

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 Townhall, Enniskillen on Tuesday 26 November 2019 at 6.09 pm.

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

Independent Members
Monica Coyle (Vice-Chairperson), Norman Kirkpatrick, Vida Lake, Eithne McAnespy and Simon Wiggins.

Designated Members
Superintendent Clive Beatty (PSNI) and Ryan McGee (EANI).

Apologies: Sinead Dolan (YJA), Mairaid McMahon and Pauline Treacy.

In attendance: Carol Follis (PCSP Manager) and Monica Barrett (Committee Clerk).

PC 20/19 **Welcome and Apologies**
The Chairperson welcomed Members of the Policing Committee and members of the public to the meeting and apologies were accepted.

PC 21/19 **Declaration of Interest**
No declarations of interest were declared.

PC 22/19 **Notification of AOB**
No items of AOB were notified.

PC 23/19 **Minutes**
The minutes of the Policing Committee meeting held in public on Tuesday 24 September 2019 were considered and approved. Proposed by Councillor Allan Rainey and seconded by Councillor Tommy Maguire.

PC 24/19 **Matters Arising**

PC 18/19 Research on the Effectiveness of Policing Committees
The PCSP Manager thanked the Members for suggestions received to date for themed meetings. It is planned that themed meeting will commence in the 2020/2021 financial year.

PC 19/19 Members Questions

The PCSP Manager reminded the Members that questions requiring informed responses should be submitted in writing at least 5 days in advance of the meeting.

PC 25/19 **Members Questions**

With the consent of the Members it was agreed to amend the agenda running order so that Members Questions and Members of the Public Questions could be dealt with while the Chairperson Councillor O'Reilly was present as he had to leave the meeting early to attend another engagement.

In response to questions submitted by Councillor Donal O'Cofaigh on 26/11/2019, Superintendent Beatty informed the Members that in order to give a detailed, fair and balanced response the questions need to be received 5 days in advance of the meeting. Superintendent Beatty will provide the PCSP Manager with a detailed written response which will be circulated to all the Members on receipt. Councillor Donal O'Cofaigh commented that he did not believe this to be an adequate response from the Superintendent and that it is not conducive to building public confidence in policing.

PC 26/19 **Members of the Public Questions**

Two questions for Superintendent Beatty were submitted by members of the public present at the meeting.

Question 1: When are victims of historic sexual abuse in Co. Fermanagh going to get justice?

Abbreviated response: The PSNI is conducting a detailed and difficult investigation into the allegations of historical sexual abuse. Resulting from new information coming forward several historic cases have reopened. The Gold Commander is leading a team of highly trained specialists which is going through the evidence as presented before entering the next phase of interviewing and presenting to the courts.

Question 2: What measures did the PSNI take on its own and in co-operation with Garda Siochana to act on knowledge received relating to Quinn Industrial Holdings (QIH)?

Abbreviated response: The PSNI denies that it did not act where it had knowledge of criminal activity. Without evidence it is not possible to secure a conviction. Where the PSNI has enough evidence, it will act.

Councillor John McClaughry entered the meeting at 6.36 pm.

PC 27/19 **Presentation on the Implementation of Neighbourhood Policing Teams**

The Members received a presentation by Superintendent Beatty on the Implementation of the Neighbourhood Policing Teams in the Fermanagh and Omagh District. By the 31 March 2020 each DEA, in the district, will have a dedicated Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) led by a Sergeant and team of constables. Each NPT is charged with being visible in their communities, accessible to their communities, responsive to the needs of their communities and focused on what matters most to their communities. In

response to questions the Members were assured by Superintendent Beatty that constables serving in NPTs had made a two-year commitment to the post, that mobile phone numbers will be available on the PSNI website when available and there will be an opportunity for the PCSP to meet NPTs in the coming months. Superintendent Beatty informed the meeting that from 2 December 2019 a newly created Inspector post will have responsibility for vulnerability covering hate crime, looked after children, missing persons and domestic & sexual violence as well as co-ordination of the Support Hub. The Chairperson thanked Superintendent Beatty for his presentation and looked forward to learning more about the work of the respective NPTs in the coming months.

