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PSNI Launch Engagement Vision

PSNI have officially launched 'Here for you' – the Police Service's Public Engagement Vision, as well as eight new hallmarks of neighbourhood policing.

The Chief Constable said the announcements were a sign of how far policing had come in terms of making the aspiration of

neighbourhood policing a reality for local communities across all of Northern Ireland.

Speaking about the announcements, the Chief Constable said:

"We know there is a real appetite for Neighbourhood Policing and it is now a reality and central to everything we do. The launch of this Public Engagement Vision, and the eight Neighbourhood Policing Hallmarks that underpin it, is a significant further milestone on our policing journey, marking not just how far we've come but also providing a blueprint for continuous improvement to the service we provide to the public.

"We've made a lot of progress in recent years in reducing crime and keeping people safe. Northern Ireland is now one of the safest places in the UK with some of the highest levels of trust and confidence in policing because of what the Police Service has achieved working together with local communities at a neighbourhood level.

"However, whilst we've achieved a lot, including taking record amounts of drugs off our streets, we know there is more to do. By investing in neighbourhood policing and engagement, alongside modernising our service, Police can more deeply embed the prevention and early intervention approaches that will be key to meeting the challenges of the future."

The Engagement Strategy sets out five key pillars to define PSNI's approach for policing with the community: Attraction and Recruitment; Engagement; Procedural Fairness; Effective Neighbourhood Policing; and, Local Accountability.

Underpinning the Effective Neighbourhood Policing pillar within the Public Engagement Vision are the eight hallmarks of neighbourhood policing:

The purpose of the hallmarks is to set a framework for a set of consistent, high-quality standards that local communities can expect of their Police Service with flexibility to develop an approach based on local needs and aspirations.

There are 8 Neighbourhood Policing Hallmarks:

**HALLMARK #1
Embedding the
Right Culture**

**HALLMARK #2
Engaging
Neighbourhoods**

**HALLMARK #3
Building Analytical
Capability**

**HALLMARK #4
Solving Problems**

**HALLMARK #5
Targeting Activity**

**HALLMARK #6
Accountability**

**HALLMARK #7
Developing Officers
and Staff**

**HALLMARK #8
Developing &
Sharing Learning**



Assistant Chief Constable for Local Policing and organisational engagement lead, Bobby Singleton said:

"Over the last number of years, we've been working closely with and listening to our local communities, partner organisations, elected representatives, Police and Community Safety Partnerships and the Northern Ireland Policing Board to understand what they want from their local police service. What they have consistently told us is that they need a police service that is visible in their communities, accessible, responsive when called upon, and is community-focused.

"Community safety is only possible through a partnership between police and our communities. Whether it's by providing better real-time data to problem-solve, improving local accountability, or embedding the right culture, our Public Engagement Vision sets out how we will ensure local communities feel a sense of ownership, trust and confidence in how we work together to keep people safe at a local level."

Voicing support, Policing Board Chair Doug Garrett said:

"The Board fully supports the need for continued investment in local neighbourhood policing teams, and the importance of listening to and engaging with the community in improving service delivery.

"We know through our work, and that of the Policing and Community Safety Partnerships, that communities want a service that is visible, engaged locally and is responsive to community issues and concerns. Policing in partnership with local communities and delivering local solutions to problems is central to maintaining and building confidence in the service. These hallmarks reinforce the commitment of the police to continue to improve the service delivered locally."

Cycling Safer

After noticing a rise of cyclists in their District, Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP decided the time was right to reach out and help ensure those taking to the roads on their bikes were well-educated on how to stay safe.

The PCSP worked with Cycling Ulster to help deliver training to cyclists and cycling clubs in the area, training local club leaders to be able to guide the people in their clubs to ensure they cycle safely.

Ten club leaders took the training and then pedalled what they'd learned back to their clubs, which means a lot more safer cycling!

Check out the top tips below



Scam Awareness Outreach

Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP regularly provides scam awareness and crime prevention presentations and training to community groups across the District, and try in particular to reach groups within the community who are often viewed as "hard to reach." One such group, Craigavon & Banbridge Deaf and Friendly Club were recent recipients of the training.

The PCSP worked in partnership with the Sensory Disability Team, Cherrytrees Resource Centre and SHSCT, who provided a BSL interpreter. As Billy, the PCSP Project Officer spoke, David, the Interpreter, signed the presentation to the group and spoke on their behalf whenever they needed to ask a question. While many scam awareness training sessions often focus on telephone scams, this particular presentation was tailored to the audience, focusing on text and email scams as well as handing out purse cables rather than the usual purse dipping bells.

The 20 Deaf and hearing impaired attendees were also given crime prevention and scam awareness literature to take home, with 100% positive feedback.

"This was excellent – it's the first time I've ever had a talk like this."

