



Policing & Community  
Safety Partnerships

making our community safer



# Annual Effectiveness Report 2021-22



Department of  
Justice

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Northern Ireland  
Policing Board

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# 1. 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 is 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 several 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 the Strategic Priorities set by the Joint Committee which underpin all PCSP Action Plans.

The Strategic Priorities covering the period of 2021/2022 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 2021/2022 PCSP Effectiveness Report reflects the outworking of PCSP activities undertaken during the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. This period reflected the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic. While many of the disruptions from the first year had been mitigated or reduced, there were still some COVID-19 related difficulties in delivering projects. Furthermore, the consultation and development of Action Plans for 2021/2022 occurred during the first year of the pandemic and as such the impact of the pandemic was still evident. Several PCSPs retained some of the positive learning and changes to projects that were consequences of the pandemic and

lockdowns. Many found the delivery of virtual meetings and online webinars as alternatives to in person public events increased turnout.

With public events still limited during 2021/2022, engagement with the community by PCSPs continued to utilise social media platforms including Facebook and Twitter, to keep the public informed on the various initiatives in their area. Across all PCSPs, 24,162 people followed the PCSP Facebook pages, with a cumulative post reach of almost 3 million.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) remained a priority for all PCSPs. This priority was further underlined by the increase in ASB in 2020/2021 that was in part attributed to COVID-19 and reporting on pandemic issues.

Internet safety continued with increased importance due to the increased amount of time people spent online over lockdown with PCSPs providing resources to educate on various aspects of online safety.

During the 2021/2022 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. 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.

In the 2021/2022 reporting year PCSPs delivered a series of awareness and support initiatives for domestic abuse victims. With the impact of the pandemic still an important factor, with Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP predicting a rise in domestic abuse in the next year, based on their Turning the Curve exercise, PCSPs developed and continued a range of initiatives to tackle domestic and sexual violence. 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, home security programmes, farm watch and property marking. 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.

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, crime prevention events and Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.

The report aims to provide greater detail of the wide range of initiatives progressed by PCSPs throughout the 2021/2022 reporting year, but some of the cumulative PCSP outcomes are indicated below.

## **Partnership Working**

- Almost 200 PCSP meetings were held.
- Including 66 working or subgroup meetings.
- Over 500 PCSP events were held.

## **Engagement and Communication**

- Approximately 16,397 views of PCSP website pages.
- 24,162 Facebook followers across PCSP Facebook pages.
- 1,682 total Facebook posts.
- A post reach of almost 3 million.

## **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

- 234 diversionary initiatives provided.
- 7,987 participants taking part in diversionary initiatives.
- Approximately 26,000 'On Street' patrols by the Community Safety Wardens, Street Pastors, and similar programmes; engaging with members of the public on more than 47,000 occasions.

## **Drugs and Alcohol**

- 12 new RAPID (Remove all Prescription and Illegal Drugs) bins installed.
- 145,454 tablets removed via the RAPID bin scheme.
- 702 drugs and alcohol education/awareness events/workshops held across Northern Ireland with 12,478 attending.

## **Internet Safety**

- 46 Internet Safety Schemes provided across the districts.
- 3000 participants involved in online and in person internet safety awareness sessions.

## **Domestic Violence**

- Approximately 2,000 participants attending Domestic Violence awareness events; either online or in person (across a number of PCSPs);
- 1000 of the participants were Post Primary School Pupils.
- Almost 2,200 pieces of security equipment provided to potential or previous victims of Domestic Abuse.
- Almost 250 counselling sessions delivered to male victims of Domestic Violence.

## **Fear of Crime**

- 694 home security checks carried out.
- More than 6,100 pieces of home security equipment provided.
- 550 items were marked at 28 property marking events.
- 886 different 'Text Alerts' sent out (across a number of PCSPs).
- 789 Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in place across the districts.

## **Road Safety**

- 350 Road Safety Education sessions delivered.
- Almost 6000 Young People and 1500 Older People accessed training information or online guidance through PCSPs.
- Provided 105 static and 46 mobile Speed Indicator Devices (across all PCSPs).
-

## **Confidence in Policing**

- 58 Policing Committee meetings, 19 of which were public meetings.
- 281 PCSP Facilitated Community Engagement Events.
- 4000 attendees at PCSP Facilitated Community Engagement Events.
- 12 PSNI Campaigns supported.

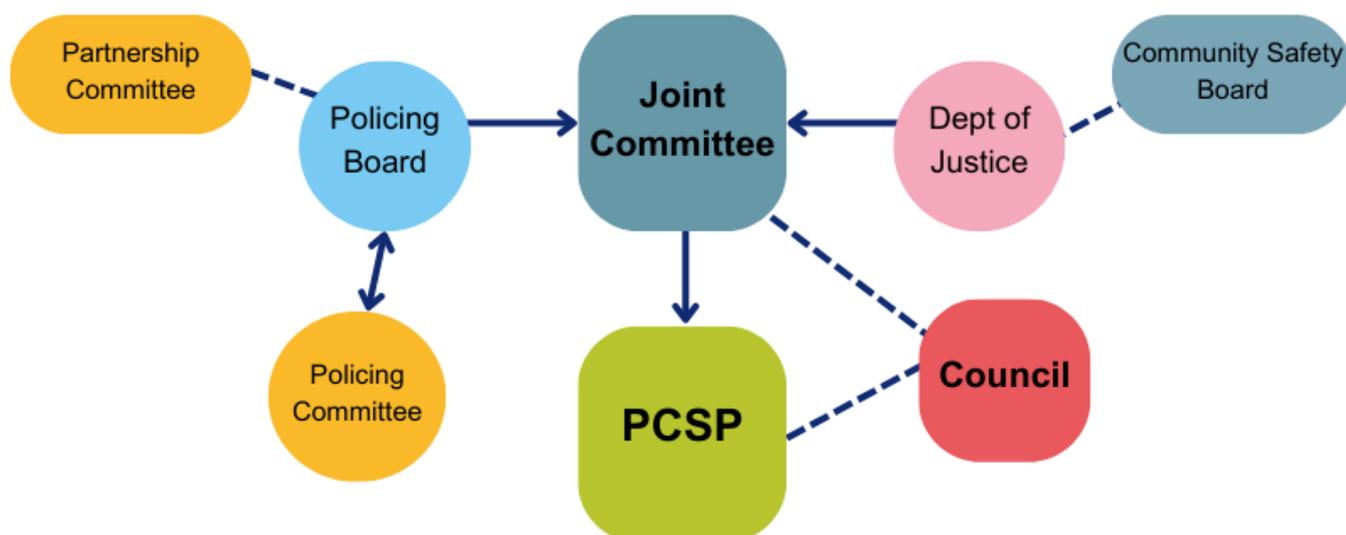
## 2. BACKGROUND

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 2021/2022 PCSP Action Plans, including project examples across the key thematic areas implemented.

The Action Plans produced by PCSPs for the 2021/2022 year were the third Action Plans produced using the 2019-2022 PCSP Strategic Reviews.<sup>1</sup> These Action Plans represented the final year of the strategic cycle.

### PCSP Model



<sup>1</sup> Causeway, Coast and Glens PCSP are the only PCSP operating outside of this three year cycle. The PCSP produced a new strategic review in 2020 following the reconstitution of its membership.

### **3. STRATEGIC FOCUS**

In line with the Guidance on PCSP Planning for 2019 – 2022, the Joint Committee agreed three PCSP Strategic Priorities to underpin all Action Plans, which in 2021/2022 were namely:

#### **Strategic Priority One**

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.
- Increasing PCSP awareness with the public and key stakeholders by planning communications activity to inform and promote the work of the PCSPs more proactively.

#### **Strategic Priority Two**

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 Three**

To support community confidence in policing through:

- 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'.

During the later part of the reporting year, and as part of the work to provide Planning Guidance for PCSPs which would assist with their next 3-Year Strategic Review, the Joint Committee reviewed and updated the three Strategic Priorities. The amendments were agreed as part of a targeted consultation and would shape the Action Plans for 2022 – 2025. Achievement and impact in relation to the revised Strategic Priorities will be reported in the 2022/23 Annual Effectiveness Report.

## 4. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

PCSPs spent 98% of Joint Committee funding by year end in 2021/2022, compared with 95.6% in 2020/2021. The 2021/2022 financial year provided a budget for PCSPs of just over £4.48m. This included a £2.86m contribution from the Department of Justice and a £1.62m from the Northern Ireland Policing Board, of which £234,000 was provided by the Policing Board for Meeting Expenses for Members.

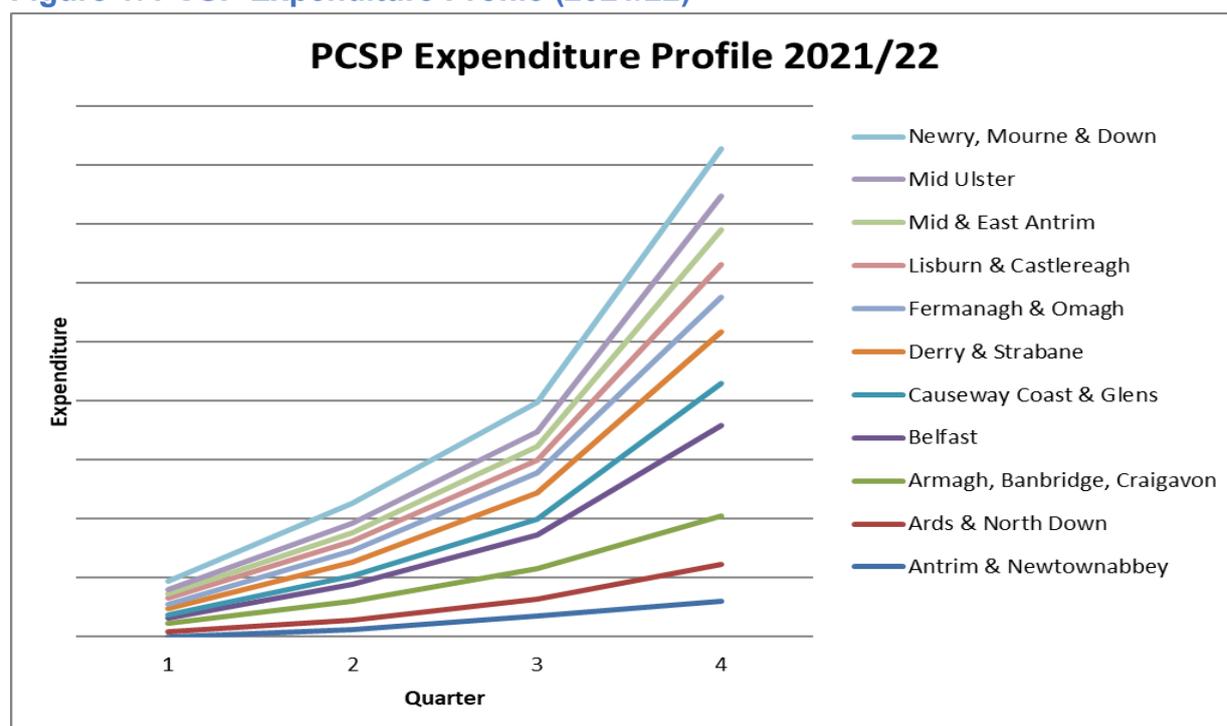
**Table 1: PCSP Budget 2021/2022**

Budget Line	Amount £	DoJ Contribution £	NIPB Contribution £
Administration and Operational	4,248,646.06	2,859,083.06	1,389,563.00
Meeting Expenses	234,000.00	N/A	234,000.00
<b>Total Budget (Admin, Operational and Meeting Expenses)</b>	<b>4,482,646.06</b>	<b>2,859,083.06</b>	<b>1,623,563.00</b>

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).