Councillor Thomas O'Reilly (Chairperson) and Councillor Allan Rainey left the meeting at 6.52pm. The role of chair was assumed by Monica Coyle (Vice Chair) at this juncture as per standing orders.

PC 28/19

Members of the Public Questions

It was agreed by Members to allow a member of the public who entered the meeting after the agenda item to submit a question at this juncture.

Question 3: What assistance can be given to address the on-going issue of anti-social behaviour in Quay Lane North car park?

Abbreviated response: the residents have the full support of the PSNI who has worked and continues to work with them and the relevant statutory agencies to identify solutions/actions to address the issue.

In the ensuing discussion clarification was sought and given as to car park ownership, responsibility of the PSNI to inform insurance companies about non compliance

The PCSP Manager informed the meeting that a Working Group had been established to look at the issues in Quay Lane North car park. This Group consisting of Enniskillen Town Councillors, statutory agencies (DfI and FODC) had met on several occasions and some progress had been made.

Recommended:

That the PCSP Manager provide an update on Quay Lane North car park at the PCSP meeting on 17 December 2019.

Councillor Josephine Deehan entered the meeting at 7.29 pm
Councillor Paul Blake left the meeting at 7.36 pm.
Ryan McGee (EANI) left meeting at 7.45 pm.

PC 29/19

Northern Ireland Policing Plan 2020-2025

The PCSP Manager informed the meeting of the public consultation on the Northern Ireland Policing Plan 2020-2025. The consultation runs from 21 October 2019 to 6 January 2020 and responses will assist in shaping the new Policing Plan 2020-2025.

Simon Wiggins briefed the Members on a consultation event that he had attended. The Members discussed the importance of preparing a robust

response reflecting the views of the PCSP and the issues relevant to the district. It was agreed that the Members would forward comments to the PCSP Manager to inform the response. The Members were requested to forward comments no later than Wednesday 11 December 2019.

Recommended:

That the Members forward comments on the Northern Ireland Policing Plan 2020-2025 consultation to the PCSP Manager.

PC 30/19

Local Policing Plan 2020-2021

Superintendent Beatty informed the meeting that as the Northern Ireland Policing Plan is subject to public consultation it is not feasible to commence work on the Local Policing Plan at this time. In the interim he invited the Members to put forward suggestions for policing priorities for the forthcoming financial year.

Recommended:

That the Members forward suggestions for policing priorities for the 2020/2021 Local Policing Plan to the PCSP Manager.

PC 31/19

AOB

Councillor John McClaughry asked Superintendent Beatty for an update on the nextdoor app. As Councillor McClaughry was not present during the agenda item Notification of AOB and his question was accepted. Superintendent Beatty informed the meeting that the app is receiving positive feedback and that the roll out is progressing well.

Councillor Donal O’Cofaigh registered his chronic dissatisfaction with the way the meeting had proceeded as the written questions had submitted were not answered by Superintendent Beatty. The Vice Chair informed Councillor O’Cofaigh that as previously stated in the meeting, he would receive written replies to his questions from Superintendent Beatty.

Councillor Keith Elliott informed the Members he had attended a road traffic collisions reconstruction which took place at Enniskillen Royal Grammar School on Friday 22 November 2019. The event took place was one of a series of initiatives for Road Safety Week. The PCSP Manager informed the Members that this event will be noted in the quarterly update of activity at the next PCSP meeting.

The Vice Chair informed the members that Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP, in collaboration with Mid Ulster PCSP, received the Public Sector award from Road Safety Northern Ireland in recognition of the bespoke DVD produced for the Car Crash Simulator.

RISING:

The Committee rose at 8.01pm.

All Members were present at the beginning of the meeting except for the following who arrived at the stated time: Councillor John McClaughry at 6.36 pm and Councillor Josephine Deehan at 7.29 pm.

All Members remained for the duration of the meeting except for the following who left at the stated times: Councillor Thomas O'Reilly (Chairperson) and Councillor Allan Rainey left the meeting at 6.52 pm. Councillor Paul Blake left 7.36 pm and Ryan McGee (EANI) left at 7.45 pm