



Policing & Community  
Safety Partnerships

making our community safer



# Annual Effectiveness Report

1 APRIL 2020 - 31 MARCH 2021



Department of  
**Justice**  
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Northern Ireland  
**Policing Board**

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report from the Joint Committee, which represents the Department of Justice (DoJ) and the Northern Ireland Policing Board (NIPB) is to provide information on the effectiveness of Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs), in line with the requirements of Section 34 of the Justice Act (NI) 2011.

There are a total of 11 PCSPs in Northern Ireland; based in each Council area. Belfast contains an additional four District PCSPs (DPCSPs), one for each area. There is an annual investment of £4.5m by the DoJ and NIPB to the PCSPs and DPCSPs.

In the main, PCSP work requires engagement with local communities and requires the coordinated efforts of a number of agencies; the PSNI, Housing Executive, Youth Justice Agency, Probation Board for Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service, Education Authority, and the Health and Social Care Trusts.

Effectiveness is measured against 'Outcome 7' of the 2016-2021 Draft Programme for Government and also the Strategic Priorities set by the Joint Committee which underpin all PCSP Action Plans.

The Strategic Priorities covering the period of 2020/2021 were as follows:

1. To successfully deliver the functions of the Policing and Community Safety Partnerships for each area;
2. To improve community safety by tackling actual and perceived crime and anti-social behaviour;
3. To support community confidence in policing.

The 2020/2021 PCSP Effectiveness Report reflects the outworking of PCSP activities undertaken during the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this was a very uncertain and difficult year. In Northern Ireland, as in many parts of the world, the pandemic highlighted vulnerabilities: illness, isolation, mental health, alcohol and drug addiction, poverty, and domestic violence; with increased tensions in domestic settings leading to a rise in reported incidents of domestic abuse.

PCSPs were involved in the immediate response to COVID-19. In many cases PCSP staff were redeployed or showed flexibility in taking on additional roles in assisting local communities in need of food boxes, prescriptions and other practical help through Community Hubs.

However, despite two lockdown periods preventing some traditional PCSP programmes from going ahead as planned, with consistent hard work, commitment and co-operation between all partners, PCSPs were able to make a difference; adapting and delivering initiatives when regulations allowed, including using a mixture of virtual meetings and online webinars as alternatives to in person public events.

Reconstitution of PCSPs in June 2020 created further challenges for new PCSP members in their induction, and to become established in their roles. During COVID-19 restrictions normal engagement with local communities could not take place; a key aspect of PCSP working to ensure effective delivery. Although PCSPs were unable to hold face-to-face meetings, all PCSPs adapted to maintain contact through partnership meetings using video and web based conferencing platforms. Additional multi-agency meetings were held through the same method, maintaining contact with the Policing Committee and various agencies to support emerging issues within communities during COVID-19 lockdowns.

With many public events impossible during 2020/2021, engagement with the community became increasingly reliant on the use of social media. PCSPs utilised social media platforms including Facebook and Twitter, to keep the public informed on the various initiatives in their area. Across all PCSPs, 22,071 people followed the various social media profiles, with a cumulative post reach of 3.85 million views.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) remained a priority for PCSPs, as periods of lockdown contributed to significant increases in ASB during 2020/2021. The closure of all recreational activities caused pressures for PSNI; especially with face to face Education Authority Youth Work stopped from 20 March 2020. Some PCSPs were able to respond with increased delivery of direct interventions through Warden schemes or similar; coupled with educational projects and diversionary activities when COVID-19 restrictions permitted. There are good examples of initiatives within this report of inter-agency collaboration around ASB to deliver safer, more confident communities.

Internet safety has become increasingly important due to the increased amount of time people spent online over lockdown; with more online shopping, video calls, and time spent on the internet for educational purposes with closure of schools and colleges. PCSPs provided resources to educate on various aspects of online safety.

During the 2020/2021 reporting year, PCSPs continued to provide alcohol, drug and substance abuse awareness programmes and support, and Remove all Prescription and Illegal Drugs (RAPID) bins projects.

Given that the most recent Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) figures indicate that the total of alcohol-related deaths in Northern Ireland in 2020 was more than a third higher than the 260 recorded in 2010, at 351 alcohol-related deaths; and that the number of drug-related deaths in Northern Ireland had more than doubled over the past decade, with 218 drug-related deaths recorded by NISRA in 2020, anything that can be done to reduce the significant harms caused by alcohol and drug use is much needed. PCSPs actively supported partner agencies in messaging around mixing of prescription medication and alcohol which is of concern, and in their role with Multi-Agency Support Hubs helped individuals suffering with drug and alcohol addictions.

PCSPs also provided a variety of educational resources on the importance of Road Safety, as well as Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs), to make drivers aware of their speed and to slow down, with the number of road deaths and casualties continuing to cause concern within communities.

The link between COVID-19 and increased domestic violence has been well publicised. In this reporting year PCSPs delivered a series of awareness and support initiatives for domestic abuse victims. This included counselling sessions, and PCSPs and their partners facilitated support for male victims, who may have been reluctant to come forward. Reported Hate Crime also increased and PCSPs supported initiatives where possible, including social media campaigns, production of a video resource, and other events.

PCSPs also continued to provide 'Text Alert' schemes, and home security programmes where possible. Scam awareness continued with provision of information packs and online crime prevention events by a number of PCSPs. PCSPs also continued to innovate in response to COVID-19 restrictions by pooling resources to produce content. They produced a regional video for delivery of 'Bee Safe' (a community safety initiative for 10 and 11-year-olds which PCSPs traditionally deliver with partner agencies, in person, in schools); and also a separate fire safety video. Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP also introduced an online version of a 'Helping Communities Stay Safe' booklet.

Community engagement plays a key role in increasing confidence in policing and reducing the fear of crime. When restrictions allowed, PCSPs held events in conjunction with PSNI as a partner; for example, property marking and crime prevention events.

PCSPs are committed to addressing local community concerns via various fora; for example, working groups around ASB, Domestic Abuse, Intercultural, Road Safety etc.; as well as involvement in their Council Area's Multi-Agency Support Hub. A case study of a highly successful Support Hub is included towards the end of this report.

The report aims to provide greater detail of the wide range of initiatives progressed by PCSPs throughout the 2020/2021 reporting year, but some of the Key achievements and cumulative PCSP outcomes are indicated below.

# KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2020-2021

Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) engage with communities across Northern Ireland to identify your concerns about policing and community safety issues. They produce solutions and deliver community based projects which assist crime reduction and improvements to community safety in your area. Here's an overview of how PCSPs have **#DeliveredADifference** in 2020-2021.



## Engaging Communities

**709**

PCSP events

**8000**

people involved in PCSP projects

**22,071**

followers

**17%**

increase in followers

**3.85**

million reach



## Discussing the Issues

**81**

PCSP meetings

**44**

Policing Committee meetings

**81**

Multi-Agency Support Hub meetings



## Improving Community Safety

**52,000**

homes covered by Neighbourhood Watch

**20,000**

on-street patrols

**70,000**

tablets removed by RAPID

**711**

counselling sessions delivered

**850**

home security checks

## Partnership working

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- 67 PCSP meetings; many carried out virtually;
- 14 public PCSP events/meetings;
- 3 training sessions/inductions for PCSP members.

## Engagement and Communication

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- Approximately 14,000 views of PCSP website pages;
- 22,071 social media followers; an increase of 17% on the previous year;
- A post reach of 3.85 million.

## Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

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- 189 diversionary initiatives provided;
- 5,798 participants taking part in diversionary initiatives;
- Approximately 20,000 'On Street' patrols by the Community Safety Wardens, Street Pastors, and similar programmes; engaging with members of the public on more than 40,000 occasions.

## Drugs and Alcohol

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- 18 new RAPID (Remove all Prescription and Illegal Drugs) bins installed;
- 70,000 tablets removed via the RAPID bin scheme;
- 266 participants in Ards and North Down PCSP's Substance Abuse Awareness Project.

## Internet Safety

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- 70,000 views of Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP's 'Cybersafe' animation videos programme;
- 486 participants involved in online and in person internet safety awareness sessions.

## Domestic Violence

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- Antrim and Newtownabbey, and Derry and Strabane PCSPs delivered a combined total of 711 counselling sessions to male victims of domestic violence;
- Approximately 1,000 participants attending Domestic Violence awareness events; either online or in person (across a number of PCSPs);
- Causeway Coast and Glens provided 37 people with pieces of domestic abuse and stalking support equipment.

## Fear of Crime

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- 850 home security checks carried out;
- More than 4,700 pieces of home security equipment provided;
- 22 property marking events held;
- 805 different 'Text Alerts' sent out (across a number of PCSPs).

## Road Safety

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- 60,000 online views of Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP's 'The Paulie Project' documentary;
- Over 2,600 'New Driver' publications distributed to 17 year olds;
- Crash Car Simulator used for nine events when restrictions allowed;
- Provided 96 static and 34 mobile Speed Indicator Devices (across all PCSPs).

## Confidence in Policing

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- 44 Policing Committee meetings;
- 819 Neighbourhood Watch schemes supported, covering 52,000 households;
- 81 Multi-Agency Support Hub group meetings;
- 32 sessions of Belfast PCSP's 'Conversation Piece' project delivered;
- 464 participants involved in PSNI community engagement projects;
- Three trailer marking events with 48 trailers marked.

# BACKGROUND

The Joint Committee, established under the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 comprises of representatives from the Department of Justice, and the Northern Ireland Policing Board.

Section 34 requires the Joint Committee to assess the effectiveness of Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) and District PCSPs (DPCSPs) in performing their functions (other than those of the Policing Committee) and in particular those relating to community engagement and enhancing community safety. Section 34 additionally requires the Policing Board to assess the effectiveness of Policing Committees of PCSPs and DPCSPs in performing the restricted functions of PCSPs and DPCSPs. Each PCSP has a Policing Committee which is to identify priorities for consideration in the development of the local Policing Plan, monitor police performance, and gain the co-operation of the public with the police in preventing crime and enhancing community safety in the district.

This report will highlight the key achievements and impacts of the 2020/2021 PSCP Action Plans, including project examples across the key thematic areas implemented.

# STRATEGIC FOCUS

The Joint Committee agreed three PCSP Strategic Priorities to underpin all Action Plans, which in 2020/2021 were namely:

## **Strategic Priority 1 – to successfully deliver the functions of the Policing and Community Safety Partnerships for each area by:**

- Engaging with local community and statutory groups to identify local concerns in relation to policing and community safety, and to invite their contribution to prioritising and addressing those concerns;
- Preparing the PCSP's plan and organising the work of the partnership to meet priority needs;
- Putting in place implementation structures and delivery mechanisms and facilitating resident focused participatory community safety structures that will contribute to a reduction in crime and the enhancement of policing and community safety in the Partnership's area, directly through the collaborative working of the membership of the Partnership, through the work of its delivery groups or through working in partnership with, or supporting the work of others; and
- Increasing PCSP awareness with the public and key stakeholders by planning communications activity to more proactively inform and promote the work of the PCSPs.

## **Strategic Priority 2 – to improve community safety by tackling actual and perceived crime and anti-social behaviour through:**

- Working in partnership with designated partners, local statutory bodies/agencies, the voluntary sector and the community to deal with, and reduce the impact of, actual and perceived anti-social behaviour and crime in the community;
- Ensuring that local statutory bodies and agencies deal with anti-social behaviour and crime related issues that matter in their area;
- Providing comprehensive community input into decision making processes about tackling actual and perceived anti-social behaviour and giving feedback on the effectiveness of interventions on meeting outcomes;
- Identifying and implementing ways to educate communities about the realities of anti-social behaviour and crime; and
- Contributing to the delivery of the Community Safety Strategy action plans, and initiatives that improve community safety.

### **Strategic Priority 3 – to support community confidence in policing through:**

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- Ensuring local accountability through the Policing Committee's role in monitoring police performance;
- Ensuring that policing delivery reflects the involvement, views and priorities of local communities;
- The inclusion of initiatives/projects in PCSP action plans aimed directly at meeting the objectives of the Northern Ireland Policing Plan;
- Identifying priorities from the PCSP action plan for consideration in the development of the Local Policing Plan which are consistent with the Northern Ireland Policing Plan;
- Improving policing service delivery in partnership with local communities to build and strengthen public confidence in policing;
- Supporting effective engagement with the police and the local community, with specific emphasis on engagement with children, young people, at risk communities and disadvantaged communities; and
- Building community confidence in the rule of law and embedding a culture of lawfulness by supporting the locality based engagement that will emerge from local co-design in taking forward the Executive Action Plan as set out in 'Fresh Start' and the 'Programme for Government'.

# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

PCSPs spent 94% of Joint Committee funding by year end in 2020/2021, compared with 98.4% in 2019/2020. The 2020/2021 financial year provided a budget for PCSPs of just over £4.48m. This included a 67% (£2.86m) contribution from the Department of Justice, 33% (£1.62m) from the Northern Ireland Policing Board, and £234,000 provided by the Policing Board for Meeting Expenses for Members.

**Table one** highlights this breakdown:

**Table 1: PCSP Budget 2020/2021**

Budget Line	Amount £	DoJ Contribution £	NIPB Contribution £
Administration and Operational	4,248,648.00	2,859,085.19 (67%)	1,389,562.81 (33%)
Meeting Expenses	234,000.00	N/A	234,000.00
Total Budget (Admin, Operational and Meeting Expenses)	4,482,648.00	2,859,085.19	1,623,562.81

Budget allocation at the Council level is calculated based on a basic amount (30%) and supplemented by additional amounts on the basis of need; namely population (45%) and Deprived Super Output Areas (SOAs) (25%); utilising figures from the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (2017).

During 2020/2021 the majority of PCSPs have either met or come close to full expenditure in terms of Administration/Operational budget, as shown in **Table two**. Total expenditure has remained at an equivalent level to the 2019/2020 operational year, which serves to highlight the adaptability PCSPs have shown in providing services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Table 2: Year-end expenditure - (Admin/Operational) 2020/2021 against 2019/2020**

PCSP	2020/2021 Financial Year				2019/2020 Financial year	
	Admin & OP agreed budget	Expenditure	Underspend	% funding spent by year end	Underspend	% funding spent by year end
<b>Antrim and Newtownabbey</b>	303,540.00	296,508.31	7,031.69	98%	26,375.68	91%
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	317,834.00	315,372.49	2,461.51	99%	4,725.38	99%
<b>Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	412,722.00	407,723.74	4,998.26	99%	15,118.13	96%
<b>Belfast</b>	826,517.00	610,753.73	215,763.27	74%	3,152.00	100%
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	363,256.00	359,718.67	3,537.33	99%	2.43	100%
<b>Derry City and Strabane</b>	441,496.00	441,496.00	N/A	100%	N/A	100%
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	301,448.00	299,595.95	1,852.05	99%	4,644.23	99%
<b>Lisburn and Castlereagh</b>	275,115.00	269,325.38	5,789.62	98%	469.85	100%
<b>Mid and East Antrim</b>	314,532.00	309,489.65	5,042.35	98%	5,911.08	98%
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	284,198.00	268,889.84	15,308.16	95%	4,515.66	98%
<b>Newry, Mourne and Down</b>	407,990.00	402,716.57	5,273.43	99%	4,579.18	99%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,248,648.00</b>	<b>3,981,590.33</b>	<b>267,057.67</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>69,493.62</b>	<b>98.4%</b>

In relation to meeting expenses, the implementation of lockdown periods during 2020/2021 resulted in a significant reduction in the number of meetings which were able to take place. PCSPs subsequently carried out all meetings using online methods such as Zoom, resulting in a significant underspend on meeting expenses, as shown in **Table three**. In 2020/2021 there was an opportunity for PCSPs to surrender surplus meeting expenses as part of the January monitoring exercise. This was not reflected in the Letter of Offer or Financial Statements of each PCSP.

Table 3: Year-end expenditure - Meeting Expenses 2020/2021 against 2019/2020

PCSP	2020/2021 Financial Year				2019/2020 Financial Year	
	Meeting Expenses £	Expenditure £	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end
Antrim and Newtownabbey	18,000.00	8,792.18	9,207.82	49%	5,220.00	65%
Ards and North Down	18,000.00	6,900.00	11,100.00	38%	2,880.00	68%
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	18,000.00	6,120.00	11,880.00	34%	1,260.00	86%
Belfast	54,000.00	22,600.69	31,399.31	42%	7,662.80	72%
Causeway Coast and Glens	18,000.00	14,003.40	3,996.60	78%	-18.43	100%
Derry City and Strabane	18,000.00	11,040.00	6,960.00	61%	2,240.00	80%
Fermanagh and Omagh	18,000.00	9,554.20	8,445.80	53%	-1.40	100%
Lisburn and Castlereagh	18,000.00	5,774.60	12,225.40	32%	4,443.16	60%
Mid and East Antrim	18,000.00	8,538.84	9,461.16	47%	2,819.00	74%
Mid Ulster	18,000.00	9,654.18	8,345.82	54%	2,409.14	80%
Newry, Mourne and Down	18,000.00	15,134.26	2,865.74	84%	N/A	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>234,000.00</b>	<b>118,112.35</b>	<b>115,887.65</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>28,914.27</b>	<b>79%</b>

As a result of the January monitoring exercise the meeting budget was reduced to £142,000 for the 2020/2021 financial year, as shown in **Table four**. This resulted in the PCSPs percentage funding spend rising to 83%, which was an increase on the 79% spent in the 2019/2020 financial year.

Table 4: Revised Meeting Expenses following Monitoring Return

PCSP	2020/2021 Financial Year				2019/2020 Financial year	
	Meeting Expenses following monitoring return £	Expenditure £	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end
Antrim and Newtownabbey	11,000.00	8,792.18	2,207.82	80%	5,220.00	65%
Ards and North Down	11,000.00	6,900.00	4,100.00	63%	2,880.00	68%
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	11,000.00	6,120.00	4,880.00	56%	1,260.00	86%
Belfast	26,000.00	22,600.69	3,399.31	87%	7,662.80	72%
Causeway Coast and Glens	14,000.00	14,003.40	-3.40	100%	-18.43	100%
Derry and Strabane	12,000.00	11,040.00	960.00	92%	2,240.00	80%
Fermanagh and Omagh	11,000.00	9,554.20	1,445.80	87%	-1.40	100%
Lisburn and Castlereagh	9,000.00	5,774.60	3,225.40	64%	4,443.16	60%
Mid and East Antrim	11,000.00	8,538.84	2,461.16	78%	2,819.00	74%
Mid Ulster	13,000.00	9,654.18	3,345.82	74%	2,409.14	80%
Newry, Mourne and Down	13,000.00	15,134.26	-2,134.26	116%	N/A	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>142,000.00</b>	<b>118,112.35</b>	<b>23,887.65</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>28,914.27</b>	<b>79%</b>

In terms of the total budget (Admin/Operational and Meeting Expenses) which is shown in **Table five**, despite the majority of PCSPs achieving almost full expenditure, the final position represents 91% of expenditure. This is a decrease when compared with the previous year's total spend of 97.8%. However, given the significant impact of COVID-19 restrictions on the ability to hold public events and face-to-face meetings, PCSPs are to be commended for achieving this level of expenditure. This has shown PCSPs continuing to provide service to the local community in spite of the difficulties resulting from the pandemic.

**Table 5 - Year end expenditure - Total budget (Admin/Operational & Meeting Expenses) 2020/2021 against 2019/2020**

PCSP	2020/2021 Financial Year				2019/2020 Financial year	
	Total Budget £	Expenditure £	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end
<b>Antrim and Newtownabbey</b>	321,540.00	305,300.49	16,239.51	95%	31,595.68	90%
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	335,834.00	322,272.49	13,561.51	96%	7,605.38	98%
<b>Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	430,722.00	413,843.74	16,878.26	96%	16,378.13	96%
<b>Belfast</b>	880,517.00	633,354.42	247,162.58	72%	10,814.80	99%
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	381,256.00	373,722.07	7,533.93	98%	-16.00	100%
<b>Derry and Strabane</b>	459,496.00	452,536.00	6,960.00	98%	2,240.00	99%
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	319,448.00	309,150.15	10,297.85	97%	4,642.83	99%
<b>Lisburn and Castlereagh</b>	293,115.00	275,099.98	18,015.02	94%	4,913.01	98%
<b>Mid and East Antrim</b>	332,532.00	318,028.49	14,503.51	96%	8,730.08	97%
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	302,198.00	278,544.02	23,653.98	92%	6,924.80	98%
<b>Newry, Mourne and Down</b>	425,990.00	417,850.83	8,139.17	98%	4,579.18	99%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,482,648.00</b>	<b>4,099,702.68</b>	<b>382,945.32</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>98,407.89</b>	<b>97.8%</b>

# OUTCOME BASED ACCOUNTABILITY (OBA)

In 2016, the Northern Ireland Assembly adopted an outcome based accountability (OBA) approach for developing the 2016 – 2021 Programme for Government (PfG), which identifies 14 strategic outcomes to be delivered. Each of the strategic outcomes also has a number of primary indicators linked to them. The Department of Justice (DoJ) leads on Outcome 7; *‘we have a safe community where we respect the law and each other’*. It also leads on three of the primary Indicators linked to Outcome 7, namely;

- PfG Indicator 1 – Reduce crime;
- PfG Indicator 38 – Increase the effectiveness of the justice system; and
- PfG Indicator 39 – Reduce re-offending.

The DoJ Business Plan for 2020/2021 contains five key priority areas, or strategic drivers which includes **‘SUPPORT SAFE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES’** that PCSPs contribute to. The OBA approach focuses on outcomes that are desired, and monitoring and evidencing progress towards those desired outcomes. Key features of OBA include:

- Population accountability, which is about improving outcomes for a particular population within a defined geographical area; and
- Performance accountability, which is about the performance of a service and improving outcomes for a defined group of service users.

Another key feature of OBA is the use of performance management categories which distinguish between ‘How much did we do?’, ‘How well did we do it?’ and, the most important category, ‘Is anyone better off?’ OBA was introduced to PCSPs during 2017 and early 2018 and extensive training has been given to embed it in the implementation and reporting of their Strategic Assessment process and Annual Action Plans.

In assessing the report cards received from PCSPs during the reporting year, it is evident that there is a continued good understanding of the reporting process where cumulative achievement can be more easily evaluated.

In preparing this report, all annual reports and quarterly report cards have been reviewed for each PCSP and whilst performance measurements can be varied, this report will, where possible, provide both local and regional evidence of outcomes and impact.

# IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## 6.1 Strategic Priority One - to successfully deliver the functions of the Policing and Community Safety Partnerships for each area.

Strategic priority one focuses on ensuring that PCSPs have the most effective structures and delivery mechanisms in place to strategically deliver in line with the needs of their area.

### Partnership working

It is evident both from the quarterly PCSP reporting and the submitted annual reports that there has been significant collaborative partnership working across all PCSPs; both internally as a strategic decision making body and externally through the development of meaningful relationships with delivery partners, community groups and statutory agencies.

Due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, public meetings became very limited, resulting in virtual interactions becoming necessary.

In line with the OBA approach, activities and achievements in terms of the functioning of the PCSPs can be reported as follows:

#### How much did they do?

In total, the PCSPs have held:

- 67 PCSP meetings, many carried out virtually;
- 14 public PCSP events/meetings;
- 3 training events/inductions for PCSP members.

#### How well did they do it?

- 85% overall member attendance at PCSP private meetings;
- 923 attendees at virtual community engagement meetings;
- 92% of PCSP members reported satisfaction with PCSP meetings.

#### Is anyone better off?

- 85% of PCSP members felt supported in their role.

## Engagement and communication

All PCSPs, through their Annual Reports, have evidenced significant engagement in their areas. It is also evident that engagement is with a wide range of audiences, both internally and externally.



In relation to external engagement, PCSPs are evidencing both traditional and innovative approaches. All PCSPs are required to hold public meetings with their communities which are aimed at building confidence, trust and knowledge in relation to the role and work of the PCSP. Due to COVID-19 these events have taken place in the form of online meetings and webinars which have been used to maintain engagement during a time when face-to-face meeting was not possible. The role of social media became more

prominent for PCSPs in a year when the delivery of public events was largely not possible. As well as including messaging around key community safety themes; for example, drugs and alcohol, and road safety; signposting was provided to available community support in response to COVID-19, including food banks and mental health awareness.