In implementing an annual budget, it is recognised that there can be a lead-in time for project implementation due to the need to carry out procurement for services. This can cause a delay in financial spend across the PCSPs. In addition, some of the prevailing barriers caused by COVID resulted in the majority of spend happening in quarter 4 as highlighted in the figure below.

Figure 1: PCSP Expenditure Profile (2021/22)



During 2021/2022 the majority of PCSPs have either met or come close to full expenditure in terms of Administration/Operational budget, as shown in **Table 2**. Total expenditure has remained at an equivalent level to the 2020/2021 operational year.

Table 2: Year-end expenditure - (Admin/Operational) 2021/2022 against 2020/2021

PCSP	2021/2022 Financial Year				2020/2021 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	303,540	(0.21)	100%	7,032	97.7%
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	317,834	307,654	10,180	97%	2,461	99%
<b>Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	412,722	411,416	1,308	100%	4,999	98.8%
<b>Belfast</b>	826,517	765,468	61,049	93%	215,763	74%
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	363,256	361,004	2,252	99%	3,538	99.0%
<b>Derry City and Strabane</b>	441,496	437,014	4,482	99%	0.08	100%
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	301,448	297,104	4,344	99%	1,852	99%

PCSP	2021/2022 Financial Year				2020/2021 Financial year	
	Admin & OP agreed budget	Expenditure	Underspend	% funding spent by year end	Underspend	% funding spent by year end
Lisburn and Castlereagh	275,115	269,116	5,999	98%	5,653	98%
Mid and East Antrim	314,532	302,305	12,227	96%	5,043	98%
Mid Ulster	284,198.	279,495	4,702	98%	15,308	95%
Newry, Mourne and Down	407,990	407,774	216	100%	5,273	99%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,248,649</b>	<b>4,141,890</b>	<b>106,759</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>259,890</b>	<b>96%</b>

In relation to meeting expenses, the ongoing pandemic resulted in a continued reduction in the number of meetings which took place in person. While some PCSPs began to use hybrid meetings during 2021/2022, many meetings continued to be carried out using online methods such as Zoom, resulting in a significant underspend on meeting expenses. In 2021/2022, there was an opportunity for PCSPs to surrender surplus meeting expenses as part of the January monitoring exercise. As a result of this exercise the meeting budget was reduced to £162,500 for the 2021/2022 financial year, as shown in **Table 3**.

**Table 3: Revised Meeting Expenses following Monitoring Return**

PCSP	2021/2022 Financial Year				2020/2021 Financial year	
	Meeting Expenses following monitoring return £	Expenditure £	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end
Antrim and Newtownabbey	13,000	11,400	1,600	54%	2,207.82	80%
Ards and North Down	10,000	7,260	2,740	73%	4,100.00	63%
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	9,000	6,540	2,460	73%	4,880.00	56%
Belfast	35,500	27,045	8,455	76%	3,399.31	87%
Causeway Coast and Glens	18,000	20,633	-2,633	115%	-3.40	100%
Derry and Strabane	14,000	13,500	500	96%	960.00	92%
Fermanagh and Omagh	9,500	10,028	-528	106%	1,445.80	87%
Lisburn and Castlereagh	16,000	10,674	5,326	67%	3,225.40	64%
Mid and East Antrim	12,000	14,198	-2,198	118%	2,461.16	78%

PCSP	2021/2022 Financial Year				2020/2021 Financial year	
	Meeting Expenses following monitoring return £	Expenditure £	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end
Mid Ulster	10,500	8,715	1,785	83%	3,345.82	74%
Newry, Mourne and Down	15,000	15,007	-7.00	100%	-2,134.26	116%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>162,500.00</b>	<b>144,998</b>	<b>17,502</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>23,887.65</b>	<b>83%</b>

In terms of the total budget (Admin/Operational and Meeting Expenses) which is shown in **Table 4**, the final position represents 98% of expenditure. This is an increase when compared with the previous year's total spend of 95.6%.

**Table 4 - Year end expenditure - Total budget (Admin/Operational & Meeting Expenses) 2021/2022 against 2020/2021**

PCSP	2021/2022 Financial Year				2020/2021 Financial year	
	Total Budget £	Expenditure £	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end	Underspend £	% funding spent by year end
Antrim and Newtownabbey	316,540	314,940	1,600	98%	9,240	97.0%
Ards and North Down	327,834	314,914	12,920	95%	6,561	98.0%
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	421,722	417,956	3,766	99%	9,879	98%
Belfast	862,017	792,513	69,504	92%	219,162	74.0%
Causeway Coast and Glens	381,256	381,637	-381.00	100%	3,534	99.0%
Derry and Strabane	455,496	450,514	4,982	99%	960	99.8%
Fermanagh and Omagh	310,948	307,131	3,817	99%	3,298	98.9%
Lisburn and Castlereagh	291,115	279,790	11,325	96%	8,879	96.9%
Mid and East Antrim	326,532	316,503	10,029	97%	7,504	97.7%
Mid Ulster	294,698	288,210	6,488	98%	18,654	93.7%
Newry, Mourne and Down	422,990	422,781	209.00	100.0%	3,139	99.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,411,149</b>	<b>4,286,888</b>	<b>124,261</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>290,809</b>	<b>95.6%</b>

## 5. 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.

In January 2021 there was a consultation on the Programme for Government draft Outcomes Framework. It was expected that a new PfG would be developed to replace the old draft 2016 – 2021 PfG. Within this consultation exercise the new outcome *'Everyone feels safe – we all respect the law and each other'* was proposed.

The DoJ Business Plan for 2021/2022 contains five key priority areas, or strategic drivers. The first of which is **'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.

## **6. IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

### **6.1 Strategic Priority One - to successfully deliver the functions of the Policing and Community Safety Partnerships for each area. (See page 9 for full text)**

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. Section 6.4 provides best practice examples of partnership working in the delivery of projects and initiatives.

Whilst Covid-19 continued to disrupt parts of society, the impact on PCSP work had lessened from the previous year. However, a level of disruption remained and most PCSPs continued to deliver meeting and engagement events online. One positive aspect of this continued shift was higher turnout from the public and PCSP members at public and private meetings. In line with the OBA approach, activities and achievements in terms of the functioning of the PCSPs can be reported as follows:

#### **How Much**

In total, the PCSPs have held:

- 196 PCSP meetings, many carried out virtually.
- 66 subgroup PCSP meetings.
- 11 training events/inductions for PCSP members.

#### **How Well**

Average attendance of 22 PCSP Members at private PCSP meetings.

- 101 attendees at public meetings.

## Better off

- 87% of PCSP members felt better 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 the impact of COVID-19 prevailing through the first half of the reporting year, 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 continued to gain in prominence for PCSPs. Messaging included key community safety themes, for example, drugs and alcohol, and road safety.

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.
- Community Safety Groups.
- ASB working groups.
- Rural crime events; and
- Thematic crime response networks.

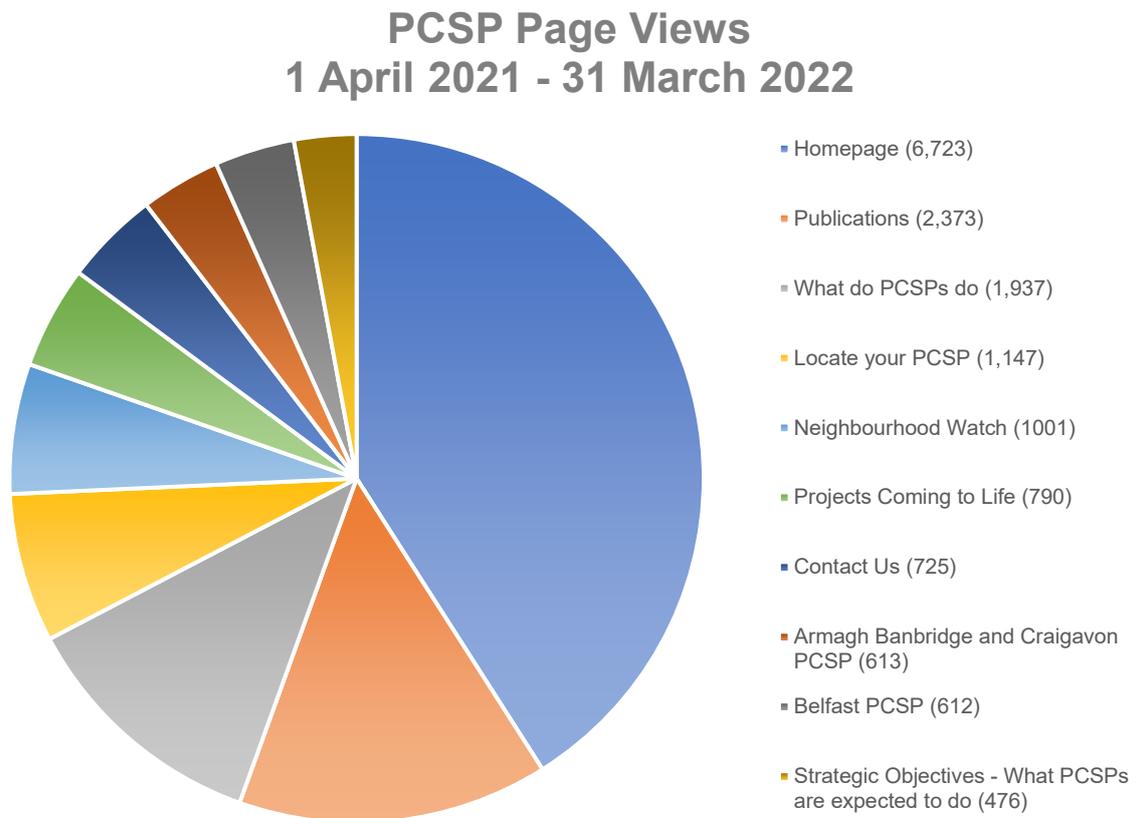
## Communication

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.
- Online webinars.
- Public events when COVID-19 restrictions allowed.