Attendee



 **20** attendees

 **100%** satisfaction

Billy Stewart, Project Officer with Craigavon & Banbridge Deaf Club

Disability Outreach

Members of the Carrick Learning Disability Forum received a talk on everything community from Mid & East Antrim Borough Council. The talk was delivered by two DEA Officers, Alison Kane and Vanessa Postle, and covered Good Relations, community development and planning, and the work of Mid & East Antrim PCSP.

The Carrick Learning Disability Forum gives people with a learning disability a chance to come together to work on making Carrick a great place to live in. Participants discussed key issues like feeling safe, getting the right support, and how they can get more involved in their local area.

People with disabilities are more vulnerable than others to experiencing bullying, harassment or hate crime. They have specific care and support needs and are at risk of suffering abuse and neglect.

Its important to remember that with the right support, most people with a learning disability in Northern Ireland can lead independent lives. To keep vulnerable adults safe we all need to ensure that organisations work together to protect adults at risk.



Participants and Council reps working together

Multi Agency Support Hub Success

Derry & Strabane PCSP is part of a multi-agency support Hub made up of 8 statutory partners designed to support the most vulnerable people in the community.

“It was brilliant to see the HUB work in practice yesterday. An exemplar of excellent collaboration.”

ACC Bobby Singleton

The PCSP Manager chairs the monthly meetings of the Hub, and the PCSP also provides a secretariat function. The Hub has seen real success across the District, with 12 meetings held over Q4 2021/22 and 52 referrals discharged due to their needs being met. The most recent meeting saw a visit from ACC Bobby Singleton, DoJ Permanent Secretary Richard Pengelly and Director of Safer Communities Mark Goodfellow to get to grips with how the Hub supports local people.



PCSP Manager Dermot Harrigan with ACC Singleton at the meeting

PCSP Annual Effectiveness Report 2020/21 Published

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 a rise in reported incidents of domestic abuse.

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.

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.



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

You can read about the key facts and figures of successful PCSP projects across Northern Ireland in the report here:

Policing Plan Telephone Survey Results Findings

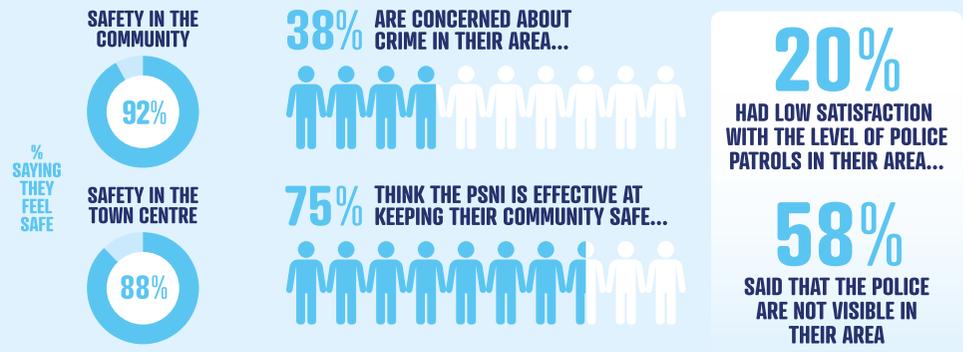
The Policing Board has published the finding from the Northern Ireland Policing Plan Telephone Survey. An official statistics publication, the survey focuses on the following 4 modules:

- Public Perceptions of the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI);
- Public Perceptions of the Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs);
- Public Perceptions of the Northern Ireland Policing Board (NIPB); and
- Public Perceptions of the National Crime Agency (NCA).

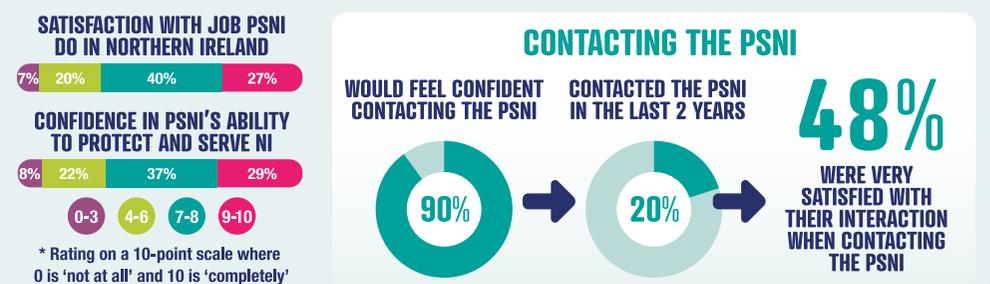
The aim of the survey is also to provide data to support analysis of the PSNI's performance against a number of measures in the Policing Plan, focusing primarily on:

- Number of people in Northern Ireland who feel safe in their local area, local high street or town centre and own home;
- Number of people in Northern Ireland who are confident that the PSNI is accessible, visible, responsive and victim focused; and
- Number of victims who are satisfied with the service they have received.