In addition to a significant use of social media to provide information to communities, PCSP members participated in local inter-agency forums and groups including:

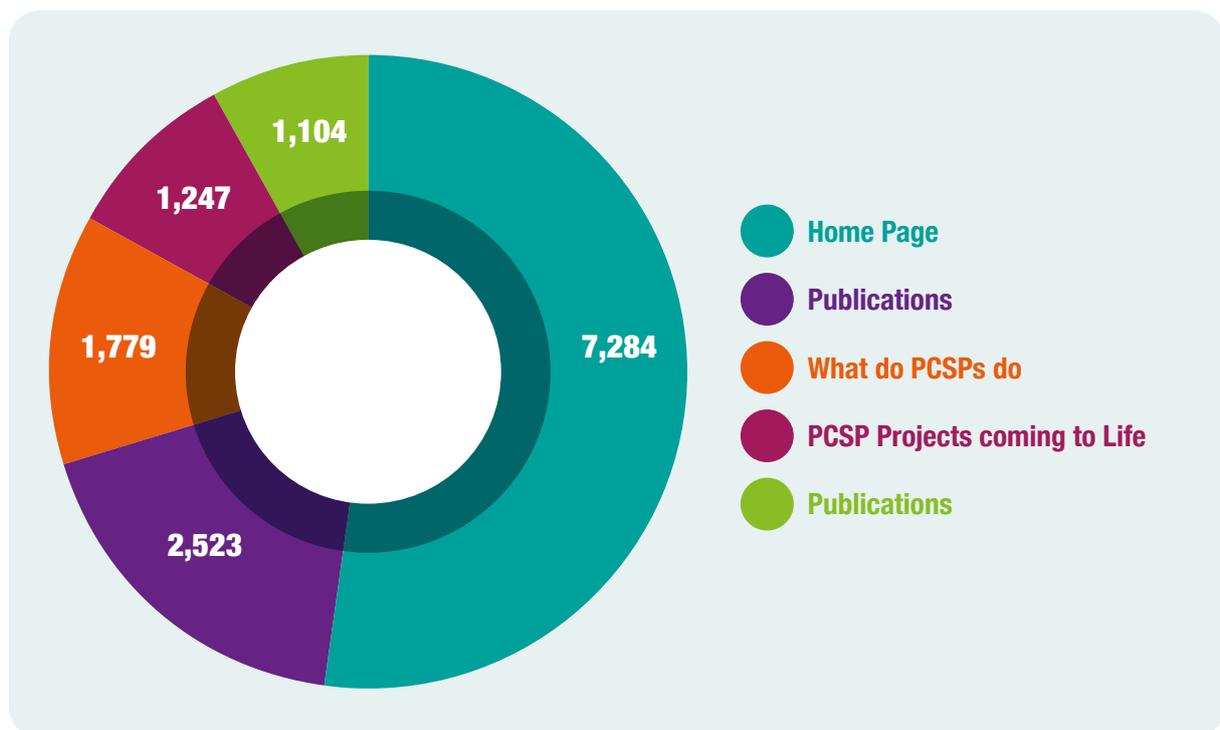
- Drugs and Alcohol working groups;
- Domestic Abuse working groups;
- Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator meetings;
- COVID-19 response groups;
- ASB working groups;
- Rural crime events; and
- Thematic crime response networks.

## Communication

During the reporting year, PCSPs have been active in ensuring implementation of effective communication mechanisms to raise the profile of their role and functions, and the projects and initiatives funded. Various mediums have been utilised including:

- Online video conferencing;
- Social media;
- PCSP website;
- Press releases;
- Leaflet drops;
- Bespoke PCSP magazines; and
- Public events when COVID-19 restrictions allowed.

**Figure 1: PCSP website page views**



PCSPs continued to embrace the use of social media as a means to gain a greater reach. This became even more important during periods of lockdown, when face-to-face engagement projects were very limited or impossible.

**Table six** details the number of followers on PCSP Twitter, as well as each PCSP Facebook page. Overall, there was an increase of 17% in 2020/2021 in the number of followers across both social media platforms.

**Table 6: Number of followers of PCSP Twitter and Facebook pages - April 2020 - March 2021**

PCSP	Number of followers 1/4/2020	Number of followers 31/03/2021	% Increase 1/4/2020 – 31/03/2021
PCSP Twitter	1,670	1,863	12%
PCSP Facebook	1,947	2,110	8%
Antrim and Newtownabbey	1,718	1,945	13%
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	3,874	4,380	13%
Belfast	1,469	1,618	10%
Derry and Strabane	822	1,023	24%
Fermanagh and Omagh	665	831	25%
Lisburn and Castlereagh	496	580	17%
Mid and East Antrim	717	835	16%
Mid Ulster	367	542	48%
Causeway Coast and Glens	1,442	1,616	12%
Newry, Mourne and Down	1,161	2,119	31%
Ards and North Down	2,544	2,609	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,892</b>	<b>22,071</b>	<b>17%</b>

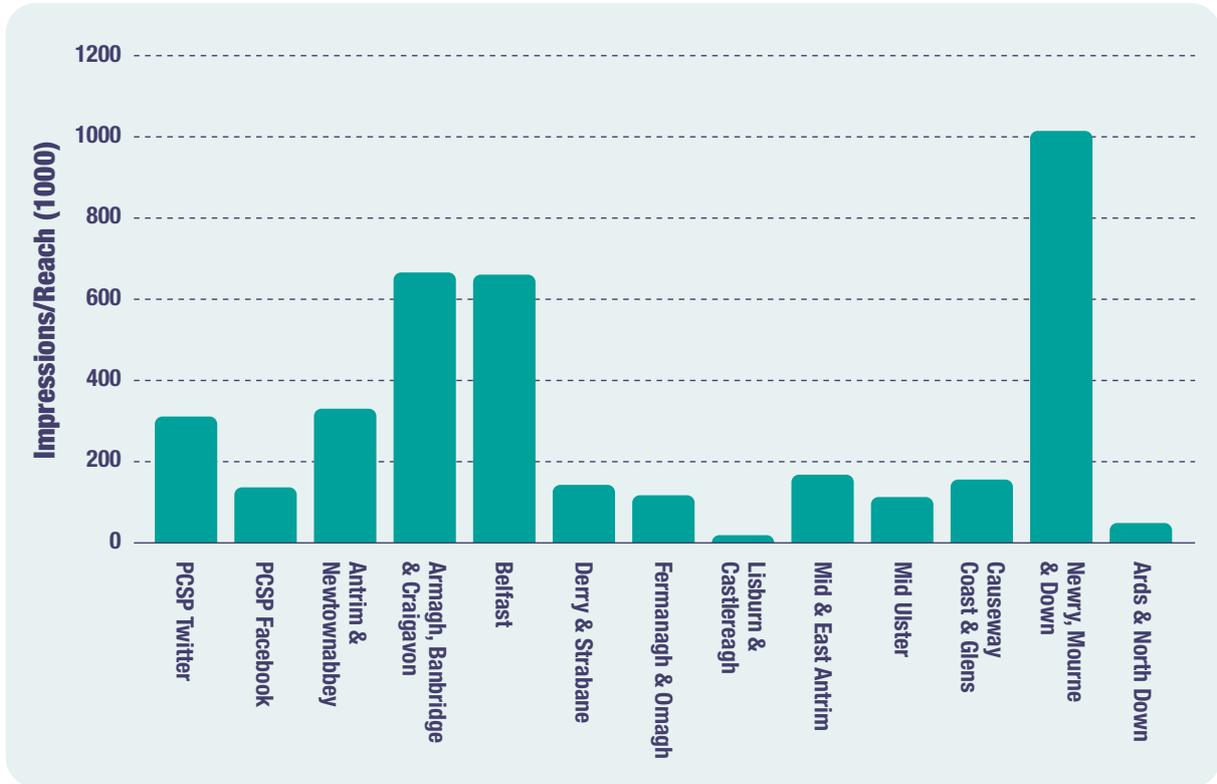
The increase in the number of followers resulted in a large ‘post reach’ for items shared on PCSP social media.

**Figure two** shows the number of impressions recorded on Twitter, and the post reach for items posted by each PCSP Facebook page.

‘Post reach’ is the number of people who saw a specific post in their news feed on Facebook. Twitter impressions are the delivery of a post or tweet to an account on the platform.

The total PCSP impressions/reach across all social media platforms was 3.85 million.

Figure 2: PCSP Twitter Impressions and Facebook Reach



## 6.2 Strategic Priority Two – to improve community safety by tackling actual and perceived crime and anti-social behaviour.

Strategic priority two focuses on the implementation of projects and initiatives to deal with the needs and issues of the local area in relation to community safety; with a particular focus on anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime. Underpinning this work is the need to work effectively with key partners such as community groups, the voluntary sector, statutory agencies, including designated partners. The following organisations have been designated as members of the PCSPs:

- Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI);
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE);
- Youth Justice Agency (YJA);
- Probation Board for Northern Ireland (PBNI);
- Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS);
- Education Authority (EA);
- Health and Social Care Trust (HSC).

They provide extensive expertise in community safety and facilitate joined up working to promote effective outcomes for local communities.

The 2020/2021 Annual Reports evidence that PCSPs are implementing and facilitating a diverse and significant range of Community Safety focused activity.

Implementation of the OBA approach has further enabled partnerships to focus on which actions to improve, in specific areas, to address challenges identified and ultimately to provide the best possible community safety services for local communities. In developing their Action Plans for 2020/2021, PCSPs demonstrated that they have fully examined the underlying causes of community safety issues, e.g. deprivation, poverty, health issues, unemployment and education inequalities, as well as social and economic challenges. This enabled them to identify prevention and early intervention approaches when tackling community safety issues in their area.

It is also clear that PCSPs have engaged with partner agencies, key stakeholders and the community in collating and analysing the existing evidence based information to ensure that proposed interventions are reflective of the needs of the community and do not duplicate or undermine existing strategies or interventions.

As a result of this extensive pre-implementation work, PCSPs had identified the key thematic areas for delivery during 2020/2021, as shown in **Table seven** below.

**Table 7: PCSP thematic areas 2020/2021**

PCSP	ASB	Awareness	Bee Safe	Business/Retail	Criminal Justice Worker	Culture of Lawfulness	Drugs and Alcohol	Domestic Violence	Educational	Elderly	Graffiti	Hate Crime	Home Security/Fear of Crime	Internet Safety	Neighbourhood Watch	Night Time Economy	Participatory Budget	Rapid Bins	RADAR	Reducing Offending	Road Safety	Rural Crime	Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs)	Small Grants	Text Alert	Vulnerable	Youth Diversion	Youth and Community Engagement	Wardens/On Street
Antrim and Newtownabbey	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x					x	x	x			x		x	x	x
Ards and North Down	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x	x		x			x			x	x	x	x				x	x
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	x	x		x			x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x					x	x			x	x		x	x
Belfast	x	x				x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x			x	x			x	
Causeway Coast and Glens	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			x	x		x	x	x	x		x			
Derry and Strabane	x			x		x	x	x				x	x	x	x							x					x		x
Fermanagh and Omagh	x	x	x			x	x	x		x			x	x	x			x	x		x	x				x	x		
Lisburn and Castlereagh	x			x	x		x	x	x	x			x	x				x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Mid and East Antrim	x	x			x	x	x	x			x	x			x							x	x	x	x		x		x
Mid Ulster	x	x		x		x	x	x				x		x		x					x	x				x	x		
Newry, Mourne and Down	x	x					x	x				x	x		x			x			x	x		x	x				x

The next section of the report will focus on PCSP achievements in key thematic areas, including examples of projects delivered.

Strategic Priority two places a firm focus on ensuring that PCSPs are tackling anti-social behaviours across the districts.

## Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)



The term anti-social behaviour (ASB) is used to describe a wide range of behaviours which can have a negative effect on quality of life, minor disorder and incivilities; behaviour which falls below the threshold for criminal prosecution.

The types of ASB triggers and issues are different across, and even within the PCSPs; reflecting the mix of urban and rural environments in which they operate.

In reviewing both the PCSP Annual Reports and the quarterly report cards, it is clear that there has been a significant impact due to COVID-19 on the number of ASB interventions and programmes PCSPs implemented during the period 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021.

Interventions under ASB can be grouped under the following actions:

- **Education/awareness raising;**
- **Diversionary initiatives;**
- **Direct interventions/projects.**

At a regional level, incidents of ASB substantially increased during the reporting year and **Table eight** indicates that this was the case in all of the 11 council areas/Policing Districts.

Due to COVID-19, initially from 23 March 2020, people were asked to stay home; except for shopping for basic necessities, daily exercise, medical need and travelling to and from essential work. Gatherings in public places of more than two people who did not live together were prohibited.

The impact of lockdown measures shutting leisure/entertainment facilities, and cancelling activities/organisations meeting, due to social distancing restrictions, potentially exacerbated ASB, for example, large groups of young people congregating outside at beaches, parks etc. However, this needs balanced against police recording calls about breaches of COVID-19 restrictions as ASB if they would not otherwise have been recorded.