**Figure 2: PCSP website page views - 1 April 2021- 31 March 2022**



PCSPs continued to embrace the use of social media as a means to gain a greater reach.

**Table 5** details the number of followers on PCSP Twitter, as well as each PCSP Facebook page. Overall, there was an increase of 7% in 2021/2022 in the number of followers across both social media platforms.

**Table 5: Number of followers of PCSP Twitter and Facebook pages - April 2021 – March 2022**

PCSP	Number of followers	Number of followers	% Increase
	31/03/2021	31/03/2022	1/4/2021 – 31/03/2022
PCSP Twitter	2861	2983	1%
PCSP Facebook	2110	2652	2%
Antrim and Newtownabbey	1954	2186	5%
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	4384	4825	2%
Belfast	1618	1841	3%
Derry and Strabane	1026	1408	7%
Fermanagh and Omagh	831	1367	17%
Lisburn and Castlereagh	580	692	8%
Mid and East Antrim	835	1034	6%
Mid Ulster	542	818	24%
Causeway Coast and Glens	1619	1917	6%
Newry, Mourne and Down	2112	2439	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,472</b>	<b>24,162</b>	<b>7%</b>

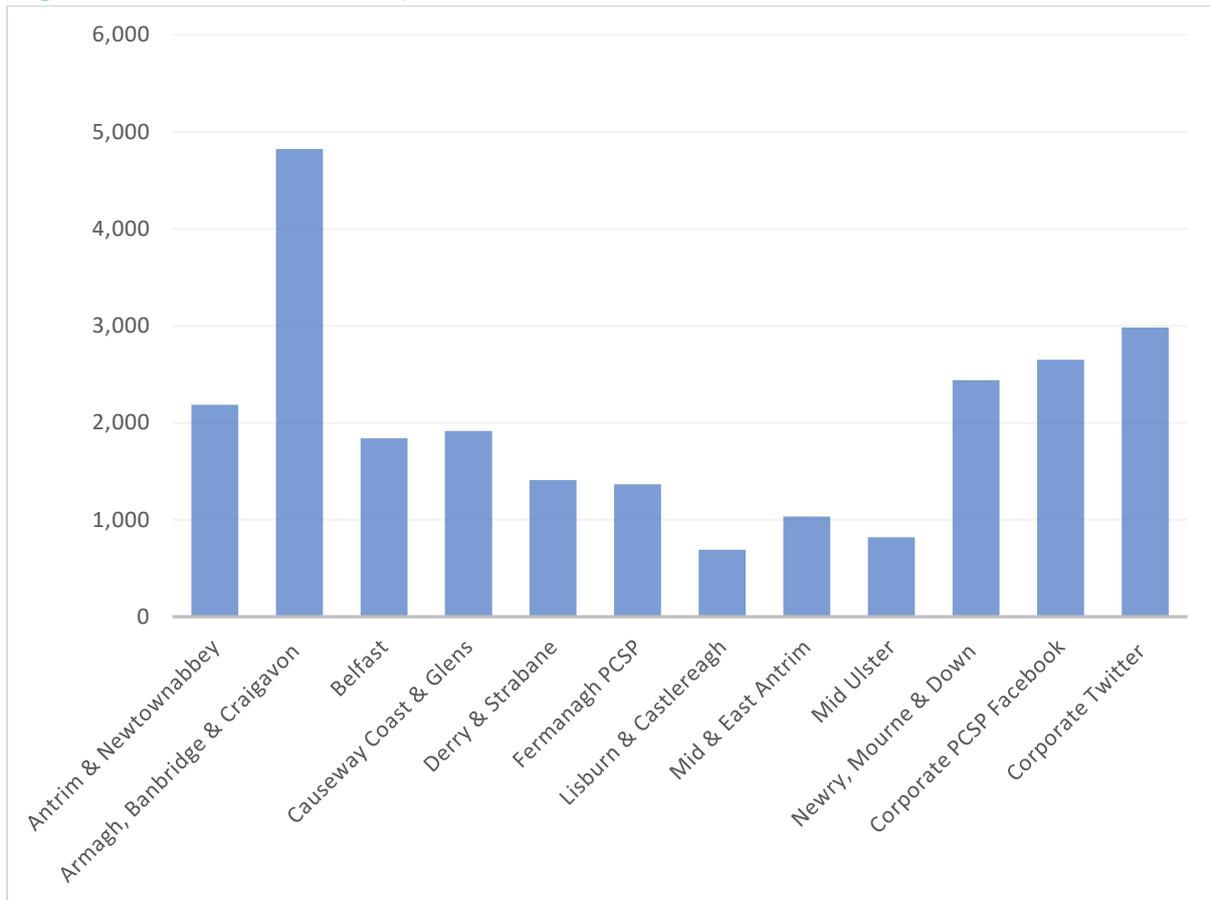
**Note:** Ards & North Down figures not available

**Figure 3** 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 24,162.

**Figure 3: 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.**

**(See page 9 for full text)**

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 2021/2022 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 2021/2022, 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 2021/2022, as shown in **Table 6** below.

**Table 6: PCSP thematic areas 2021/2022**

Action Plans by Theme 2021-22	Alcohol	ASB	Bee Safe Scheme	Burglary	Business / Retail	CCTV	Criminal Justice Worker	Child Sexual Exploitation	Domestic Abuse	Drugs	Drug Bins	Educational	Elderly	Fire Safety	Graffiti	Hate Crime	Home Security	Intergenerational	Internet Safety / Cyber	Neighbourhood Watch	Night Time Economy	Participatory Budgeting	Road Safety	Rural Crime	Scams / Fraud	Support Hub	Tackle paramilitarism	Text Alert	Vulnerable	Youth Engagement/Council	Wardens
Antrim & Newtownabbey		x	x		x			x	x		x						x		x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Armagh Banbridge & Craigavon	x	x		x	x			x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Ards & North Down	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
Causeway Coast & Glens	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x		x	x			x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
Derry & Strabane	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x			x	x		x	x			x	x	x				x	x	x
Fermanagh & Omagh	x	x	x					x	x	x			x	x			x			x		x	x	x	x	x			x		
Lisburn & Castlereagh	x	x		x	x			x	x		x						x			x		x	x	x				x	x	x	x
Mid & East Antrim	x	x			x	x		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	x	x			x	x	x	
Newry Mourne & Down	x	x						x	x	x	x	x	x				x			x	x		x	x	x	x			x	x	x
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>

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

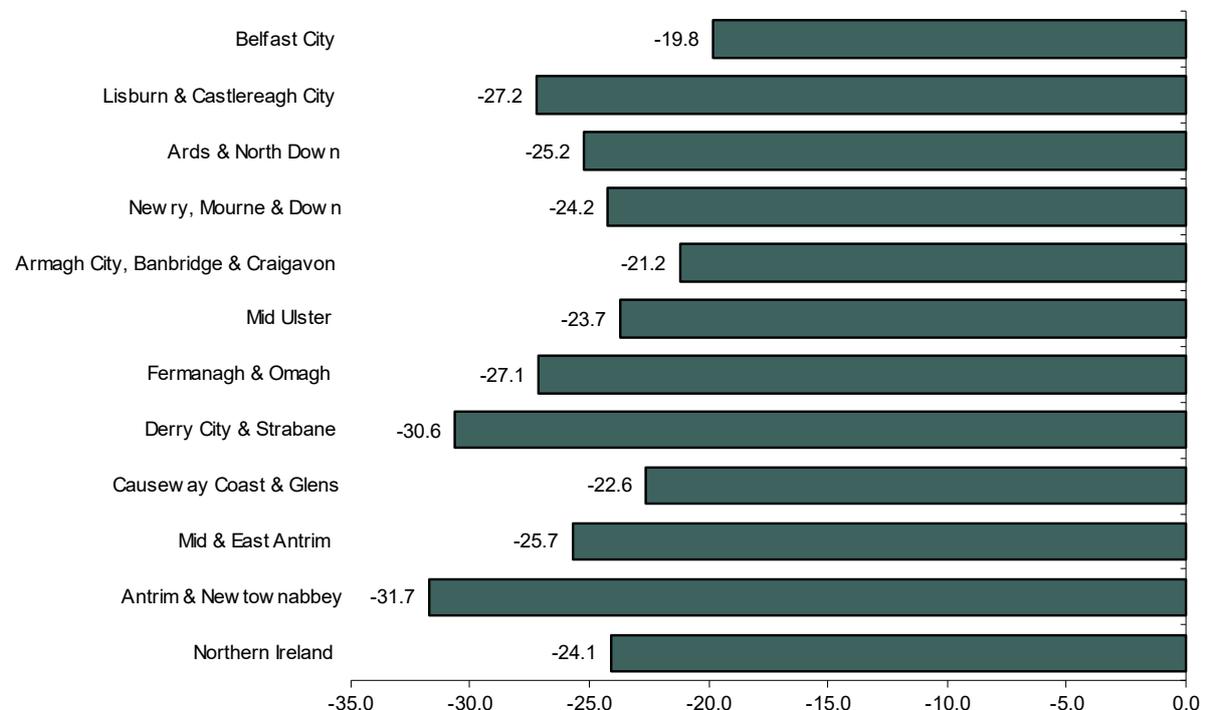
Strategic Priority two places a firm focus on ensuring that PCSPs are tackling anti-social behaviours across the districts.

## 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.

At a regional level, incidents of ASB substantially decreased during the reporting year and **Figure 4** indicates that this was the case in all of the 11 council areas/Policing Districts.

**Figure 4 - Anti-social behaviour incidents recorded by police in the 12 months to 31 March 2022 compared with the previous 12 months: percentage change by policing district.**



1 PSNI Key Statistics for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 (Published 12 May 2022)

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.

Some of the decrease may be due to the very steep increase in the previous reporting period, which had been significantly impacted by the closure of leisure facilities and the cancellation of many activities due to COVID. Interventions under ASB can be grouped under the following actions:

- Education/awareness raising.
- Diversionary initiatives/ Direct Interventions

## **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, the ongoing impact of COVID-19 led to some planned public events being cancelled. PCSPs were able to deliver a limited number of ASB education/awareness programmes. For example:

Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP delivered the B.E.A.T Programme (Be Educated, Be Active, Be Together) during the summer period. The B.E.A.T project is primarily a youth intervention programme that takes place in targeted areas where ASB is an ongoing issue focusing on educational activities in a fun and safe environment and is offered to young people aged 11 and over. Some of the educational information is provided from local statutory representatives such as PSNI and NIFRS. As well as this the young people are often offered other fun activities that directly link to evidence of their positive behaviour as the programme is designed to incentivise positive behaviour rather than rewarding the negative.

