Development Association  
PCSP Manager – PCSP Administration  
The Chair – Water Safety

PCSP 05/21

#### **Minutes**

The minutes of the PCSP meeting held via MS Teams on Tuesday 23 February 2021 were considered and approved. Proposed by Councillor Blake and seconded by Councillor Rainey.

PCSP 06/21

#### **Matters Arising**

PCSP 29/20 – Public Space CCTV Provision in Enniskillen and Omagh  
CCTV Survey forwarded to Members.

PCSP 36/20 – Activity Reporting December 2020 – February 2021  
The Activity Report forwarded to Members.

PCSP 37/20 - PCSP Meeting Schedule 2021-2022

December PCSP meeting rearranged to Monday 13 December 2021. All meeting dates added to the Council diary.

PCSP 39/20 – Knife Surrender Bins

Superintendent Barton reported on the 3 local knife incidents at the start of this year. Two incidents involved domestic knives, one of which could not be found, and the third incident involved a pair of scissors.

The PCSP Manager informed that a report on Knife Surrender Bins is on the Agenda for the meeting.

PCSP 41/20 – DSV Training

The PCSP Manager liaised with Fermanagh and Omagh Women's Aid and the PSNI regarding DSV training for takeaway staff. It was found to not be feasible due to the transient nature of employment and the young ages of staff. She updated the meeting on DSV training for the year stating that the Task & Finish group had agreed to a proposal submitted by Fermanagh Women's Aid and Omagh Women's Aid to be rolled out shortly.

PCSP 41/20 – Letter of Support request

The PCSP Manager issued the Letter of Support to Omagh Community House regarding the New Community New Beginnings Programme.

PCSP 41/20 – Presentation regarding supports for the Syrian Refugee Community

Hugo Sweeney and Josephine Treanor delivered a presentation earlier in the meeting.

PCSP 07/21

**Members' Questions**

No Members questions were received prior to the meeting.

PCSP 08/21

**Update from Designated Members**

No written updates were presented.

PCSP 09/21

**PCSP Activity Reporting March-April 2021**

The PCSP Manager presented the Activity Report for the period March 2021 to mid-April 2021.

Responding to a query regarding scam/nuisance telephone calls the PCSP Manager informed Members that PCSP Project Officer Greg McMullen is available to deliver scams awareness workshops to groups and as a point of contact for advice. She added that Members should refer to the PCSP Facebook page where they will find the latest information on scams and how to avoid them.

**Recommended:**

1. That the Partnership notes the report.
2. That information on call blocking is provided on PCSP Facebook page.

PCSP 10/21

**Knife Surrender Bins**

The PCSP Manager updated the Members on the introduction of Knife Surrender Bins. Approval has been granted by the Council to install two bins situated at Drummee and Gortrush Recycling Centres. The design of the bins is such that they can be repurposed as RAPID Bins should there be insufficient use of the bins. Responding to questions from Members the PCSP Manager informed the meeting that the logistics of moving two very heavy bins and the need to get permission from insurance provider make moving the bins to different locations a very inefficient task. Promotion of the Knife Surrender Bins will be carried out jointly between FODC and PSNI.

Proposed by Councillor O'Reilly and seconded by Councillor Erskine.

**Recommended:**

That knife bins are installed at Drummee and Gortrush Recycling Centres.

PCSP 11/21

**Community Cash 2020-2021**

The PCSP Manager presented a report on Community Cash awards and activity for 2020-2021.

**Recommended:**

That the Partnership notes the report.

PCSP 12/21

**PCSP Security Equipment Grant 2020-2021**

The PCSP Manager presented a report on the rollout of the Security Equipment Grants. The Chair thanked the PCSP Manager for managing the grant which had been organised very quickly and had done a lot to reach to communities that the PCSP had previously very little engagement with. The PCSP Manager thanked Steven Ormsby, Community Services FODC, for his assistance in managing the grant process.

**Recommended:**

That the Partnership notes the report.

PCSP 13/21

**Delivery of the 2021-2022 PCSP Action Plan**

The PCSP Manager reported on delivery of the 2021-2022 PCSP Action Plan. While the Letter of Offer has not been received yet the budget of £301,448 has been confirmed.

**Recommended:**

That the Partnership notes the report.

**Neighbourhood Watch Schemes**

The PCSP Manager presented the Neighbourhood Watch report. The following schemes were presented for reaccreditation:

**Fermanagh - Reaccreditation**

Carrickapolin Road,  
Brookeborough

Erne Drive, Ederney

Proposed by Councillor O'Reilly and seconded by Councillor Blake.

**Recommended:**

That the Partnership endorses the reaccreditations.

**AOB****Insurance cost for Speed Indicator Device (SID) in Lack**

Councillor Erskine brought a request on behalf of Lack Community Association for the PCSP to consider meeting the costs for insuring the 2 SID devices in Lack. The Association requested this as a one-off this year given that it had been unable to undertake any fundraising activity due to Covid-19 restrictions. Various options were discussed with the consensus being that the PCSP would not fund this cost. The PCSP Manager was instructed to identify other potential funding sources for the Association.

**Monthly Member Claim Forms**

The PCSP Manager reminded all Members to return their completed monthly claim forms no later than 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month. Emails and photos are acceptable also. Independent Members were also asked to return their Declaration of Interest forms if they had not already done so.

**Safety on the Waterways**

The Chair asked Superintendent Barton if PSNI would provide additional boats to patrol Lough Erne, given the excessive number of vehicles on the water at the weekend and an incident regarding indecent/poor behaviour of a group of individuals on a boat?

Superintendent Barton informed the Members that it would be beneficial to engage with RNLI and Waterways Ireland to discuss water safety in general. Regarding the incident referred to a prosecution is pending which should serve as a warning message to others. Councillor Blake queried if it would be opportune to arrange a meeting with Waterways Ireland to discuss safety issues. Superintendent Barton commented that it would be time efficient for the PCSP Manager to liaise with Chief Inspector Hoy in the first instance prior to contacting Waterways Ireland.

**Recommended:**

1. PCSP Manager liaise with Councillor Erskine regarding other funding options for Lack Community Association.
2. PCSP Manager liaise with Chief Inspector Hoy regarding a meeting with Waterways Ireland.

**Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the PCSP will take place on Tuesday 22 June 2021 at 7.30 pm.

**RISING:**

The Committee rose at 10:00 pm.