**Table 8: Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents Recorded by police in the 12 months to 31 March 2021 compared with the previous 12 months (Breakdown by Policing District)<sup>1</sup>**

Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents				
Policing District	Apr '19 – Mar '20	Apr '20 – Mar '21	Change	% Change
<b>Belfast City</b>	16,654	21,246	4,592	27.6
<i>East</i>	2,927	3,863	936	32.0
<i>North</i>	5,053	6,254	1,201	23.8
<i>South</i>	5,469	6,669	1,200	21.9
<i>West</i>	3,205	4,460	1,255	39.2
<b>Lisburn and Castlereagh City</b>	3,152	4,603	1,451	46.0
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	3,984	6,025	2,041	51.2
<b>Newry, Mourne and Down</b>	4,834	6,360	1,526	31.6
<b>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	5,730	7,979	2,249	39.2
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	2,754	3,951	1,197	43.5
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	2,765	3,792	1,027	37.1
<b>Derry City and Strabane</b>	4,705	6,522	1,817	38.6
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	3,414	4,962	1,548	45.3
<b>Mid and East Antrim</b>	3,600	5,308	1,708	47.4
<b>Antrim and Newtownabbey</b>	3,439	5,315	1,876	54.6
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>55,031</b>	<b>76,063</b>	<b>21,032</b>	<b>38.2</b>

**Belfast City district has four local policing teams based in Lisburn Road (South), Tennent Street (North), Strandtown (East) and Woodbourne (West).**

<sup>1</sup> PSNI Key Statistics for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 and statistics covering each financial year 2008/2009 to 2020/2021 as provided through the monthly update to 31 March 2021 (Published 14 May 2020)

## Education/awareness raising interventions

PCSPs have recognised that an essential element of preventing or reducing ASB is through early intervention measures focusing on young people, but also parents. The use of plays, dramas and videos which present the causes, and most importantly the effects of ASB, have continued to be integrated into PCSP Action Plans. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 and the resulting periods of lockdown, many of the PCSPs planned public events had to be cancelled. PCSPs were able to deliver a limited number of ASB education/awareness programmes, with a few examples outlined below:

**Lisburn and Castlereagh PCSP** partnered with the Education Authority to deliver ‘Connect for Change’, an online conference to engage with young people across the council area from local post primary schools. It was a co-ordinated conversation via Zoom and an online live stream which was attended by eight local post primary schools, each represented by six pupils and a supporting adult/teacher from each school. Videos were prepared by Youth Council members regarding four themes highlighting issues and posing questions for the participants to discuss and feedback. The event took place over two sessions.



At the first session participants watched a live stream of the conference themes. During the following week school groups discussed the video issues and created a presentation video of their feedback. These videos formed part of day two of the conference.

The second session allowed participants to view all the videos and take part in an online discussion forum. A panel from various organisations partnered with the PCSP and took part in a question and answering session; namely Education Authority (EA), Health and Social Care Trust, Lisburn and Castlereagh PSNI, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council (LCCC) Environmental Health, along with the LCCC Chief Executive.

**Belfast PCSP** delivered the 'Where is your Child?' poster campaign which ran for three-weeks and was supported by established PCSP partners, including the PSNI and the Public Health Agency (PHA). This campaign was promoted through several delivery platforms across Northern Ireland, including Transport NI, PSNI and through an established and agreed media plan. Belfast City Council's Corporate Communications section committed to and endorsed the concept of the campaign by designing the campaign materials. This awareness campaign targeted three key audiences: Parents, young people, and the wider community. Messages on safeguarding were delivered on the most active online platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube, as well as more traditional advertising platforms, such as Adshels, buses and radio to capture the attention of parents/guardians of young people.

**Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP** also produced a firework safety video for post primary pupils, in partnership with Brownlow Neighbourhood Policing Team, and PSNI Support Hub.

## Diversionsary initiatives

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COVID-19 had a negative impact on the PCSPs ability to deliver diversionsary initiatives to try to counter anti-social behaviour; however, when regulations permitted and staffing resources were available, the PCSPs were able to provide the following:

### How much did they do?

- 189 diversionsary initiatives provided;
- 5,798 participants taking part in diversionsary initiatives.

### How well did they do it?

- 99% of participants reported satisfaction with the initiatives.

### Is anyone better off?

- 86% of participants reported changes in attitude or behaviour.

In tackling the causes of ASB, a number of PCSPs used a range of diversionsary initiatives and interventions, examples of which are outlined below:

## Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP's Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) Project

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The MUGA project was designed through close consultation with local communities and sports clubs to provide an organised, structured and community led programme of coaching and competitive sporting opportunities for young people across a range of venues throughout the Borough.

### How much did they do?

- 24 sessions over 6 weeks delivered in partnership with Council's Neighbourhood Renewal and Sports Development departments;
- Two venues with 47 participants having attended one or more sessions.

### How well did they do it?

- 100% satisfaction rate from the five partners involved with the project.

### Is anyone better off?

- All 47 participants reported being diverted from negative behaviours and had a positive mental/physical health experience from the project.

**Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP** also delivered ‘**Gilford Youths Making a Difference**’ project. The ‘Making a Difference’ project was focused on young people living in interface areas and areas where there is the potential of unrest during the summer period. The project aimed to improve attitudes between young people who come from different community backgrounds, and reduce incidents of anti-social and risk taking behaviour. The PCSP delivered 12 sessions over a five-week period, with 10 participants per activity. 90% of the young people who attended reported being more aware of personal safety implications following the lesson, with 100% reporting changed behaviours as a result of the activities involved.

### **Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP’s ‘Respect’ project**

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This project took a sports based approach to raising awareness of safety in communities, building rapport with PSNI, respecting residents, teaching children the consequences of getting involved in anti-social activity and improving the capacity of the local community to help support change. Rather than just focusing on playing sport, the ‘Respect’ project provided young people with opportunities to learn and develop as individuals by engaging them in the Education Programme which runs alongside the sporting activities. The educational aspect of the project focused on three main themes of learning to ‘Respect Yourself’; ‘Respect Your Sport’ and ‘Respect Your Community’.

#### **How much did they do?**

- Six programmes delivered in 24 sessions to 90 young people in areas where residents raised concerns of alleged anti-social behaviour.

#### **How well did they do it?**

- 100% of participants reported satisfaction with the activities and interventions.

#### **Is anyone better off?**

- 93% of participants reported changed attitudes;
- 100% of 90 participants reported increased awareness of risk and anti-social behaviours.

### **Direct Interventions**

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PCSPs used varying mechanisms to implement direct interventions in terms of anti-social behaviour.

Community Safety Wardens, Street Pastors or similar, performed approximately 20,000 ‘On Street’ patrols across a number of PCSPs; engaging with members of the public on more than 40,000 occasions. Some examples of the work carried out are outlined below.



For **Ards and North Down PCSP**, 2020/2021 was the second year of a 3-year contract for the voluntary 'Street Warden' programme '**Street Pastors**' to support engagement throughout the Borough during weekend nights and at special one-off events. Key to the success of the programme was the regular meetings between 'Street Pastors', the Council's Community Safety Team, and local police. In quarter four, due to complete lockdown, the 'Street Pastors' were unable to

do normal patrols but diverted to other duties to keep people safe. They also participated in two videos with YMCA and Holywood Family Trust to be shown online to help reduce ASB.

### Ards and North Down PCSP's 'Street Pastors' Outcomes:

- 102 patrols;
- engaging with a total of 670 people;
- average satisfaction rate of 85%.

**Derry and Strabane PCSP** directly manages the '**Community Safety Warden Scheme**', to address issues of low level anti-social and nuisance behaviour in the educational precinct; the four neighbourhood renewal areas in Derry; and the rural villages. This essential service remained operational throughout the pandemic and continued to be extremely successful, in conjunction with CCTV monitoring by City Centre Initiative, who assisted with 772 missing persons over the course of the reporting period. The Community Safety Warden schemes have branded vehicles and bicycles for transport. All wardens are first aid and defibrillator trained and have completed PACE (Policing and Criminal Evidence) training, as well as water safety training delivered by Foyle Search and Rescue.



In 2020/2021 wardens attended Community Safety Forums held over Zoom, along with PSNI Neighbourhood Officers, NIHE patch managers, community representatives and local councillors, to feed back to residents in relation to safety issues and local concerns.

The three elements of Derry and Strabane PCSP's '**Community Safety Warden Scheme**' are detailed below:

1. The **Northland Community Safety Warden Scheme** is focused primarily on the educational precinct and has been established since 2007. Funded by the PCSP, Council, and the Ulster University, with office accommodation provided by NIFRS at its Northland Road Fire Station, the scheme employs three wardens working from Sunday to Thursday, 10pm to 5am. During 2020/2021, patrols concentrated on the riverfront, city centre, Ebrington and waterside greenways, as most students were off campus.
2. The **City Community Safety Warden Scheme** operates primarily in the Neighbourhood Renewal Areas of Outer North, Outer West, Waterside and Triax. The scheme has been established since 2009 and is funded by PSNI, Derry City and Strabane District Council, NIHE and the Department for Communities. The scheme employs six wardens who work from 12 noon to 5pm, Monday to Wednesday, and from 5.30pm to 3am, Thursday to Sunday.
3. The **Rural Community Safety Warden Scheme** operates primarily in the rural villages of Park/Claudy, Eglinton, Newbuildings, and Strathfoyle/Maydown, and has been established since 2010. The scheme is funded jointly by Derry City and Strabane District Council and PSNI. The scheme employs two wardens who work from 12 noon to 5pm, Monday to Wednesday, and from 5.30pm to 3am, Thursday to Sunday.

An **infographic** produced by Derry and Strabane PCSP highlighting OBA outcomes for its **Community Safety Wardens** is included below.

In addition to addressing ASB, it is a great credit to **Derry and Strabane's Community Safety Wardens** that their interventions prevented 33 suicide attempts whilst on their patrols during 2020/2021.

**Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP** also maintained an effective 'On Street' presence through the '**Community Safety Warden**' project and an additional 'On Street' youth engagement provision through the '**High Risk Youth Programme**'. Antrim and Newtownabbey, like other areas within Northern Ireland, faced an increase in anti-social behaviour. It was a very challenging time but during this period, Antrim and Newtownabbey set up two separate multi-agency responses to areas of localised community concern; engaging PSNI, local businesses, local community groups, local elected representatives, EA, relevant Council departments, and PCSP projects.



A timetable was established every week of what 'On Street' presence was available including: '**Community Safety Warden**' shifts; Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) shifts, PCSP '**High Risk Youth**', and 'Drug and Alcohol Project' detached workers shift patterns, Council Park Wardens, EA detached Youth Service, and Council's security guard service, usually used to lock up parks and facilities. This information was shared broadly within council and the key relevant external stakeholders who had a role in addressing ASB, to ensure the effective use of resources, sharing of information and proper forward planning to identify and address gaps. This worked very well at that time and was an excellent example of multi-agency working.

During the COVID-19 restrictions, **Lisburn and Castlereagh PCSP** experienced significant increases in anti-social behaviour over and above the normal hotspot areas that had previously featured. A total of 4,298 incidents were reported for the period of August 2020 – July 2021, in comparison to 3,778 incidents for the same period in 2019; reflecting a 13.8% increase. At one time during the early stages of lockdown the increase was as high as 48%. This activity was centred in public parks and other council owned properties such as playing fields, play parks and other known hotspot areas.

'**Lisburn SAFE**' continued to deliver voluntary community safety initiatives to support local communities in the Lisburn area in addressing anti-social behaviour, crime and criminal damage. The project has in excess of 100 volunteers under the supervision of a full-time coordinator, which is funded by the PCSP. This coordinator post is critical to the ongoing community safety effort and ensuring the coordination of the volunteers and working in partnership with the local police.

A bi-monthly management meeting is held with statutory partners that include PSNI, PCSP, NIHE and LCCC.

### **Lisburn and Castlereagh PCSP's 'Lisburn SAFE' Project Outcomes:**

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- 24 programmes delivered;
- 6,762 volunteering hours completed;
- 75% of young persons involved in the programme being more aware of the consequences of getting involved in ASB, both on themselves and others.

### **Drugs and Alcohol**

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The misuse of drugs and alcohol continues to be a serious issue, with Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency figures indicating there were 351 alcohol-related, and 218 drug-related deaths in 2020. PCSPs, in response to community concerns regarding the misuse and impact of drugs on their local communities, and after consultation with local statutory and voluntary organisations, continued to provide support, and initiatives that raised awareness on the impact of drugs, and the safe disposal of illegal and unwanted prescription drugs.

**Table nine** below shows that whilst there was an overall decrease in drug related arrests, there was an increase in the number of seizure incidents.