Mid Ulster PCSP provide Youth Engagement Programmes (YEPs) in partnership with PSNI & Education Authority. The programme focuses on educational workshops for young people, ultimately to prevent potential future incidents of ASB. The best practice example on page 27 provides further detail and outcomes for this project.

Fermanagh & Omagh fund the Bee Safe initiative, this programme is focused on primary school pupils, providing early intervention and educational videos &

workbooks to provide a wealth of age-appropriate information on various safety topics. The best practice example on page 28 provides further detail and outcomes for this project.

Lisburn & Castlereagh fund the Dream Scheme Initiative operating in the Dundonald and Castlereagh area and have established strong relationships with local communities and schools in the area. The programme offers a Friday night support group to mentor individuals and enable young people to start a journey of change from a pattern of destructive behaviour to being motivated and involved in developmental and educational activities.

Newry, Mourne & Down fund the Respect Project, a sports-based project in areas where residents have raised concerns of alleged ASB. Despite the activities being sports based, the project also has an educational element, focusing on raising awareness of safety in communities, building rapport with PSNI, respecting residents, teaching children the consequences of getting involved in ASB and improving the capacity of the local community to help support change. The project delivered 4 programmes, made up of 24 sessions and 120 young people, 80% of participants reported an increased awareness of risk and anti-social behaviours.

## Best Practice Example: Education – Awareness – Early Intervention

Mid Ulster PCSP

**Project Name:** Youth Engagement Programmes (YEP)

**Project Partners:** PSNI & EA Youth Service

**Funded Amount:** £26,562.84

**Description of Project:** a successful programme designed to engage with, divert and deter young people from ASB in local hotspots and target areas/times. The programme delivers educational workshops to young people focusing on various topics such as drugs and alcohol & mental health ultimately to direct away from potential incidents of ASB.



The YEP initiatives have demonstrated positive increases in awareness of the educational topics and also demonstrated a behavior change in the participants. Feedback from partners state that the programme is making a discernible difference to those participating in the programme but also to their wider community.

### How Much

6 YEP started involving 66 young people.

### How Well

- 88% of youth assessed their participation as positive.
- 100% completed YEP.

## Better Off

- 89% increased awareness of drugs, mental health and ASB.  
71% of participants with improved attitude towards police.
- 100% more likely to engage with PSNI and report crime.

## Best Practice Example: Education – Awareness – Early Intervention

### Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP

**Project Name:** Bee Safe

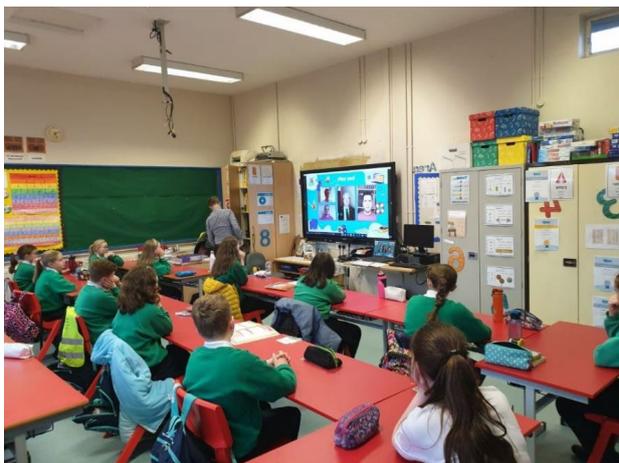
**Project Partners:** PSNI; ANBC Environmental Health  
Department; NIFRS

**Funded Amount:** £6,379



**Description of Project:** Delivery of BeeSafe event in new format, utilising the previously produced videos on various different safety topics.

Contact was made with all primary schools in the Antrim and Newtownabbey area, offering the opportunity of staff from either PCSP; PSNI; NIFRS or Antrim and Newtownabbey Council, to come directly into the school and deliver the BeeSafe



topics (with option to personalise depending on the school location / requirements) within the P7 classroom.

Utilising the videos and workbooks developed as an adaptive response to COVID impact, the full suite of topics was able to be delivered to pupils over a 2.5-3-hour period. Any concerns around the spread of COVID; mixing of

large numbers of children from different schools in a central venue etc were able to be assuaged.

Both delivery methods have their merit and there is no doubt that pupils and teachers do enjoy the coming together and buzz that exists at the traditional style of BeeSafe,

however, all equally commented that this created a relaxed and safe environment, pupils were engaged and asked lots of questions and the workbooks provided a great opportunity to follow up afterwards, revisit some topics to reinforce learning and also enable pupils the opportunity to raise and discuss some of the points at home with parents / carers.

### How Much

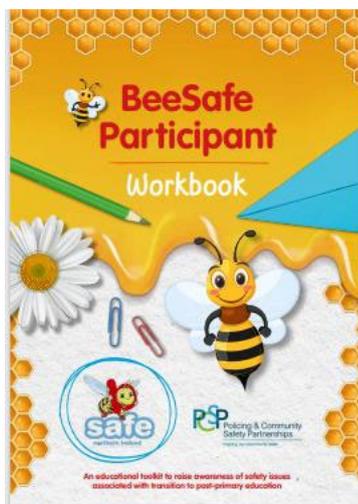
- Bee Safe was delivered in 49 schools with all schools receiving 6-7 topics (except for the Special Schools, for whom 3 main topics were delivered).
- 1152 pupils participated in Bee Safe 2022.

### How Well

- 1078 (93.6%) of participants were satisfied with the content delivered through BeeSafe.

### Better off

- 100% of participants have an increased knowledge of community safety issues.



## Diversionsary and Direct Interventions

Another essential element to tackling ASB is the use of both diversionary and direct interventions, all 11 of the PCSPs encompassed one or both of these types of ASB interventions over the 2021/2022 period. Diversionary activities often involve the most at risk young people who may be on the cusp of carrying out ASB to try and divert their behaviour into more positive actions. Direct interventions are often carried out in well-known ASB hotspot areas to identify potential perpetrators of ASB and help to redirect

their behaviour. In total, 234 diversionary initiatives were provided with 7987 participants taking part.

Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP funded a number of diversionary ASB initiatives, one of which was the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) project in partnership with Neighbourhood Renewal & Community and Sports Development in Council. The project delivered sports sessions in 18 venues over a period of 12 weeks to divert local young people away from ASB. A total of 438 hours of diversionary activity delivered for 769 participants, 65% of participants said they were diverted away from ASB because of their participation. A local youth worker who was involved in the programme provided the following feedback *“the sessions for the teenage age group had definitely made an impact in decreasing anti-social behaviour in the village - as most of the young people are attending for the activity sessions and not just hanging around. Matthew also mentioned that a few of the boys have now joined the local football team as a knock on from attending the MUGA sessions.”*

Another diversionary project ran by ABC PCSP was the Callan River project which was created in response to community concerns about young people being involved in ASB and risk-taking behaviour in a hard-to-reach area of Armagh. The project delivered two 4-week programmes in partnership with Education Authority, Good Relations/Community Development and Neighbourhood renewal sections in the council. Various topics were covered in the first programme including ASB, drugs & alcohol, road safety, youth justice and PSNI, sport, gaming bus, bubble football and first aid. The second programme covered suicide prevention, social media, gaming bus and sports. In total across both programmes 267 young people attended with 95% of participants with changed circumstances as a result of taking part in the activities.

ABC also worked with Magheralin Community Association to run an Art Project in Clarendon Park which was previously used as a bonfire site but has



since been refurbished into a grass area for children to play. Local residents had reported ASB near the park as it still had not been officially opened. Together

Magheralin and the PCSP worked with a group of young people to create artwork for the new park, 10 young people participated with 100% of participants & 100% of partners reporting satisfaction with the activities.

Antrim & Newtownabbey continued to carry out effective engagement with young people in identified areas through their High-Risk Youth Intervention Programme. The programme engaged some of the most at risk young people in activities that covered a range of issues such as ASB, drug & alcohol abuse, bullying, healthy relationships, citizenship and employability skills. The programme also encouraged the young people to consider the causes and consequences of criminal behaviour through mentoring and exploring core values. 21 young people were engaged in the programme and participants expressed that they were less likely to engage in ASB as a result of participating in programmes.

Ards and North Down completed a couple of diversionary based projects across the period, the Sports Leadership Programme was implemented to reduce ASB by involving sport. A total of 18 sessions of diversionary and detached youth work was delivered to 54 participants, 100% of participants were satisfied with the programme and 80% recorded increased awareness of the consequences of ASB. Another project was the ASB Youth Engagement Scheme ran in partnership with North Down YMCA. The project delivered 12 detached youth work sessions involving 45 young people who were diverted to the youth hub and other youth facilities due to previous behaviours. 100% of those engaged had increased knowledge of the effects of ASB and 84% had a changed attitude.

Direct intervention initiatives often involve Community Safety Warden Schemes including Feet on the Street and Street Angels/Pastors as a means of dealing with local ASB, more details of these initiatives are included in the relevant section on page 40.

Mid and East Antrim PCSP continue to fund the Detached Youth Worker Programme ran by the YMCA as a direct intervention project. The YMCA deployed qualified youth workers to ASB hot spot areas where young people may feel detached or marginalised from the mainstream youth provision. A total of 2068 young people were actively engaged by YMCA Detached Youth Workers across the MEA district.

Causeway Coast & Glens PCSP, as part of their large grant allocations, funded the Glens Youth Club who worked together with young people, elderly people and ex-offenders to produce a story book that delivered key ASB messaging. The best practice example on page 34 provides further detail and outcomes for this project. Another direct intervention ran by this PCSP is the Graffiti Removal Scheme to help maintain a graffiti-free environment throughout the district. In total 27 pieces of graffiti were removed with 100% of referrals actioned within 48 hours.

Lisburn and Castlereagh have continued to run their Youth Council as a means to hear young people's voice on a variety of issues in the local area including ASB. The membership has increased to *24 young people* who work in partnership with the PSNI, Education Authority and the Council.

## **Best Practice Example – Divisionary (including Emerging Needs)**

### **North Belfast DPCSP**

**Name of Project:** North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership – Responding to Emerging Needs Project 2021-22

**Project Partners:** PSNI, Nexus NI, BEAM Creative Network, St John Ambulance

**Funded Amount:** £23,096.53 (10 projects)

**Description of Project:** This project supported North Belfast DPCSP Members to work with local communities to identify and address emerging community safety needs which are not the responsibility of other structures. Utilising an off the shelf delivery model for activities for groups which tackle a particular community safety need.

This project supported groups working in North Belfast, focusing on engaging young people who might be at risk or vulnerable to engaging in ASB or other risk-taking behaviours. It encouraged young people to become involved in activities that support the positive use of their time as well as focusing on their personal and social development and addressing specific community safety need identified by the group.

The community safety need identified by the group may include: ASB, interface issues, drug & alcohol awareness, road safety, positive mental health etc.