WE HAVE A SAFE COMMUNITY



WE HAVE CONFIDENCE IN POLICING



WE HAVE ENGAGED AND SUPPORTED COMMUNITIES



A telephone survey of 2510 adults was conducted with the aim to provide a deeper understanding of the public's view of policing in NI. The survey was conducted between the November 2021 - February 2022.

PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS



VR Safeguarding

62 schools across the Mid-Ulster area are to take part in a pilot lesson programme launched by non-profit organisation, 360 Skills for Life, giving students aged 10-14 access to a virtual reality world that brings safeguarding dilemmas to life. Funding for 55 schools to take part has come from the Police Service of Northern Ireland with the remainder funded by the local Policing & Community Safety Partnership.

Developed alongside the Police and NHS, this virtual reality based 'Skill City' and teacher led classroom learning plans will now allow schools in the pilot area to explore some of these challenging issues in a safe environment. Teacher led sessions facilitate discussions about how to avoid and if necessary, how to react to these situations.

The pilot lesson plans will cover the following topics:

- **Mental & Physical Wellbeing**
- **Personal Safety**
- **Drugs Alcohol & Tobacco**
- **What to do in an emergency**
- **Online Safety**
- **Friends & Family Safety & Wellbeing**

Statistics show that online child sexual abuse crimes, recorded by the Police Service, have jumped by over 80% in the last three years. From 2020-2021, 308 such crimes were reported, which shows a significant increase from the 2016-2017 figure of 178.

Also the numbers of alcohol-related offences where the victim was under 18 have risen by over the last five years by nearly 17%.

The Mid-Ulster area was selected as the site of the pilot programme and the programme has now been officially launched there. This pilot covers a large area including, Fivemiletown, Dungannon, Coalisland and some of Cookstown, encompassing 62 schools.

These schools represent a significant number of pupils and will provide sufficient experience to help inform any wider regional roll out the programme.

Joanne Gibson, Chief Inspector, Crime Prevention & Early Intervention Branch, Police Service Northern Ireland explained: "Access to this virtual reality world will provide an important platform to ensure our young people are educated across a wide range of key areas, with the ultimate aim of keeping them safe.

"Unfortunately we know that young people are witnessing criminality and will, at some point in their adolescence, find themselves in a challenging or unsafe scenario. We want to ensure they have access to immersive education around key safety concerns and have the knowledge and confidence to respond in a safe way."

Primary 6 and 7 Teacher from Howard Primary School Dungannon, Mrs Mitchell, said: "One of the children asked if we could do 360 again as soon as he came in the next morning which I think really highlights just how much the programme motivates the children."

Regional Workshops

The Policing Board and PSNI have been working on the development of a new Policing Committee (made up of PCSPs reporting template, which will assist Policing Committees in fulfilling their legislative role. In order to roll out these changes effectively, a series of workshops were run to provide more information on the reporting template.

The engagement events also gave PSNI an opportunity to brief PCSPs on the new PSNI Engagement Strategy, the development of Hallmarks and the Crime Prevention Strategy. Policing Board officials also provided PCSP members with a session on the role of Policing Committees and effective reporting.

“These workshops created a great environment to get to know one another better through effective engagement, and the sharing of best practice and current obstacles, helping PCSPs and PSNI to collaborate with the community and key stakeholders to secure greater confidence in policing and a greater awareness and appreciation of the role of the PCSP.”

Michael Atkinson
Policing Board Independent Member



ACC Bobby Singleton, North Belfast DPCSP Independent Member Grace Peacock, Policing Board Independent Member Janet Gray and South Belfast Education Authority's Barry Magee



Policing Board Vice Chair Tom Frawley, West Belfast DPCSP Independent Member Michael O'Hara, C/Supt Wendy Middleton, and North Belfast DPCSP Independent Member Ian McLaughlin



Policing Board Independent Member Michael Atkinson, Mid & East Antrim PCSP Independent Member Gillian Gordon, Antrim & Newtownabbey PCSP Political Member Julie Gilmour, and ACC Bobby Singleton

PUBLICATIONS

**Northern Ireland Policing Board
Business Plan 2022-2023**

**Perceptions of Paramilitarism
in Northern Ireland: Findings
from the Young Life and
Times Survey 2017 to 2020**

**Chief Constable's
Accountability Report
July 2022**

**Perceptions of Paramilitarism
in Northern Ireland: Findings
from the Northern Ireland
Life and Times Survey 2017
to 2020**

**Local Government
Annual Improvement
Reports 2021/22**

**PSNI Serious and
Organised Crime Strategy**

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.