**Table 9: Drug Related Arrests and Seizure Incidents by Policing District 2019/2020-2020/2021<sup>2</sup>**

Policing District	Drug Related Arrests			Drug Seizure Incidents		
	Jul '19 - Jun '20	Jul '20 - Jun '21	Change	Jul '19 - Jun '20	Jul '20 - Jun '21 <sup>2</sup>	Change
<b>Belfast City</b>	1,408	1,231	-177	2,496	2,499	3
<i>East</i>	180	188	8	417	418	1
<i>North</i>	365	355	-10	669	736	67
<i>South</i>	638	494	-144	984	884	-100
<i>West</i>	225	194	-31	426	461	35
<b>Lisburn and Castlereagh City</b>	243	258	15	633	656	23
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	133	126	-7	359	324	-35
<b>Newry, Mourne and Down</b>	174	222	48	630	713	83
<b>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	252	291	39	832	792	-40
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	176	155	-21	487	543	56
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	142	114	-28	338	322	-16
<b>Derry City and Strabane</b>	436	475	39	697	892	195
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	211	219	8	473	553	80
<b>Mid and East Antrim</b>	197	183	-14	703	872	169
<b>Antrim and Newtownabbey</b>	180	183	3	463	503	40
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>3,552</b>	<b>3,457</b>	<b>-95</b>	<b>8,111</b>	<b>8,669</b>	<b>558</b>

<sup>2</sup> PSNI Statistics - Drug Seizures and Arrests Quarterly Update to 30 June 2021 (Published 29 July 2021)

**Lisburn and Castlereagh PCSP** paired with South Eastern Drug and Alcohol Coordination Team (SEDACT) to deliver eight programmes via Zoom. The aim of the programmes was to educate young people on the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse.

**Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP** delivered 'Last Orders', an educational play highlighting the dangers of alcohol and anti-social behaviour, and online safety. It was to be hosted in post primary schools across Causeway Coast and Glens during 2020/2021, however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, performances of 'Last Orders', by Solomon Theatre Company, were hosted online and within the classroom setting.



The 50-minute play was followed up by an interactive classroom-based workshop adapted to ensure compliance with COVID-19 restrictions. The workshop highlighted the impact of alcohol on risk taking behaviours, including online behaviours. The aim of the schools' project was to make children aware of the physical, mental and emotional consequences of risk taking behaviours.

**Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP** contracted Helping Young People Everyday (HYPE), via Muckamore Parish Development Association. HYPE delivered a significant 'On Street' presence to engage positively with young people involved in 'On Street' drinking and substance misuse between December 2020 and March 2021. Additionally, whilst unable to deliver awareness and educational programmes with young people, they successfully held two awareness sessions with parents. They also re-engaged with pharmacies and revisited off-licences code of conduct. The project focused on providing information in respect of the dangers of drugs and substances, access to coping mechanisms and techniques to assist individuals to address the issues of drug, substance and alcohol abuse, and the impact such misuse has on the family unit and on the wider community, through incidents of ASB and violent crime.

The **RAPID** (Remove all Prescription and Illegal Drugs) **Bins** initiative is a health and community safety focused project that promotes and facilitates the removal of all types of prescription and illegal drugs from the local community. **RAPID Bins** were used by PCSPs during 2020/2021, as they continued to work in collaboration with the PSNI and PHA to install drugs disposal bins. Fourteen new bins were installed in **Derry and Strabane**, one in **Mid Ulster**, and three in **Newry, Mourne and Down**. RAPID bins have proven to be successful in removing items from the community. In total, over 70,000 tablets were removed and disposed of this reporting year.



In spite of the difficulties created by COVID-19, **Ards and North Down PCSP** were able to pursue their Substance Abuse Awareness Project, which included both adult and youth awareness sessions, delivered in partnership with PHA and the Health and Social Care Trust, with SEDACT supporting more targeted interventions. The resilience of partners in adjusting their delivery methods in response to the issues arising from COVID-19 while continuing to meet their targets meant that the backlog of clients needing help from this vital service received it.

### Ards and North Down PCSP's Adult Substance Abuse Awareness Project Outcomes:

#### How much did they do?

- 307 sessions;
- 55 participants.

#### How well did they do it?

- 100% of the participants engaged in the programme were satisfied with the content.

#### Is anyone better off?

- 66% of the participants who attended the initial appointment continued to engage with the service, which resulted in changed behaviours after completing the programme;
- 100% of the participants had increased knowledge of risks/harm of excessive drink/drugs.

## Ards and North Down PCSP's Youth Substance Abuse Awareness Project Outcomes:

### How much did they do?

- 3 sessions;
- 211 participants.

### How well did they do it?

- 100% of the participants engaged in the programme were satisfied with the content.

### Is anyone better off?

- 90% of the participants who attended the sessions reported changing behaviours after completion;
- 100% of the participants had increased knowledge of mental health/alcohol/drug use.

### Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP

and partners wanted to send a strong message to school pupils pre-summer holidays on the dangers of taking all drugs; be that through vaping or taking any prescription medication that has not been prescribed to that person, or illegal drugs.

They conceived the idea that they could support

Theresa Burke to deliver online talks to local students, given that school visits were not possible due to COVID-19. Theresa's talks highlight not only the dangers of taking drugs to the individual, but also the devastating effect it can have on the family. Theresa shared her story of how her son Kealan died a year and a half after his overdose, along with photos and video footage of her son to show young people the reality of taking drugs.



## Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP's Theresa Burke's Drugs Talks Outcomes:

### How much did they do?

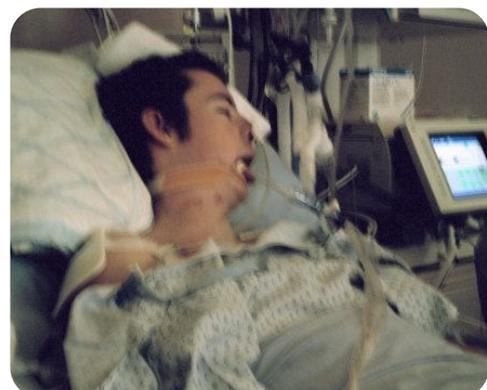
- Two Theresa Burke drugs talks;
- 105 participants.

### How well did they do it?

- 100% of partners satisfied.

### Is anyone better off?

- 100% of participants with improved awareness and knowledge of the dangers of drugs.



## Internet safety

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A number of PCSPs included programmes on internet safety during 2020/2021; two of which were Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP, and Mid Ulster PCSP.

**Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP** developed the 'Cybersafe' programme; a series of animation videos highlighting a range of Internet Safety topics that are currently relevant for young people online. Taking advice from partners, the NSPCC, Health and Social Care, and EA on the relevant topics, and using the most up-to-date information on each topic, the PCSP managed and produced five, one-minute-long internet safety videos. These videos ran over a five-week period with a different video being released each week, coinciding with the start of internet safety week on 9 February 2021, and finishing with roll out of the final topic on 8 March 2021.

Five topics were highlighted through partners on the working group. These topics were as follows:

- Online bullying;
- Gaming and gambling;
- Sharing and receiving inappropriate images;
- Suicide, mental health, and self-esteem;
- Where to go to for support.

The campaign/resource was shared by all local schools; both primary and post, through their social media pages, school websites, as well as, where appropriate, shared through 'Google Classroom', especially around Internet Safety week.

It was advertised on 'Q Radio', with the launch supported by a radio advert directing people to the PCSP Facebook and social media pages. It was also shared by all partners in the working group as well as a range of organisations, community groups, PSNI and several other PCSPs throughout Northern Ireland.

## CYBER SAFETY

Causeway, Coast & Glens PCSP has created another fantastic suite of resources under their award-winning "Don't Worry, Be #APPY" umbrella with a series of animations about cyber safety for young people.

The PCSP sits on a working group with the NSPCC, Health and Social Care Service, and Education Authority, giving them great insight into the challenges facing young people growing up in a world that's always online, and the specific vulnerabilities they may face.

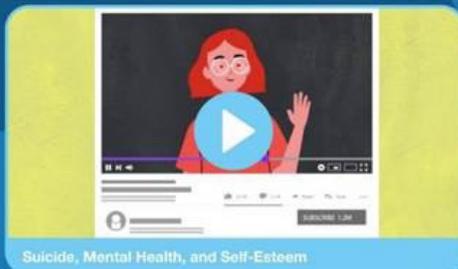
The series is made up of 5 one minute long videos, and was launched to coincide with Internet Safety Week. As well as being posted across social media and promoted by Q Radio, the videos will also become resources used within a number of local primary and post-primary schools and organisations that work with young people.



4  
videos



70k  
views



**Mid Ulster PCSP**, in conjunction with the PSNI Schools Officers and Beam Creative Network, delivered drama workshops in schools across Mid Ulster when COVID-19 restrictions permitted. These workshops addressed cyber bullying, internet safety and the importance of cyber safety to children and young people.

The programme, for Key Stage two pupils (9-12 years), carried key internet safety messages in a way that children could relate to, with workshops structured to change mind-sets, challenge attitudes and behaviour in the children, with regards to online bullying and giving advice on where help is available.

The interactive workshop approach and style of delivery gave children the opportunity to contribute their views and opinions. Workshops were facilitated by Beam's senior drama tutors, accommodating up to 40 children per session.

The workshops were created to inform children/young people on the 'do's and don'ts' of internet safety at an age where they can easily be led into very dangerous situations. Through the workshops children explored e-safety, and the impact of cyber bullying on others in a structured and safe environment.

As the workshops were delivered through an open and interactive method of collaborative learning, children were more likely to retain information than from formal presentations. They had the opportunity to learn and develop, express thoughts, ideas and feelings, develop creativity through interactive exercises, engage in dramatic play to extend the learning and take part in a range of drama games and strategies.

Schools were identified in partnership with PSNI CASE Officers who consistently identify internet safety and cyber bullying as a major issue for parents and young people. Children and young people can be unaware of how personal information can be misused by others and the extent to which it can be broadcast.

### **How much did they do?**

- 16 schools participated, with 216 pupils in total.

### **How well did they do it?**

- 89.81% said they enjoyed the session;
- 95.83% found the session useful.

### **Is anyone better off?**

- 96.3% said the session taught them more about internet safety and keeping themselves safe online;
- 83.33% said the session taught them more about cyberbullying, and how it affects those involved;
- 76.39% have increased knowledge of where to access help or advice should they experience online bullying.

## Domestic Violence

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Domestic Violence (DV) or abuse can be described as threatening, controlling, coercive behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, virtual, physical, verbal, sexual, financial, or emotional) inflicted on anyone (irrespective of age, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or any form of disability) by a current, or former, intimate partner, or family member.

Domestic violence was highlighted as an area of particular concern over the initial COVID-19 lockdown period. The number of domestic abuse incidents recorded were mostly above the weekly average between 23 March 2020, when the lockdown measures were first introduced in Northern Ireland, and mid-August 2020. Between late summer 2020 and April 2021, figures typically remained below the weekly average, with a few exceptions, such as the Christmas and New Year period.



**domestic and  
sexual abuse  
helpline**  
**0808 802 1414**  
Freephone confidential 24/7 helpline  
**Call now.**

[dsahelpline.org](https://dsahelpline.org)

As shown in **Table 10**, in the 12 months from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, there were 31,196 domestic abuse incidents in Northern Ireland; a decrease of 621 on the previous 12 months. The number of domestic abuse crimes reached 19,036; an increase of 408 on the previous 12 months.

**Table 10: Police Recorded Domestic Abuse Incidents and Crimes, by Policing District<sup>3</sup>**

Policing District	Domestic Abuse Incidents			Domestic Abuse Crimes		
	Apr '19 - Mar '20	Apr '20 - Mar '21	Change	Apr '19 - Mar '20	Apr '20 - Mar '21	Change
<b>Belfast City</b>	8,610	7,926	-684	4,808	4,949	141
<b>Lisburn and Castlereagh City</b>	1,771	1,980	209	1,137	1,328	191
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	2,161	2,028	-133	1,107	1,100	-7
<b>Newry, Mourne and Down</b>	2,438	2,560	122	1,551	1,758	207
<b>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	3,248	3,442	194	2,170	2,027	-143
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	2,063	2,111	48	1,181	1,125	-56
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	1,736	1,562	-174	862	806	-56
<b>Derry City and Strabane</b>	3,170	3,046	-124	1,944	2,042	98
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	2,144	2,160	16	1,306	1,390	84
<b>Mid and East Antrim</b>	2,283	2,176	-107	1,274	1,227	-47
<b>Antrim and Newtownabbey</b>	2,193	2,205	12	1,288	1,284	-4
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>31,817</b>	<b>31,196</b>	<b>-621</b>	<b>18,628</b>	<b>19,036</b>	<b>408</b>

The large number of incidents and crimes being reported, as well as knowledge that the numbers of these incidents and crimes is likely higher given that unfortunately many go unreported, ensures that assistance to victims of domestic abuse remains a priority for PCSPs. All 11 PCSPs have funded or supported initiatives in this area. These ranged from direct support, to educational and awareness raising activities.