### **Diversiónary Project**

This element of the funding supported a 10-week project, 2 x 2hr sessions per week with up to 20 participants to help address the community safety need identified by the delivery group.

#### **Diversiónary Projects Delivered**

1. North Belfast Diversiónary Project – Ardoyne Youth Club
2. North Belfast Diversiónary Project – Ardoyne Youth Enterprise
3. North Belfast Diversiónary Project – Building Bridges Community Boxing Club
4. North Belfast Diversiónary Project – Limestone Utd
5. North Belfast Diversiónary Project – City Belfast
6. North Belfast Diversiónary Project – Springfield Star FC

### **Emerging Needs Projects**

This element of the funding supported North Belfast DPCSP to work with groups to deliver specific bespoke projects of Emerging Needs within the North Belfast Community.

#### **Emerging Needs Projects Delivered**

1. North Belfast Emerging Needs First Aid - North Belfast Detached Partnership
2. North Belfast Emerging Needs Community Sport Support Hub – Community Sports Network
3. North Belfast Emerging Needs The Big Sister Project – Tackling Awareness of Mental Health Issues (TAMHI)
4. North Belfast Emerging Needs The Shankill Community Safety Programme – Lower Shankill Community Association

#### **How Much**

- 10 projects.
- 229 participants.

- 158 sessions.
- 30 Essential First Aid Certificates attained.
- 500 Posters produced Young People Emergency Action & Contacts.
- 5,000 Cards produced Young People Emergency Action & Contacts.
- 4 Videos produced Young Women's Safety.

### How Well

- 93% 214/229 reporting satisfaction in the activities.

### Better Off

- 94% 215/229 Participants with improved awareness, knowledge or understanding of community safety issues.
- 87% 119/229 Participants with changed attitudes/opinions including more likely to report a crime.
- 92% 200/217 Participants with changed behaviours including more likely to engage with police.

## Best Practice Example – Direct Intervention

### Causeway Coast & Glens PCSP

**Name of Project:** The Glens Youth Club (funded through Large Grant Scheme)

**Funded Amount:** £4,994.00

**Description of Project:** The PCSP funded this community organisation who wanted to help tackle ASB by facilitating talks between young people, elderly people and ex-offenders with the ultimate goal of producing a story book. The participants were residents from the Glens estate & Glens Community Association who worked together to produce the story book called 'A Hog's Tale' that delivered key messages around ASB.

### How Much

- 17 direct sessions.
- 2 partnership sessions with Drive.

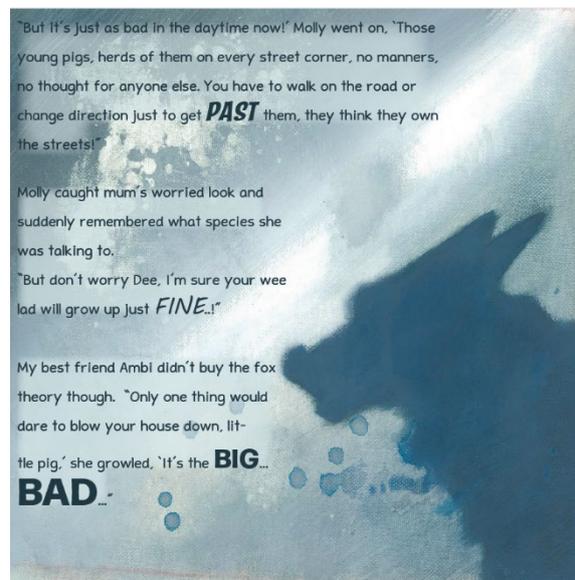
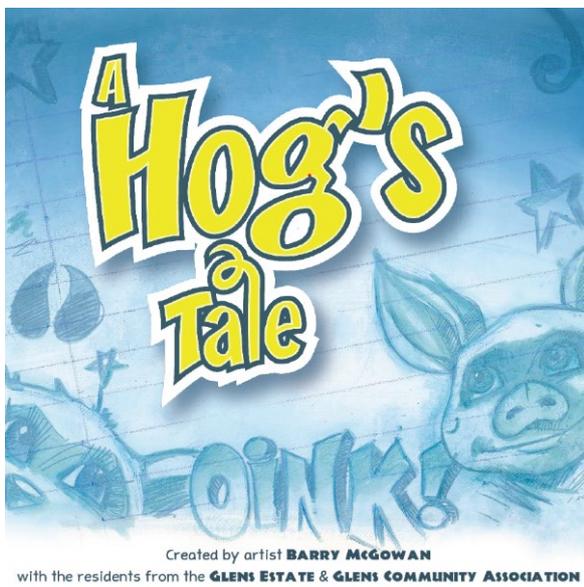
### How Well

- 13 young people engaging on programme.

- 10 elderly people engaging on programme.
- 4 ex-offenders engaging on programme.
- 80-100% attendance rate of all participants.

### Better Off

- 100% reduction of perceived levels of ASB in the area.
- 100% of local community users who now feel safe coming and going through the local area at night.
- 400 story books produced.
- 325 of story books delivered to local residents (Glens has 325 houses) rest given out at launch.



### Best Practice Example – Direct Intervention

Derry and Strabane PCSP

**Name of Project:** Muse Counselling & Wellbeing Support Service – “Pathways to Change”

**Funded Amount:** £6,245.76

**Project Partners:** Probation Board for NI, PCSP, PSNI, Youth Justice Agency, NI Prison Service, NIACRO, Start 360, Extern, Men's Action Network, EANI, local community groups.

**Description of Project:** MUSE applied to the D&S PCSP to provide psychotherapeutic support to 30 individuals, families or couples who are or at risk of being involved in crime related behaviour. This cohort of people is often marginalised within communities and are thus less likely to seek support. From their experience people that are or at risk of being involved in crime related activity don't understand why they behave the way in which they do and don't know how to break the cycle of their behaviour. Through offering the following services, MUSE intended to give these people the opportunity to make life changing decisions:

1. One to one psychological therapeutic support to adults (this will support adults in understanding the origin of their behaviour, explore victim impact, substance misuse, negative peer association, adverse experiences, self-awareness /growth and transgenerational influences).
2. Rehabilitation Support (rehabilitation post custodial sentence or while under a probation order to explore life changes after serving a custodial sentence or serving a probation order, explore negative peer association, impact to family self and others, self-awareness and healthy decision making)
3. Couples counselling (support couples in exploring positive communication, healthy decision making and the impact of criminal behaviour on children/young people)
4. Family therapeutic support sessions to families (support families with healthy communication, responsibility management and understanding/supporting each other)
5. Psychoeducation on the psychological impact (victim impact)

MUSE agreed to offer the service to 30 individuals, families or couples. An initial assessment was carried in order to identify whether the best service would be to the individual, family or as a couple. MUSE place a strong



emphasis on the physical, emotional and psychological impact on children. Therefore, the group feel that the success of this work will have a positive indirect support to children who have been affected by a family members being involved in criminal related behaviour.

### How Much

- 91 counselling sessions delivered with 82 individuals availing of the service.

### How Well

- 100% (#82/82) satisfaction rate.
- 100% (#82/82) attendance rate.

### Better Off

- 79% (#65/82) skills/knowledge improvement.
- 71% (#58/82) behaviour improvement.
- 90% (#74/82) circumstance improvement.



## Small Grants Schemes

Most of the PCSPs launched a Small Grant Scheme over the 2021/2022 period, these projects can cover a range of local community issues but often ASB forms the biggest percentage of this. It is important that support is given to the local organisations to take forward their own initiatives in their own areas as they know the individuals and can tackle ASB from a different perspective.

Derry and Strabane PCSP allocated almost £200,000 between 26 different projects under its small project support scheme with Tackling Anti -Social Behaviour one of the biggest initiatives. They were also able to support a number of Local Growth Partnerships to deliver community safety initiatives on topics including ASB, domestic abuse, hate crime, drug and alcohol abuse, providing alternatives to bonfires and delivering intergenerational and diversionary initiatives in those areas where it was most needed.

Lisburn and Castlereagh's Small Project Support Programme also continued to focus on anti-social behaviour projects which were delivered across the council area. This

resulted in 15 projects being awarded approx. £63,000 with 834 young people benefitting from the becoming involved in these diversionary activities.

Newry, Mourne and Down funded 45 projects through their Small Grant Scheme with a total value of approx. £82,000.



Ards and North Down publicly advertised their Small Grants Programme seeking applications from local groups specifically supporting projects that addressed ASB in hotspot areas. In total, 7 projects reached the agreed threshold score to receive funding with a total funding of just short of £30,000. Below are the successful projects and some of their outcomes.

### **Midnight Soccer Youth Development Programme**

#### **Portavogie Rangers**

An ASB diversionary programme delivering 12 sessions to 57 participants with 4 parents helping and achieving a 59% programme satisfaction and a 100% in increasing awareness of the effects of ASB.

#### **It's Your Move**

#### **Peninsula Youth for Christ**

ASB diversionary programme including engagement, signposting, and training 13 sessions completed with 171 young people. 100% of participants satisfied. And 52% showing changing behaviours.

#### **Sport for Change**

#### **North Down Cricket Club**

ASB project delivering 16 sessions to 300 young people who reported 100% increased awareness of ASB.

#### **Hollywood Family Trust – Outreach Project**

#### **Hollywood Family Trust**

A detached youth work project delivering 64 outreach sessions/ Instagram posts, to 130 young people.

100% of participants satisfied and 100% reporting increased awareness of ASB.

### **Greater Aurora YEP**

#### **North Down YMCA**

Detached youth programme delivering 51 sessions with 57 participants. 97% reporting satisfaction and 91% increasing awareness of the effects of ASB.

### **Links**

#### **Comber YfC**

Diversions project delivering 73 sessions with 191 participants. 50% satisfied and 100% reporting increased awareness of ASB.

### **Sow, Grow, Stay and Chill**

#### **Kilcooley Primary School**

Early intervention gardening project for primary pupils involving 151 children. 95% of participants reported an increased awareness of the consequences of ASB.

Combined, these 7 projects supported a total of 251 sessions to over 1057 young people from the borough. Through all the programmes delivered there was an average of 84% increase in knowledge and change in the attitudes of the young people involved in ASB.

## **Community Safety Wardens, Street Angels & Street Pastors**

As anti-social behaviour continues to be a key issue of concern amongst all 11 council areas, the PCSPs continue to work in partnership with Community Safety Wardens, Street Angels and Street Pastors to help address levels of ASB, particularly in hotspot areas.

Eight of the Eleven PCSPs have continued to implement some form of warden scheme including street angels and street pastors.