<sup>3</sup> PSNI Statistics - Financial Year Update, period ending 31 March 2021, providing figures for 2020/2021 (Published 14 May 2021)

**Ards and North Down PCSP** delivered a South Eastern Domestic and Sexual Violence Partnership (SEDSVP) conference online, and three bespoke awareness raising sessions aimed at: hairdressers and beauticians (who are in a unique position to recognise the signs of domestic violence), LGBTQ+, and male victims. A total of 304 people were involved in domestic violence awareness sessions.

**Mid Ulster PCSP** delivered the 'Behind Closed Doors' domestic violence bus and Adshel advertising campaign over the Christmas period. This campaign highlighted the issue of domestic violence during a peak period. The message was for both male and female victims and signposted them to the 24-hours Domestic and Sexual Abuse Helpline 0808 802 1414.

**Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP** provided two training sessions for interpreters and people working with Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) groups on how to recognise and respond to domestic and sexual violence and abuse. 15 people attended the online sessions with 100% of participants reporting satisfaction with the information and awareness sessions, as well as improved awareness and understanding of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

**Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP** provided 37 people with pieces of domestic abuse and stalking support equipment via PSNI to protect, increase confidence, deter attack and gather evidence to support prosecution. These items included: CCTV, dash cameras for cars, door bracers, Skyguard personal panic alarms which have GPS and a link to PSNI 999 service, replacement mobile phones, and intruder identification sprays for close contact attacks. 100% of the recipients reported this service was useful and they felt safer because of it.

Domestic Violence against male victims was a key focus for PCSPs in this reporting year, with **Derry and Strabane PCSP** providing 371 counselling sessions to male victims and **Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP** providing 340 counselling sessions to male victims.

**Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP** also delivered an extensive Domestic Violence Awareness Raising Campaign during the month of March 2021, in partnership with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, and key organisations including Women's Aid, Nexus and the Men's Advisory Project Northern Ireland (MAP NI).



The PCSP delivered a detailed social media campaign over four weeks covering information on the different types of domestic abuse, real or perceived barriers to leaving an abuser, and support available for those who suffer this type of abuse. The social media awareness raising campaign ran alongside two billboard campaigns; one focusing on Male victims of DV and the other, female victims.

The **Domestic Violence Awareness Raising Campaign** which **Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP** normally deliver in primary schools faced huge challenges during 2020/2021. However, the PCSP responded in effectively assessing the greatest need, with a resource pack produced by Nexus for 15-16 year olds on healthy relationships and consent, with over 3,000 distributed for pupils' take-home work packs. The rationale was increased isolation and lack of social interaction, with greater opportunity for pressure to be exerted through phone, text and online measures, and less opportunity for responsible adults to pick up on any signs or raise concerns.

**Mid Ulster PCSP** designed a programme to emphasise that males and females could be both victims and offenders, given the evidence of increasing numbers of males as victims of domestic abuse from crime figures. The **Positive Relationships schools programme** was delivered to 473 Year 10 pupils in four post primary schools across the Mid Ulster Council area with outcomes as follows:

- 88.1% of participants reported increased awareness in Positive/Healthy Relationships;
- 88.1% of participants reported increased awareness in unhealthy relationships;
- 90.48% of participants reported increased awareness of warning signs of abuse;
- 92.86% of participants reported increased awareness in Dating Violence;
- 80.95% of participants reported increased awareness in the risks and consequences associated with sexting;
- 66.67% of participants reported increased awareness of Cyberbullying;
- 85.71% of participants reported increased awareness of Controlling behaviours;
- 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.

## Belfast PCSP's Domestic Violence Awareness Raising Training Sessions

In partnership with Belfast Area Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Partnership (BADSVAP), Belfast PCSP delivered a series of domestic violence (DV) awareness programmes online.

The **Hairdressers and Beauticians** DV awareness programme saw 53 participants from 39 salons across the wider Belfast area take part in the awareness raising sessions, with knowledge and resource packs provided to support victims of domestic abuse.

- 100% of participants reported satisfaction with training activities;
- 100% of participants with improved levels of awareness of information, resources and support available;
- 100% of participants more confident in addressing domestic and sexual violence/abuse;
- 100% of participants more likely to report incidents of domestic and sexual violence/abuse.

Sessions kindly funded by

**Belfast Area**  
Domestic & Sexual Violence  
and Abuse Partnership

**PCSP**  
Policing & Community  
Safety Partnership  
making Belfast safer

### Free Domestic Abuse Awareness Raising for Hairdressers and Beauticians

**Why are we offering this domestic abuse awareness raising?**  
For many people who are experiencing domestic abuse, hairdressers and beauty salons are safe spaces where they're at ease with the stylists they trust. Salon professionals are in a unique position to recognise the signs and symptoms of abuse in their clients. We believe, salon professionals can become invaluable and influential community partners in reducing the impact of domestic abuse.

**Why do we need to do more about domestic abuse?**

- In 2019/20 PSNI responded to 31,817 incidents of domestic abuse, this equates to one every 17 minutes. Yet we know the majority of domestic abuse goes unreported.
- With COVID-19, PSNI reported almost 2000 domestic abuse calls were made to them during the first 3 weeks of lockdown.
- Northern Ireland has the joint highest domestic homicide figures per population in Europe.

**What are we offering?**  
An awareness raising session aimed at enabling participants to recognise domestic abuse; know how to respond to disclosures & know where to signpost for specialist support. Participating salons will receive a free resource pack.

### Feedback from Hairdressers and Beauticians sessions

*"I really felt this course was informative and gave us a really good perspective of the victim. How to approach the subject with a gentleness and respect. Physical signs to look for and most importantly apps and contacts they can contact for help."*

The **Young People** programme consisted of four sessions delivered to 30 frontline professionals to engage around the issue of domestic abuse.

- 95% of participants reporting satisfaction with training activities;
- 95% of participants felt they have improved levels of awareness of information, resources and support available to help them discuss domestic abuse with young people;
- 91% of participants felt they were more confident in addressing domestic and sexual violence/abuse with young people;
- 95% of participants felt the training provided would help enable conversations with young people, making them more likely to report incidents of domestic and sexual violence/abuse.

### Feedback from Young People sessions

*“Very informative training and a great use of interactive media that gives a real human feel to issues and concerns. The scope of this training is very broad and has a genuine commitment to improving relationships and supporting young people. I would definitely recommend this training for everyone.”*

Two **Male Victims** training sessions were delivered which challenged existing stereotypes of who can be a victim of domestic abuse, highlighting that it can and does happen to males. These were delivered to 69 frontline professionals, from a range of organisations across Belfast, with the knowledge on how to support male victims and of the specialist support services available.

- 98% of the participants reporting satisfaction with training activities;
- 93% of the participants with improved levels of awareness of information, resources and support available for male victims of domestic abuse;
- 95% of participants more confident in addressing domestic and sexual violence/abuse with male victims;
- 93% of participants more likely to report incidents of domestic and sexual violence/abuse.

### Feedback from Male Victims sessions

*“Very well presented and a lot of new and important information. I wasn’t aware how much work MAP had been doing or the work they’re doing with NIHE and Rainbow Project. The advice on working in a Trauma informative way is something I will take away from this training, including a lot more knowledge on accessing important services for male clients.”*

### Belfast PCSP’s Barbers Promotional Material mail out

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Posters and information leaflets were distributed to 75 barber salons across Belfast, increasing the visibility for male victims of domestic abuse and the dedicated support services available.

### Belfast PCSP’s Domestic Homicide 8 Stage Timeline session

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The Intimate Partner Homicide Timeline training session provided frontline professionals with knowledge on risk and risk indicators in relation to domestic abuse homicide with the 180 participants who largely reflected that the knowledge gained from the session would better inform their practice and ensure they were better able to assess risk.

## Hate Crime

Hate crime is defined as any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards someone based on a personal characteristic.

It is an area of concern for PCSPs, with statistics confirming increases in racist, homophobic and sectarian hate incidents and crimes at the overall Northern Ireland level during the reporting year.

**Table 11** shows the associated figures for the period of 1 April 2020, until 31 March 2021.

COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions had an effect on PCSPs holding events during the year in addressing Hate Crime. However, PCSPs continued to support PSNI and other statutory organisations, as well as local community groups in reducing tensions as and when highlighted by local communities.

**Table 11: Police Recorded Racist, Homophobic and Sectarian Incidents and Crimes, by Policing District – April 2020 to March 2021<sup>4</sup>**

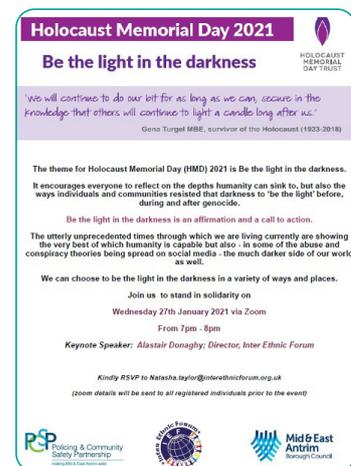
Policing District	Racist Incidents		Racist Crimes		Homophobic Incidents		Homophobic Crimes		Sectarian Incidents		Sectarian Crimes	
	Apr 2020 – Mar 2021	Change from 2019/2020	Apr 2020 – Mar 2021	Change from 2019/2020	Apr 2020 – Mar 2021	Change from 2019/2020	Apr 2020 – Mar 2021	Change from 2019/2020	Apr 2020 – Mar 2021	Change from 2019/2020	Apr 2020 – Mar 2021	Change from 2019/2020
<b>Belfast City</b>	438	34	307	56	162	49	99	30	367	93	275	97
<b>Lisburn and Castlereagh</b>	44	-5	30	-1	24	13	10	0	64	24	37	1
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	38	-17	17	-9	11	-3	8	4	23	-9	15	-3
<b>Newry, Mourne and Down</b>	63	24	57	28	31	16	27	10	30	-19	23	-8
<b>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	103	19	88	36	36	3	25	-2	86	-3	49	-26
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	43	-8	25	-16	10	-6	7	-8	60	-1	43	-8
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	21	-18	20	-6	23	18	14	11	45	9	31	5
<b>Derry City and Strabane</b>	62	7	47	5	32	-4	26	1	90	-42	72	-29
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	55	19	36	14	15	6	19	11	54	-24	37	-17
<b>Mid and East Antrim</b>	42	-28	31	-37	10	2	3	-7	71	25	54	21
<b>Antrim and Newtownabbey</b>	84	30	61	23	12	0	8	1	44	-7	38	2
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>35</b>

<sup>4</sup> PSNI Statistics - Financial year update, period ending 31 March 2021, providing figures for 2020/2021 (Published 14 May 2021)

Between November 2020 and February 2021, **Mid and East Antrim PCSP** provided funding which enabled Romanian, Slovakian, Bulgarian and Polish bilingual advocates to hold 2,806 appointments with minority ethnic clients on issues including: - supporting victims of Race Hate Crime and Race Hate Incidents; translating messaging around COVID-19 to vulnerable communities; support with Housing issues, Employment and benefits assistance; and signposting to statutory and voluntary agencies. Advocates assisted PSNI in contacting and supporting victims of Hate Crime and Domestic Violence as well as Victim Support telephone appointments.

**Mid and East Antrim PCSP** also funded:

- Inter Ethnic Forum to deliver Roma Cultural Awareness workshops to Youth Justice Agency, Northern Health and Social Care Trust, and Queens University Social work students;
- four virtual 'Choose your voice' Hate crime awareness sessions with members of local churches and social groups; and
- a virtual event to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day.



**Derry and Strabane PCSP** delivered information on this theme virtually over the PCSP Facebook page; with the five posts receiving 43 likes, 89 engagements and reaching 1,572 people.



**Belfast PCSP** launched the 'Belfast is No Place for Hate' campaign in February 2021 to emphasise that hate had no place in Belfast and to encourage people to report hate crimes. Overall, social media analysis shows this reached 99,711 and engaged with 7,486, with activities liked by 1,900, comments received from 389, and messages shared by 312 residents. There was a lot of engagement and debate, with a consensus that hate had no place in Belfast (and in Northern Ireland) with some personal experiences of hate crime shared. A few comments posted on social media in response to the campaign showed that the community encouraged this message and were keen to participate in similar initiatives to avoid hate crime incidents happening and help develop confidence between the community and the PSNI.

**Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP** held a week-long hate crime awareness social media campaign, alongside partners and members, which reached 2,000 hits on social media. The campaign included the re-running of a series of Hate Crime awareness videos produced by Victim Support NI, and encouraging reporting of hate crime incidents, whether as a victim or a witness.

**Ards and North Down PCSP** partnered with the Council's Art section and commissioned a Hate Crime video available for use in schools and other venues.

## Fear of Crime

PCSPs continued to fund initiatives, including **home security equipment, property marking, and scam awareness**; albeit that delivery was impacted or had to be adapted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In response to an increased fear of crime amongst communities during this period, a number of PCSPs distributed **scam information packs, crime prevention packs, or home safety packs** using a variety of means including via PCSP members, PSNI and Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators. Literature to promote home and personal safety, personal alarms, **RFID (radio frequency identification) card defenders** and **keyless car entry theft campaigns** featured in a number of PCSPs; as well as online crime prevention seminars. A number of PCSPs worked at District Electoral Area (DEA) level with Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) to problem solve within localities.

Rural crime initiatives by PCSPs during the period included encouraging sign up to **Farm Watch** by Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP, Farm Watch Adshel advertising campaign, leaflets and posters by Ards and North Down PCSP, and innovative approaches, including Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP's Rural quad tracker scheme, which from December 2020 included all-terrain vehicles.

PCSPs were also involved in amplifying messages around **Business and retail crime**, for example, shop workers subjected to physical and verbal abuse during the pandemic.

## Home security equipment

A large number of PCSPs provide projects for assessment, supply and fitting of home security measures and equipment, targeted toward more vulnerable members of the community, including the elderly, and victims of domestic burglaries and domestic abuse. These items included secure locks, secure door chains, and security lighting. Some of the referrals to these projects are from PSNI and PSNI Crime Prevention Officers, who work in partnership with the PCSP.

**COAST**  
Causeway Older Active Strategic Team

**FREE 'SAFE HOME' Service**

Would you like to feel more **SAFE** in your home?

Are you aged 60+?

Do you live in the Causeway Coast and Glens Area?

If so, you may be eligible for a **FREE Safe Home visit**

\*Call us to discuss full eligibility criteria\*  
\*\*Visit are always pre-arranged with the client at a time which suits you.

We supply and fit the following items depending on the clients' needs, as assessed by the Safe Home team

- ✓ Secure ring door chain
- ✓ Door chimes
- ✓ Solar welcome light
- ✓ Safe-home Pack
- ✓ Keysafe – additional cost

Our Safe Home team are access NI cleared and suitably trained

Call **COAST** on **028777 67860**  
Email **coast.manager@yahoo.co.uk**

**PCSP** Policing & Community Safety Partnership  
Partnership between Causeway Coast & Glens and PSNI

### How much did they do?

- 850 home security checks carried out;
- More than 4,700 pieces of home security equipment provided.

### How well did they do it?

- 98% of recipients reported being satisfied with the service provided.

### Is anyone better off?

- 96% of recipients reported feeling more safe in their home following the service.

## Property marking

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A number of PCSPs provide property marking services, supported by PSNI Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

Additionally, Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP provided **property marking kits** in the reporting period.

### How much did they do?

- 450 items were marked at the 22 property marking events held by PCSPs.

### How well did they do it?

- 100% of participants were satisfied with the marking process.

### Is anyone better off?

- 100% of participants reported an improved knowledge of crime prevention awareness.

## 'Text Alert' Schemes

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A number of PCSPs provide 'Text Alert' services, to make members of the public aware of emerging crime trends, and other local community safety and crime concerns. Community information shared could include warnings of break-ins or thefts in the area, scams, bogus callers, or road closures due to traffic collisions.

### How much did they do?

- 805 'Text Alerts' sent by PCSPs.

### How well did they do it?

- 98% of registered users were satisfied with the service.

### Is anyone better off?

- 98% of registered users felt more engaged with the PCSP or PSNI.

## Scam Awareness

Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP's 'Scambassador' events gave people the skills and knowledge to identify techniques scammers are using, and encouraged them to pass the information on to vulnerable members of the community.

### How much did they do?

- 5 events online;
- 75 participants.

### How well did they do it?

- 100% of participants were satisfied with the training provided.

### Is anyone better off?

- 96% of participants felt their knowledge of scams had increased;
- 100% of participants felt safer as a result of attending the training.

## Keeping People Safe

With normal methods of delivery restricted, the following three PCSP activities demonstrated the ability of PCSPs to adapt during the COVID-19 pandemic in order to continue to deliver positive change in Northern Ireland in terms of community safety:

1. The 'Bee Safe' project promotes safety messages and several risk awareness scenarios on water safety, internet safety, road safety, farm safety, fire safety, home safety, and mental health and wellbeing.

With schools closed during lockdowns, Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP supported by other PCSPs, produced a regional 'Bee Safe' video to allow for commencement of delivery of the resource during 2021/2022. Targeted at 10 and 11-year-olds this enables children to avoid dangerous situations and to know how to deal with these situations effectively to help keep them safe.

2. Similarly, Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP partnered with other PCSPs and the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service and produced an educational resource for eight and nine-year-old school children, in the form of a regional fire safety video.
3. Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP made use of an online version of the 'Helping Our Communities Stay Safe' booklet.

This can be viewed at: <https://online.flipbuilder.com/vuoc/ihla/>



## Road Safety

Whilst the number of casualties fell in 2020/2021, possibly as a result of the two periods of COVID-19 lockdown restrictions, the number of fatalities on Northern Ireland's roads remained comparable and although there were a reduced number of serious injuries, given these are often life changing injuries, road safety continues to be a major concern for the communities which PCSPs represent.

**Table 12** provides the breakdown of casualties from road traffic collisions across Northern Ireland for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021.

**Table 12: Casualties in Recorded Injury Road Traffic Collisions by Severity of Injury and Policing District 2019/2020 and 2020/2021<sup>5</sup>**

Policing District	2019/2020					2020/2021				
	Killed	Seriously injured	KSI	Slightly injured	Total	Killed	Seriously injured	KSI	Slightly injured	Total
<b>Belfast City</b>	5	127	132	2,018	2,150	4	61	65	1,174	1,239
<b>Derry City and Strabane</b>	0	50	50	580	630	3	32	35	457	492
<b>Antrim and Newtownabbey</b>	6	53	59	719	778	3	40	43	415	458
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	4	50	54	537	591	3	38	41	397	438
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	9	82	91	586	677	9	35	44	312	356
<b>Lisburn and Castlereagh City</b>	4	57	61	708	769	2	49	51	400	451
<b>Mid and East Antrim</b>	3	49	52	437	489	6	46	52	249	301
<b>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	8	89	97	791	888	7	64	71	544	615
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	3	55	58	385	443	3	49	52	294	346
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	7	68	75	541	616	4	46	50	327	377
<b>Newry, Mourne and Down</b>	7	82	89	668	757	9	78	87	502	589
<b>Northern Ireland Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>7,970</b>	<b>8,788</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>5,071</b>	<b>5,662</b>

Notes: KSI - Killed or seriously injured

5 PSNI Statistics - 2020/2021 Financial Year Road Traffic Collision Statistics (Published on 25 June 2021)

The ability of PCSPs to effectively deliver interventions aimed at reducing the number of road traffic casualties was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; particularly planned educational events on road safety. In many cases however, PCSP funding throughout Northern Ireland was diverted to purchase and deploy Speed Indicator Devices. A Speed Indicator Device (SID) is a vehicle activated illuminated sign displaying vehicle speeds to the driver. In 2020/2021 PCSPs used SIDs as an important tool in raising awareness of excess speed, which is a factor in road traffic collisions, with a total of 96 static and 34 mobile SIDs provided by PCSPs.

### Other Road Safety related PCSP activities included:

**Ards and North Down PCSP** ran a publicity campaign online and via local radio to raise public awareness of the usage of SIDs.

**Mid Ulster PCSP** delivered sessions with the Crash Car simulator to five schools and 150 participants when COVID-19 restrictions permitted. The Crash Car Simulator provides four people at a time the opportunity to experience a simulated car crash; hard hitting road safety education. 100% of participants involved stated it had increased their knowledge of road safety issues.



**Mid and East Antrim PCSP** distributed 200 'Kill Your Speed' signs within the district.

**Lisburn and Castlereagh PCSP** provided road safety advice to 800 children in the Castlereagh/Dundonald area regarding going to and returning from school during the winter months. This included the provision of hi-vis jackets to primary school children.

**Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP** distributed 1,600 learning resources to post primary schools within the council area. 100% of schools were satisfied with the service. 100% of the participants who watched the safe motoring presentation were satisfied with the service provided, as they agreed to sign the safe motoring pledge.

In terms of excellence in road safety programmes, **Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP** won the Public Sector category of the **Northern Ireland Road Safety Awards 2021**. This is due to hard work by the PCSP during the 2020/2021 reporting period to support road safety awareness-raising initiatives.



'The Paulie Project' documentary launched online on 11 June 2020 following a launch event in January 2020, and public screenings in early March 2020. A successful venture for **Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP**, PSNI, and Road Safe NI's Newry, Mourne and Down Committee, it tells the stories of local families who have lost loved ones, and those who have suffered life changing injuries as a result of road traffic collisions. The documentary was used as an educational resource for youth groups and schools, and by the end of March 2021, its powerful and emotive message was viewed on social media and YouTube an estimated 60,000 times by individuals of various ages. There was a wide overall reach, including in the Republic of Ireland on An Garda Síochána social media channels.



The documentary can still be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/t82nQwJb1HY>.

## Other Road Safety Outcomes for Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP:

- Attendance at five meetings of 'The Road Ahead' support group for families and victims of Road Traffic Collisions.
- District-wide campaign with distribution of more than 2,500 hi-vis vests to individuals, sporting groups, and schools to promote safer road use across the District.
- 20 safety signs provided to 10 primary schools identified by PSNI as having parking issues. The signs are child-size characters with warning messages such as 'No Parking', 'Think Before You Park', and 'No Stopping', and 100% of schools reported improved awareness of school traffic dangers.
- Installation of SIDs; one in each of the seven District Electoral Areas, with data from them showing reductions in speed. This was a real positive outcome for the communities who requested them.



### 6.3 Strategic Priority Three – to support community confidence in policing

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Strategic priority three aims to improve confidence in policing through;

- monitoring police performance at Policing Committees, ensuring policing reflects priorities within communities and that they are meeting objectives set out in the Northern Ireland Policing Plan and Local Policing Plans;
- supporting engagement between PSNI and local communities, with an importance on targeting children, young people, at risk and disadvantaged communities; and
- building confidence in the rule of law by embedding a culture of lawfulness.

Throughout 2020/2021, PCSPs continued to monitor local police performances through Policing Committees. In total, there were 44 Policing Committee meetings held, across all districts. Most of these meetings were held virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions.

In line with Section 21 of the Justice Act (NI) 2011, Policing Committees should:

- Provide views to a relevant District Commander and to the Policing Board on any matter concerning the policing of the district;
- Monitor the performance of the police in carrying out –
  - The policing plan in relation to the district; and
  - The local policing plan applying to the district or any part of the district;
- Make arrangements for obtaining the co-operation of the public with the police in preventing crime and enhancing community safety in the district.

In monitoring policing performance against the Local Policing Plan, PCSPs also play a role in the PSNI's ability to report against the following measure within the Northern Ireland Policing Plan:

#### **Measure 3.1.1: In collaboration with the community deliver on the commitments outlined in the Local Policing Review.**

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The police recognise and value the voice of the community. By listening to the community a comprehensive programme of work has been identified and published in the Local Policing Review response which will change local policing.

A primary aim of strategic priority three is to improve confidence in local policing through key engagement work carried out between the NPTs and the community. Whilst the restrictions associated with COVID-19 impacted PCSPs' ability to fully facilitate PSNI engagement projects, a number of projects were delivered, with some delivered virtually.

**Ards and North Down PCSP** developed the **Advocate for Policing** project which included activities undertaken and supported by the PSNI and PCSP with the primary aim of building community confidence in the rule of law and embedding a culture of lawfulness. The programme sought to reach hard to reach teenagers and young people in partnership with statutory agencies across the Ards and North Down area. One activity was the **Building Stronger Citizens Programme**, a PSNI led personal development programme in some local schools with pupils aged 11 to 12 years old. Activities in St Columbanus' College included lessons on Anti-social Behaviour and Mental Health & Wellbeing. A mini sports day was unable to be delivered due to COVID-19 restrictions.

#### How much did we do?

- 140 participants from St Columbanus' College.

#### How well did we do it?

- 100% of pupils reported their satisfaction with the activities.

#### Is anyone better off?

- 100% of pupils reported increased confidence in PSNI and likelihood of engaging with them in the future.

Another activity that was delivered by Ards and North Down was **Game Locker**, a PSNI led gaming experience, which was estate based, for 12–14-year-olds. This initiative was aimed at developing positive relationships between the PSNI and young people from the Holywood and Peninsula area of Ards and North Down. The initiative assisted the community to develop relationships with disengaged youth, engage with young people to challenge their behaviours and lifestyle choices, build self-esteem and reduce ASB and drug/alcohol lifestyles. Young people attended events to play video games in tournaments or free play. Afterwards, local neighbourhood police officers had the opportunity to talk and engage with the children with regards to local policing issues; bringing the event to a close.

**Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP**, in the year 2020/2021, delivered activities under the theme **Engagement of Local Community and Police**. The purpose of these activities was to provide engagement opportunities for local geographic and thematic communities with the police. One example was the virtual Community Police Engagement Meetings held in Quarter two and Quarter four by Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP. These meetings were for localised issues or concerns and were designed to build trust and relationships between the local community and their Neighbourhood Policing Team. The virtual element of the meetings worked well and allowed for greater engagement. Across four meetings held in Quarter two, 103 people with 98% of participants reported satisfaction and having more confidence in the police. Across four meetings held in Quarter four, 99 people attended virtually with 100% of participants who replied to the survey reporting satisfaction with the meeting, and 96% reporting more confidence in the police.

#### **How much did we do?**

- Four meetings held in Quarter two with 103 people attending;
- Four meetings held in Quarter four with 99 people attending.

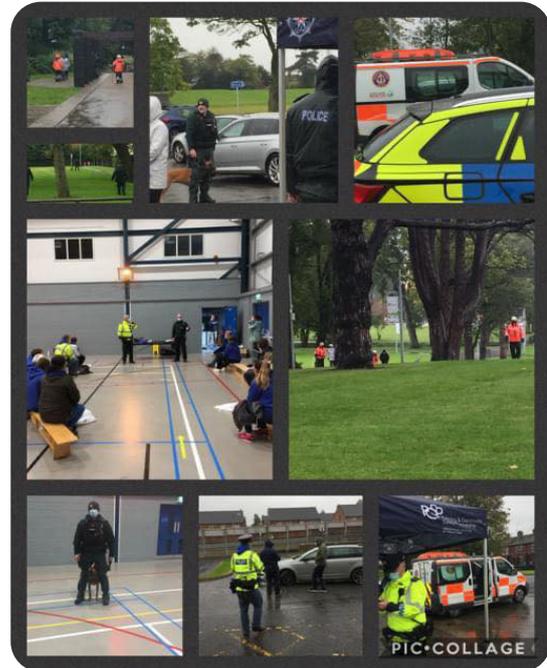
#### **How well did we do it?**

- 98% of people attending meetings in Quarter two reported satisfaction with meetings;
- 100% of people attending meetings in Quarter four reported satisfaction with meetings.

#### **Is anyone better off?**

- 98% of people attending meetings in Quarter two reported increased confidence in policing;
- 96% of people attending meetings in Quarter four reported increased confidence in policing.

Another initiative delivered by Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP was **“A day in the life of…”**. This project facilitated local emergency services including PSNI, Youth Justice Agency and Community Search and Rescue to simulate the various situations the police deal with daily. The initiative gave hard to reach young people the opportunity to experience the various situations the police deal with daily and gain an understanding of the many decisions and risk assessments they make to deal with each situation effectively. The morning session involved scenarios of anti-social behaviour, theft, criminal damage and a road traffic collision. The afternoon session was a simulation of a high risk missing person incident which involved Tactical Support Officers, Community Search and Rescue, and Dog Section.



The young people were enthusiastic in all the activities with one remarking: “Seeing the many resources it takes to look for a missing person, I could just be sitting in a friend’s house not realising how many resources are involved.”

### **Portadown Neighbourhood Policing Team Young Peoples Engagement Project**

was also implemented by Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon in partnership with the PSNI. The three-day project was also held in partnership with the Department of Justice Interfaces Programme and the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council with 24 young people participating. This small scale engagement project contributed to embedding a culture of lawfulness.

#### **How much did we do?**

- 24 young people.

#### **How well did we do it?**

- 100% reporting satisfaction with activity.

#### **Is anyone better off?**

- 100% happy to engage with police as a result of participation.

Other projects included **Santa's Safety Messages to Primary Schools** which included 12 schools with a total of 1,200 pupils. Primary school pupils across the 12 schools received an online visit from Santa and the Neighbourhood Policing Team Officers to deliver safety messages in relation to stranger danger, cycle safety and what to do if lost.

After some initial difficulties getting started due to COVID-19 restrictions, 400 burglary packs to victims and neighbours of victims of burglary were also delivered in partnership with Neighbourhood Policing Teams. The **Neighbourhood Policing Team Burglary Information Packs** were said by the PCSP to have been well received as an excellent engagement opportunity for the local NPT team.

**Belfast PCSP** launched their 'Conversation Piece' project to engage young people across the city in conversations about confidence in policing and embedding a culture of lawfulness. The public health crisis caused by COVID-19 meant that the delivery of this project was delayed; however, the delivery group (Extern NI), PSNI and PCSP Officers re-designed the project delivery and commenced the project in September 2020. PSNI officers participated in all delivery sessions and provided extremely positive feedback concerning their involvement in the project and stated that relationships with participants have positively changed.

#### How much did we do?

- 32 sessions delivered to 38 participants;
- Two Police Officers attended the sessions.

#### How well did we do?

- 100% of stakeholders indicated satisfaction with the project;
- 90% attendance rate overall.

#### Is anyone better off?

- 78% of young people improved their understanding of policing and a culture of lawfulness;
- 82% of young people more likely to engage with the PSNI in the future.

**Derry and Strabane PCSP**, as part of strategic priority three, organised 37 Community Safety Team/Forum meetings attended via Zoom and nine socially distanced engagement meetings. There were 46 engagement meetings between PSNI and the community, which included meetings with University officials and residents, road safety events, and meetings with WDACT (the Western Drug and Alcohol Coordination Team). Derry and Strabane PCSP also supported 33 projects that contributed to embedding a culture of lawfulness and good citizenship.

One project was the **Rainbow Child & Family Centre 'Friday Night Drop-in'**.

### How much did we do?

- 60 young people were engaged;
- 10 outdoor sessions were delivered on lockdown, school, mental health, social interaction, and other subjects;
- A 10 week online active citizenship programme was delivered.

### How well did we do it?

- 100% of participants indicated satisfaction with activities delivered;
- 92% completed activity.

### Is anyone better off?

- 85% of participants reported an increase in knowledge;
- 97% reported attitude improvement;
- 85% reported behaviour improvement.

Derry and Strabane PCSP continued to provide support to the Playhouse Theatre in Derry/Londonderry during 2020/2021 in their capacity as 'Project Supervisor', having assisted the theatre to secure funding from the Department of Justice

(DoJ) in 2018/2019 to commission short films for potential use as educational aids and conversation pieces, primarily in youth work settings, on sensitive issues. These included completion during 2020/2021 of a short film on Section 24, Schedule 3 of the Justice and Security (Northern Ireland) Act 2007, and the use of police 'stop and search' powers; to help dispel the myths around when and why stop and search powers are used.



With the Brandywell/Creggan one of the areas of Northern Ireland identified by the Executive Action Plan for Tackling Paramilitary Activity, Criminality and Organised Crime as having experienced continued paramilitary influence and coercive control, it is important that the PCSP support any initiatives to counter paramilitary activity and coercive control. Support for plays such as this by Derry and Strabane PCSP help to do this. In 2020/2021, Derry and Strabane PCSP, via the PCSP Chair, continued to make public condemnation of paramilitary style attacks; that paramilitary activity does not represent the interests of the community.

**Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP**, under the theme **Advocate for Policing**, delivered a programme of events to support community and police engagement and promoting community confidence in policing. In September 2020, five Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) Community Engagement events were held, and between 23 November 2020 and 11 December 2020 there were four engagement events with Neighbourhood Policing Teams and schools.

The schools that were engaged with were Roslea Playgroup, St Joseph's in Donagh, Brookeborough Primary School, and St Mary's in Newtownbutler.



Brookeborough Primary School – Erne East NPT did a series of engagement events with primary schools in the area in the run up to Christmas. The idea was to reengage with schools following lockdown periods where there was minimal contact with schools.



Neighbourhood Policing Team Community Engagement Events also included 'Pit Stops'. Pit Stops were held in community venues across Omagh to promote community engagement which was of particular importance as little to no organised activity such as this was held during lockdowns.

In addition to the examples above, the majority of PCSPs also report engagement events such as bike and trailer marking which are carried out by NPTs in both rural and urban areas. For example, **Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP**, in conjunction with Neighbourhood Policing Teams, held **trailer marking** events in August, September and



November 2020, with 48 trailers marked with a unique code to act as a deterrent to thieves targeting valuable farm machinery, with the codes stored on a database to help recover them if stolen. There was important engagement between police and rural communities; making a contribution to confidence in policing, with local police alive to crime, and the fear of crime experienced by farmers; living and working in more isolated areas.

### How much did we do?

- Three trailer marking events;
- 48 trailers marked.

### How well did we do it?

- Of the 30 attendees surveyed at the trailer marking, 100% were satisfied with the event.

### Is anyone better off?

- Of the 30 attendees surveyed at the trailer marking, 100% reported improved knowledge of crime prevention.

PCSPs also report initiatives such as Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and the work carried out by Multi-Agency Support Hubs under SP3.

During the 2020/2021 implementation year, 819 Neighbourhood Watch schemes were supported by PCSPs, covering 52,000 households across Northern Ireland. **Neighbourhood Watch** is a partnership between local communities, PSNI and PCSPs. Schemes are set up to address the concerns of local residents and improve the contact with the local police and the PCSP; raising awareness of crime and anti-social behaviour.



### Multi-Agency Support Hubs were

established in 2016 as part of the Problem-Solving Justice approach; helping vulnerable people get access to the right support at the right time, from the right organisations within their local area. (Organisations involved with Support hubs may differ depending on location). The aim was to have a Support Hub set up to align with each local council area. In 2020/2021 all Council areas in Northern Ireland had an operational Multi-Agency Support Hub apart from Belfast; however, a pilot in South Belfast commenced in May 2021. There is no lead agency for Support Hubs but the PCSP manager or team is usually involved in coordinating Support Hub meetings.

MULTI  
AGENCY | SUPPORT HUB

**Derry and Strabane** was the first PCSP to establish a Support Hub to share information and deliver tailored support to the most vulnerable in the community. The Hub is chaired by the PCSP Manager with PSNI, NIFRS, NIHE, Youth Justice Agency, PBNI, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS), EA, A&E, Adult Safeguarding, Children Safeguarding and Mental Health services all attending. Those considered most vulnerable included young people susceptible to paramilitary attack/influence, young people susceptible to organised crime gang influence, repeat victims of ASB, repeat victims of hate crime, older people subject to repeat incidents and repeat victims in general. Since its establishment in August 2016 the Support Hub has dealt with over 200 referrals.

### **Derry and Strabane's Multi-Agency Support Hub**

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#### **Key Outcomes**

- Held 11 meetings;
- 79% attendance by partner agencies;
- delivered 729 actions;
- discharged 49 of the referrals because their needs had been met;
- delivered significant benefits to the community with repeat missing persons (especially young people) showing a 37% reduction in missing person reports over a 12-month period when managed through the Hub, with estimated resource saving of approximately £616,500 per annum in dealing with missing persons.

# SUMMARY OF IMPLEMENTATION

This report highlights the breadth and diversity of initiatives and interventions that PCSPs managed to deliver; to create safer, shared and more confident communities during the period from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

With two lockdowns and restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic during this time, many traditional forms of PCSP activity became impossible. Whilst adhering to changing restrictions, PCSPs adapted and innovated along with all their partners, including PSNI; by finding new ways of engaging the public virtually, or redirecting funding where it could be most appropriately used. It is testament to the continued hard work of the PCSPs and their ability to be responsive; to adapt; and to work in partnership; that they were able to successfully deliver community safety initiatives to help address anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime; and contribute to the public's confidence in the PSNI within their local communities during this extremely challenging year.



# Policing & Community Safety Partnerships

making our community safer

Follow us on social media and find out more about PCSPs:

PCSPs are funded and supported by the Policing Board and the Department of Justice.



PCSPs work with a number of designated partners.



**Housing Executive**