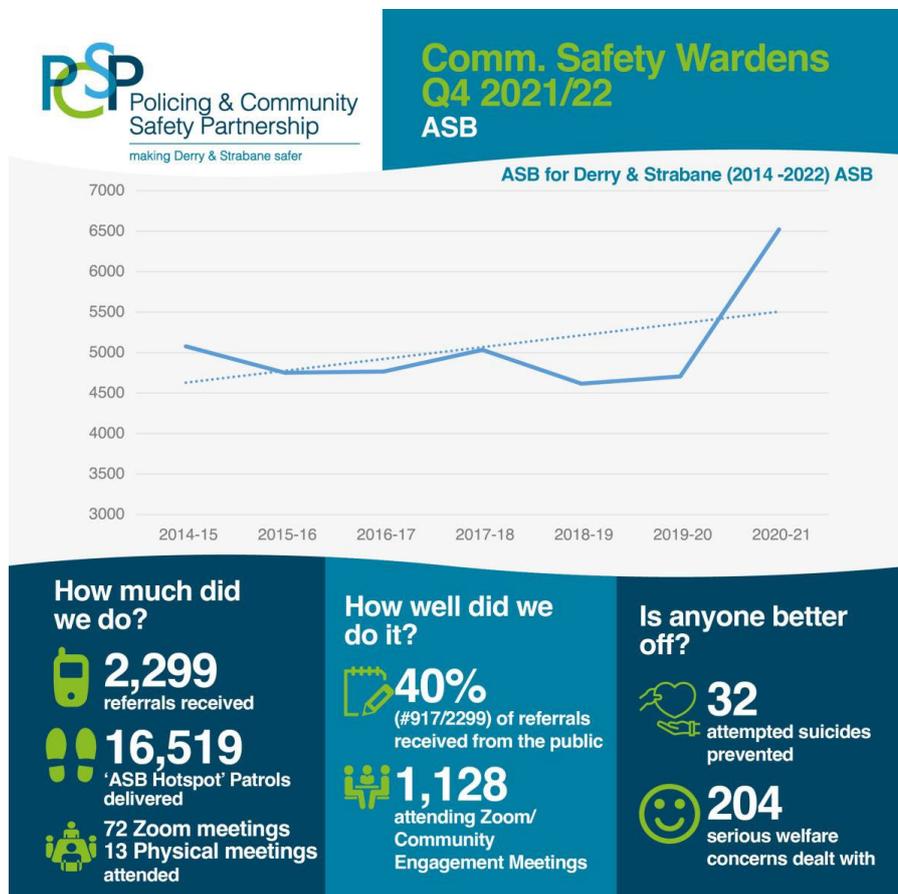
A total of **£409,722** was spent across the schemes with over 26,000 patrols provided across the districts during 2021/2022.

Belfast provided a 'Feet on the Street' initiative which was managed by the Education Authority with a footprint delivery in each of the DPCSP areas. The delivery was focused mainly at weekends/school breaks/exam results and St Patricks Day however capacity was left for any other days or evenings as required. The delivery model

worked with suitably qualified and experienced organisations to deliver on street work to safeguard for vulnerable young people and provide reassurance for local residents. In total the service provided 278 deployments and engaged with 13,267 young people, 6908 of those young people received a youth work intervention and 2327 were signposted to other services.

Antrim & Newtownabbey also provided an On Street presence through Community Safety Wardens & Street Pastors as a practical measure to address low level ASB and fear of crime. The service operates in identified issue areas at key times to engage positively with young people and communities. Over 3,500 hours of service were given in the community with approx. 2,000 people engaged.

Derry & Strabane PCSP provide a bespoke Community Safety Warden Scheme split into 3 key elements to ensure all areas of the community are sufficiently covered by the service. The 3 areas include; The Northland Community Safety Warden Scheme, The City Community Safety Warden Scheme and The Rural Community Safety Warden Scheme. The following infographic shows some of the success of the Derry & Strabane schemes.



# Best Practice Example - Community Safety Wardens, Street Angels & Street Pastors

## Ards & North Down PCSP

**Name of Project:** Voluntary Safety Wardens (Street Pastors)

**Project Partners:** Community Safety Team, PSNI

**Funded Amount:** £38,000

**Description of Project:** The project supports Voluntary Wardens to create an on-street presence that promotes community safety and reduces ASB across the Borough. The volunteer wardens and their on-street presence is rolled out at different times and locations across the Borough based on advice from the PSNI and the community safety subgroup and includes an on-street presence at large scale events and pub/ club closing times. From Qr1 to Qr4 the Ards and North Down Street Pastors delivered a total of



147 patrols in the Borough engaging with a total of 9,313 people with an average over the 4 quarters of 92% satisfaction. Initially the street pastors had to ensure they followed Covid rules until the guidelines were relaxed. The key to the success of the programme has been the regular meetings between Street Pastors, the Councils Community Safety Team, and the Police. The Street Pastors have shown a willingness to be there for the public at special concerts, bank holidays and on rainy November nights.

### How Much

- 147 patrols.
- 9313 of participants engaged, educated and supported.

### How Well

- 92% of participants satisfied with their experiences.

## Better Off

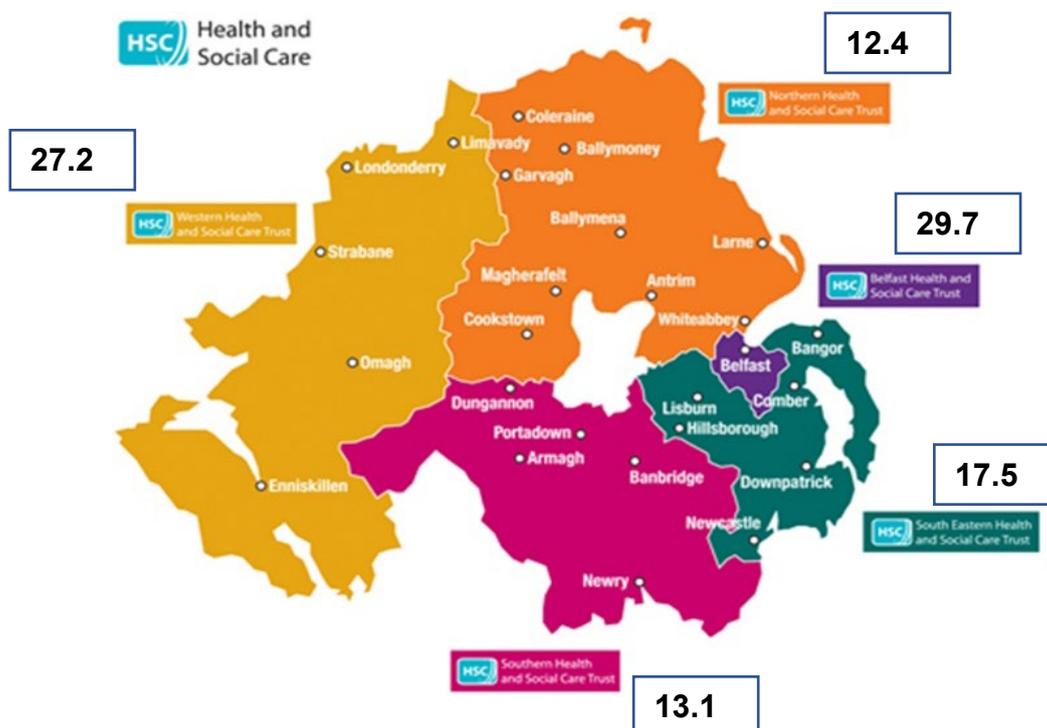
- 8560/92% of users reporting attitudes were changed because of engagement.
- 8873/95% of people reporting feeling safer in the Borough because of the scheme.

## DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

The Department of Health for Northern Ireland has been instrumental in the setup of the Substance Misuse Database (SMD). The SMD is an online data collection system that captures information on people presenting to services for treatment with problem drug and/or alcohol use. Both statutory and non-statutory organisations contribute to the database on a voluntary basis. As the system is still being fully developed, comparative 'experimental statistics' can only give an idea of trends, however, they are able to distinguish 'clients' in relation to drug misuse / alcohol misuse or drug and alcohol misuse.

During 2021/22 a total of 3,092 clients were recorded on the Substance Misuse database as having presented to treatment for substance use; of these 63.0% indicated drugs misuse (1,949 clients) and 67.5% indicated misuse of alcohol (2,088 clients) with 945 of these indicating both drugs and alcohol misuse.

The breakdown of drugs misuse across Health Trusts is captured through the SMD and shows that during the 2021/22 implementation year, the Western and Belfast Trusts showed the highest numbers of misuse as highlighted on the map below.



PSNI statistics provide insight into both drug related arrests and drug seizures across the districts. **Table 7** which follows highlights a marginal decrease in both from the previous year, however, it is important to note that the statistics are not fully comparable as the previous year is based on a different period (July 2020 – June 2021).

**Table 7: Drug Related Arrests and Seizure Incidents by Policing District 2020/2021-2021/2022<sup>2</sup>**

Policing District	Drug Related Arrests			Drug Seizure Incidents		
	Jul '20 - Jun '21	Apr '21 – Mar '22	Change	Jul '20 - Jun '21 <sup>2</sup>	Apr '21 – Mar '22	Change
<b>Belfast City</b>	1,231	1,238	7	2,499	2,526	27
<b>East</b>	188	182	-6	418	376	-42
<b>North</b>	355	327	-28	736	677	-59
<b>South</b>	494	523	29	884	998	114
<b>West</b>	194	206	12	461	475	14
<b>Lisburn and Castlereagh City</b>	258	166	-92	656	721	65
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	126	126	-	324	335	11
<b>Newry, Mourne and Down</b>	222	202	-20	713	639	-74
<b>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	291	263	-28	792	797	5
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	155	131	-24	543	546	3
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	114	122	8	322	375	53
<b>Derry City and Strabane</b>	475	392	-83	892	885	-7
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	219	152	-67	553	450	-103
<b>Mid and East Antrim</b>	183	197	14	872	879	7
<b>Antrim and Newtownabbey</b>	183	154	-29	503	443	-60
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>3,457</b>	<b>3,143</b>	<b>-314</b>	<b>8,669</b>	<b>8,596</b>	<b>-73</b>

The misuse of drugs and alcohol continues to be a serious issue across all Districts in Northern Ireland. There is also a growing trend in the use of more than one drug by users with over two-thirds (68.1%) of drug-related deaths in 2021 involved two or more drugs, compared to 52.9% in 2011 as reported<sup>3</sup> by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). NISRA also reported that looking at the number of deaths

<sup>2</sup> PSNI Statistics

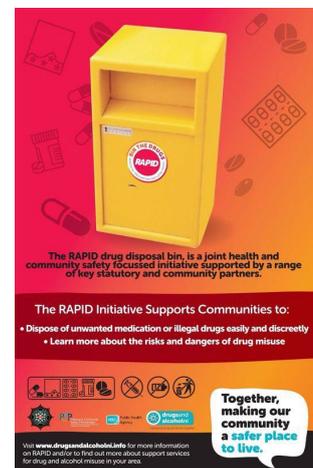
<sup>3</sup> *Drug related and drug-misuse deaths in Northern Ireland, 2021* - NISRA

by age, the 25-34 and 35-44 age groups together consistently account for the majority of drug-related and drug-misuse deaths annually (between 50% and 64%).

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.

One of the most successful direct initiatives is the continued rollout of RAPID bins initiative which has been implemented and supported by 9 out of the 11 PCSPs. As a result of PCSP support, 145,454 drugs were disposed of into 73 RAPID bins during 2021/22.

Ards & North Down PCSP supported the Dunlewey Addiction Services to provide a tier 2 support (counselling support) programme for adults with addiction problems. The funding supported additional sessions and the opportunity for counselling to be based in more accessible locations. A total of 369 sessions were delivered engaging with a total of 60 individuals. It was reported that 100% of participants reported changed behaviours after completing the programme. The programme also recorded 100% of participants had increased knowledge of the risks and harm caused by excessive drink and drugs.



Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP, as part of their Community Cash (Participatory Budget) Programme, funded the Omagh Boys and Girls Club to produce an information leaflet about drugs and alcohol. The leaflet was aimed at helping young people understand the dangers of drugs in the area, ways of coping and support available.

Belfast Principal PCSP funded Extern NI's specialised staff members to support and enhance their existing Street Injecting Support Services (SISS) throughout the city, with a focus on Belfast City Centre. The Extern team provided cover 7 days a week.

The SISS project targets the impact of discarded injecting equipment within the city limits, with a focus on the city centre. SISS also continued to deliver proactive outreach in Belfast City Centre to provide a flexible response to need including sign posting to

other support services; as well as providing highly visible reassurance to the public and City Centre business owners.

The SISS Team members role includes the need to work closely with Belfast City Council Community Safety staff, Safer Neighbourhood Officers and the Anti-Social Behaviour Officer for Parks and City Centre. There is a response element built in allowing a timely response to incidents or requests from Belfast City Centre Management, Belfast City Council or Citybeat PSNI officers.

During 2021/2022, SISS staff continued to employ numerous harm reduction principles and their methods of intervention included:

- proactive patrols and monitoring of known homeless and drug gathering spots in city centre.
- providing Naloxone to reverse the effects of opioid overdose.
- safe disposal of sharps (usually used needles).
- responding to overdoses.
- signposting to organisations such as the Welcome Organisation, Social Services, Homeless Outreach Services.
- liaising with a range of multidisciplinary partners which includes the PSNI, Health Trust, Drug Outreach services, Belfast City Council and hostels.
- Supporting City Centre businesses and attending a range of multiagency meetings/approaches such as having direct contact with BCC Safer Neighbourhood Officers and PSNI Citybeat.
- **631** individuals assisted.
- **11** doses of naloxone, 1 administered to revive users who had overdosed.
- **29** emergency responses responded to **1,310** needles and syringes found and safely disposed of.
- 100% partners report satisfaction with SISS services.
- 100% of clients with improved personal circumstances concerning alcohol and drugs.

## Best Practice Example – Drugs & Alcohol

### Causeway Coast & Glens PCSP

**Name of project:** *Last Orders*

**Project Partners:** Solomon Theatre Company, PCSP, Post Primary Schools, Western and Northern Health and Social Care Trusts, PSNI and NSPCC.

**Funded Amount:** £8,395.00



The aim of the school's project was to make children aware of the physical, mental and emotional consequences that risk taking behaviours may possess.

Developed by a team of doctors, NSPCC professionals and teachers, "Last Orders" is a professional and specialist theatre company production telling the story of three teenagers embarking on an alcohol fuelled night out and exploring the disastrous consequences. Based on true events, the play is written in a hard-hitting yet humorous style.

The educational play highlighting the dangers of alcohol and anti-social behaviour and online safety was hosted in post primary schools across the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area.

The 50-minute play was followed up by an interactive classroom-based workshop which highlighted the impact of alcohol on risk taking behaviours including online behaviours.

Performances of 'Last Orders', organised by Causeway Coast and Glens Policing and Community Safety Partnership and delivered by Solomon Theatre Company, were delivered in the



school setting during January 2022. Due to the covid crisis, schools were also provided with the option to host online/remote sessions.

### How Much

- All post primary schools in the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area were invited to participate.
- 14 post primary schools signed up to participate in the project with 11 completing the project.
- 20 performances and workshops took place.
- 1184 pupils participated in the project. 939 in person, 245 online.

### How Well

- 78 % of post primary schools signed up to the project.
- 79% of the schools who signed up completed the project.
- 80% of audience satisfied with quality of event.

### Better Off

- 96.06% of the audience said they had *good* or *very good* knowledge of the consequences of their alcohol use.
- 94.09% of the audience said they had *good* or *very good* knowledge of the consequences of their online behaviour.

## INTERNET SAFETY

The online world is expanding daily and with research and media coverage indicating the risk of cyber-bullying, grooming, exploitation, and scams is increasing, it has become apparent within the PCSPs that it is an area of growing concern for local communities. During 2021/22, PSNI reported a 40% increase in cyber fraud and a 50% increase in cyber bullying with greater increases expected.

Six of the eleven PCSPs incorporated cyber-crime projects into their 2021/2022 action plans, some form part of wider crime prevention schemes while others run dedicated cyber focused projects.

**Table 8** below shows the breakdown in the types of online crime that have been taking place across Northern Ireland. Over the 2021/2022 period online crime accounted for 5% of all crimes recorded with online harassment the most common type.

**Table 8 – Online Crime in Northern Ireland 2020/2021 to 2021/2022**

Crime Type	2020/21	2021/22	Change
<b>Violence against the person</b>	3391	4047	656
<b>Of which 'Harassment'</b>	3332	3973	641
<b>Sexual Offences</b>	323	288	-35
<b>Of which 'Sexual Communication with a child'</b>	126	125	-1
<b>Burglary, Robbery, theft &amp; criminal damage</b>	326	526	200
<b>Other crimes against society</b>	395	448	53
<b>Of which '86 Obscene publications, etc. and protected sexual material'</b>	226	276	50
<b>Total recorded crime – all offences</b>	<b>4435</b>	<b>5309</b>	<b>874</b>

Causeway Coast & Glens developed a series of animation videos highlighting a range of internet safety topics relevant to young people online. The videos were developed in partnership with NSPCC, HSC & EA, the main topics covered Suicide, Mental Health, Self-esteem, online bullying, gaming & gambling, sharing & receiving inappropriate images and where to go for support.

As a continuation of the programme the PCSP also developed a resource toolkit that can be used across a wide range of organisations from schools to youth groups. The toolkit is there to help provide information and signposting if required.

In total, PCSPs supported 46 Internet Safety Schemes through the funding of education/awareness workshops/Sessions with

almost 3,000 attendees of varying age groups. These included sessions with young



people to explore and educate in relation to cyber bullying, sextortion and the safe use of social media and sessions with young and older people on cyber scams and internet safety in relation to personal information.

## **Best Practice Example – Internet Safety**

### **Belfast PCSP**

**Name of Project:** Older Adults/Younger Persons Cyber Safety Project

**Project Partners:** Digiskills, Ignite IT Education & Training & BEAM Creative

**Funded Amount:** £44,000

**Description of the project:** The Belfast PCSP funded three bespoke cyber safety projects, one for older adults, one for the younger citizens and one for Primary School ages. The older adults project is delivered by Digiskills and raised awareness of everyday risks including violent or sexual images, harassment, cyber stalking, hate crime, online fraud, scams, identity theft and gambling. The project provided interactive workshops, teaching practical steps to stay safe online and build confidence so participants can enjoy the internet more safely.

The younger persons project was delivered by Ignite IT Education and Training, again the delivery is an interactive style with young people aged 11-18 using their phones to take part in the presentations and quizzes. The project aimed to encourage appropriate behaviours, keeping safe and how to report inappropriate behaviour on a cyber platform.

The primary school project was delivered by BEAM Creative delivering age appropriate, interactive and creative training content for in person cyber safety 1.5-hour workshops. The workshops were aimed at Key Stage 2 children and were designed to build children's confidence and ability to safely use online technology.

### **How Much**

- 5193 participants (87 older persons, 36 younger persons, 5070 Primary School).
- 147 sessions (10 older persons, 2 younger persons, 135 Primary School).

### How Well

- 100% of participants reported satisfaction with the workshop.
- 100% partners reported satisfaction with delivery and content.
- 100% teachers reported satisfaction with the activities.

### Better Off

- 100% participants with improved level of awareness, knowledge and understanding of staying safe online (older persons).
- 100% participants reported they were more confident in staying safe online (older persons & younger persons).
- 100% participants would make a report to Action Fraud or PSNI if they feel unsafe online (older persons).
- 95% participants with improved level of awareness and knowledge of staying safe online (younger persons).
- 90% participants with improved level of awareness and knowledge of appropriate behaviours across cyber platforms (younger persons).
- 78% participants reported that they would be more likely to report cyber safety issues (younger persons).
- 97% of participants reported they were more confident in staying safe online (Primary School).

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

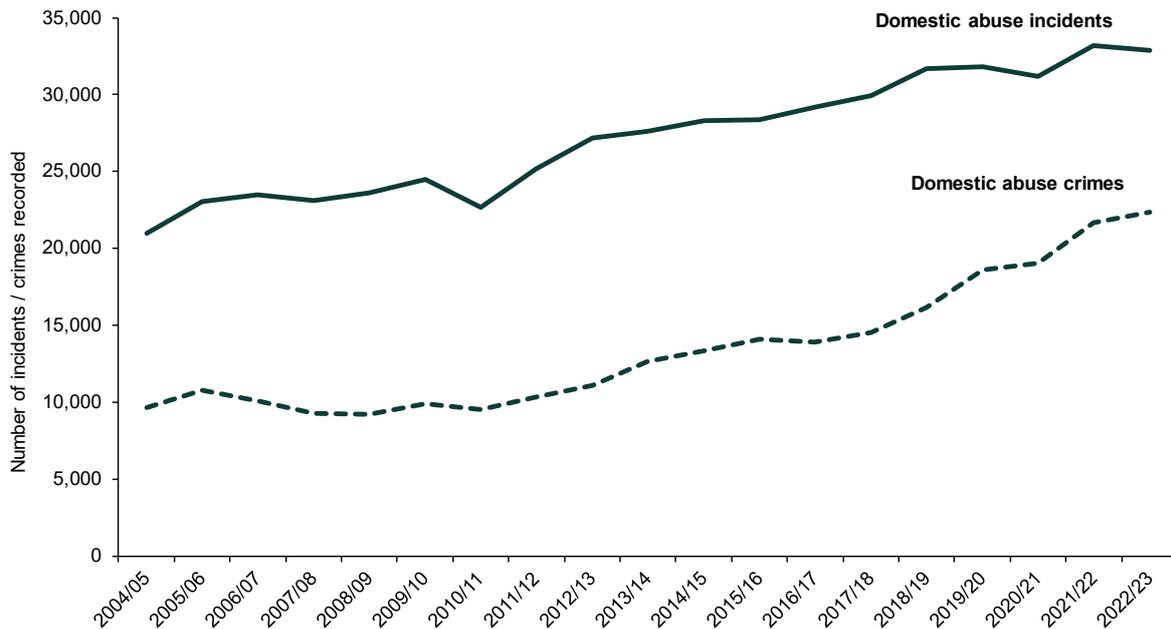
Domestic Violence (DV) or abuse can be described as threatening, controlling, coercive behaviour, violence, or abuse (psychological, virtual, physical, verbal, sexual, financial, or emotional) inflicted on anyone (irrespective of age, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation,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

As shown in **Table 9**, in the 12 months from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022, there were 33,186 domestic abuse incidents in Northern Ireland: an increase of almost 2,000 on the previous 12 months. The number of domestic abuse crimes also increased by over 2,500. **Figure 5** highlights that there were more domestic abuse crimes reported during 2021/22 than any other year since records began in 2004/05.

**Table 9: Police Recorded Domestic Abuse Incidents and Crimes, by Policing District**

Policing District	Domestic Abuse Incidents			Domestic Abuse Crimes		
	Apr '20 - Mar '21	Apr '21 - Mar '22	Change	Apr '20 - Mar '21	Apr '21 - Mar '22	Change
<b>Belfast City</b>	7,926	8,468	542	4,949	5,647	698
<b>Lisburn and Castlereagh City</b>	1,980	1,870	- 110	1,328	1,336	8
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	2,028	2,253	225	1,100	1,391	291
<b>Newry, Mourne and Down</b>	2,560	2,660	100	1,758	1,770	12
<b>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	3,442	3,756	314	2,027	2,407	380
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	2,111	2,490	379	1,125	1,314	189
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	1,562	1,654	92	806	852	46
<b>Derry City and Strabane</b>	3,046	3,208	162	2,042	2,350	308
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	2,160	2,122	-338	1,390	1,410	20
<b>Mid and East Antrim</b>	2,176	2,325	149	1,227	1,472	245
<b>Antrim and Newtownabbey</b>	2,205	2,380	175	1,284	1,715	431
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>31,196</b>	<b>33,186</b>	<b>1,990</b>	<b>19,036</b>	<b>21,664</b>	<b>2,628</b>

**Figure 5: Trends in Domestic Abuse indicated crimes recorded by PSNI since 2004/05**



The year-on-year increases in domestic abuse crimes across Northern Ireland follows a similar pattern to the rest of the UK. Whilst it is possible that increased awareness raising initiatives may have resulted in victims being more willing to report such crimes, there are also other variances to consider including the series of lockdowns associated with COVID and the prevailing cost of living crisis which were noted by Women’s Aid as potential factors.

Table 9 also highlights that increases have occurred in most Districts in relation to domestic abuse incidents and in all Districts in relation to domestic abuse crimes. Therefore, as expected, all PCSPs are delivering innovative projects and initiatives which range from awareness raising to practical protection for victims of domestic abuse. Overall, PCSPs provided awareness/educational sessions to almost 2,000 individuals, including over 1,000 post primary school pupils. Over 200 victims were supported through collaborate projects with organisations such as Women’s Aid and over 2,200 pieces of security equipment were provided or installed to potential and actual victims of domestic abuse.

Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP allocated £12,500 towards domestic violence initiatives which included the *In Safe Hands* project which was delivered as a collaboration between Fermanagh Women’s Aid, Omagh Women’s Aid, the PSNI and the PCSP. The PCSP identified the need to improve understanding among businesses, including how to recognise signs of domestic violence. The project was therefore aimed at increasing their capacity to effectively support and signpost women who may disclose their experiences. The project demonstrated that improved working relationships between Women’s Aid and local businesses provided an integrated approach to earlier intervention, protection, and support for women and children who experience domestic violence. Domestic Violence awareness sessions were also delivered as part of this initiative with 154 individuals receiving this training.



From left, Michele Alonso from Fermanagh Woman’s Aid, Edel Fox from Omagh Woman’s Aid, Keith Elliott, Chairman of Fermanagh and Omagh Policing Community Safety Partnership and Joni Beatty from Fermanagh and Omagh PSNI.



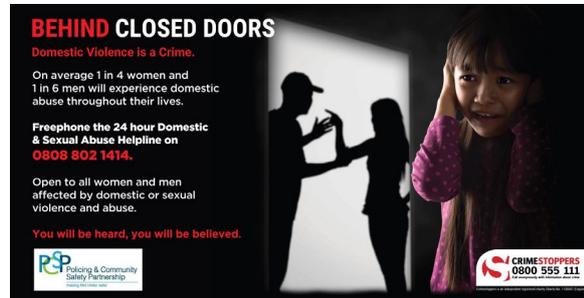
Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP also piloted a ‘Healthy Relationships Programme’ which was requested by post primary schools in the district and delivered by PSNI School Liaison Officers. 3 programmes were delivered with 97 attendees. Feedback from the project was very positive with minor suggestions to be made in advance of the programme being rolled out to schools, sports clubs and youth organisations across the District.

Causeway Coast & Glens PCSP provided just over £6k to fund the *Domestic Abuse and Stalking Support Package* project which provided a range of equipment to individuals identified as high risk by the PSNI. This equipment is intended to protect, increase confidence, deter attacks and gather evidence to support prosecutions and included: CCTV, dash cameras for cars, door bracers, personal panic alarms (linked to GPs and PSNI 999 service), replacement mobile phones and intruder identification sprays for close contact attacks.

The Causeway Coast & Glens PCSP Domestic Abuse Extra Support project also provided funding to Women’s Aid for an additional 1,220 support hours for victims of

domestic abuse. It also included funding for 100 hours of interpreter costs to support BAME victims to access domestic abuse support.

Mid Ulster PCSP delivered the *Behind Closed Doors* project over the Christmas period through the use of a bespoke bus and adshel advertising campaign. This campaign highlighted the issue of domestic violence during its peak period. The message was for both male and female victims and signposted them to the 24-hour Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse Helpline.



The demographics also suggest an increase in domestic abuse/violence against men and this has also become a focus of PCSPs:

Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP launched the *Domestic Abuse – It's Never OK* awareness campaign, collaborating with both Women's Aid and the Men's advisory Project (MAP). This ran from 7 March to Sunday 3 April 2022 and attracted significant interest through social media with 85,000 reached and 1,300 engaging with posts including commenting or liking. The PCSP also fund a *Male Victims of Domestic Abuse Counselling Service* through MAP.

Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP also fund male domestic violence counselling sessions delivered by MAP. 27 clients received counselling and 152 counselling sessions were delivered. Similar sessions are also funded by Derry & Strabane PCSP who provided 73 counselling sessions to 18 male victims of domestic violence.

## Ask For Angela

During 2021/22, the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP piloted the PSNI Ask For Angela initiative. This allows people, particularly women and girls who feel unsafe, vulnerable or threatened, to discreetly seek help by approaching venue staff and asking for 'Angela'. This code-phrase will indicate to staff that they require help with their situation and a trained member of staff will look to support and assist them. This might be through reuniting them with a friend, seeing them to a taxi, or by calling venue security and/or the police.

A re-design of Ask For Angela posters was carried out as a pilot in the Brownlow/Portadown area and a meeting was held with local licensed premises operators to raise awareness. Neighbourhood Policing Teams also visited bars in Craigavon/Portadown and provided enough posters for their female and disabled toilets. 30 venues took up the initiative and were very grateful for the input of the PSNI and PCSP. By the end of the reporting year, 89 venues across the Borough were participating in the initiative.



## 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. All forms of Hate Crime continue to be an area of concern for PCSPs with the majority of the districts seeing increases in all 3 reported types, racist, homophobic & sectarian.

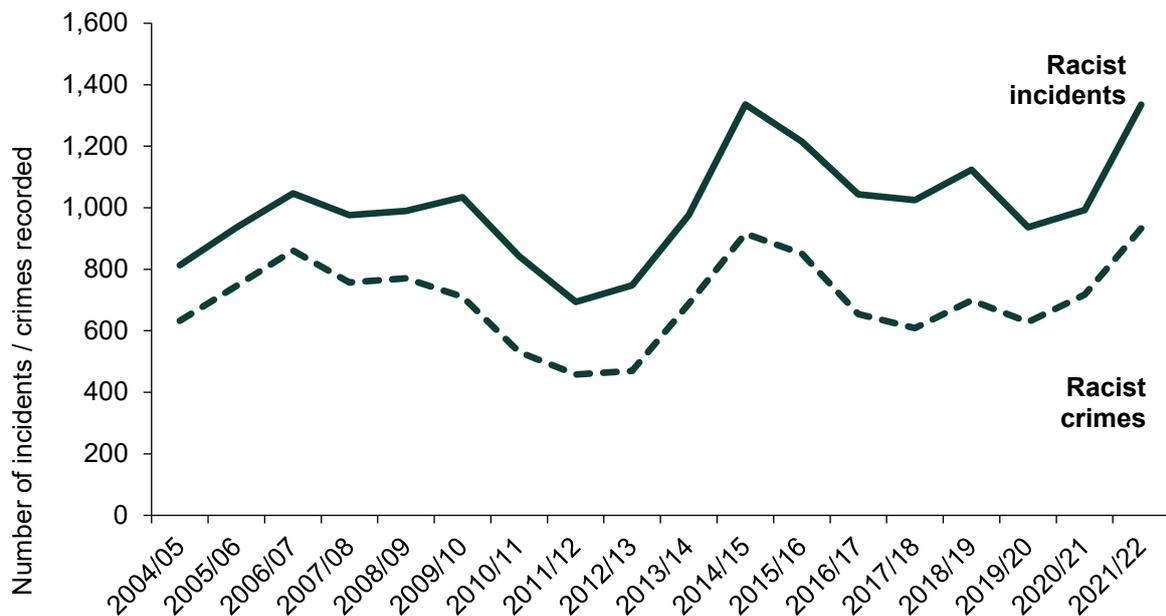
As can be seen in **Table 10** Racist Hate crime has seen the biggest increase with 342 more incidents in 2021/22 compared to 2020/2021 and 214 more crimes with Belfast seeing the biggest district increase of 134 more incidents and 64 more crimes compared to the previous year. Homophobic Hate Crime statistics have remained fairly steady across the districts with some small increases or decreases in each area. Sectarian Hate Crime has increased significantly in the Antrim & Newtownabbey district with incidents up by 67 and crimes up 38 compared to 2020/21. In contrast, Belfast has seen a significant decrease with incidents down 43 and crimes down 33.

**Table 10: Police Recorded Racist, Homophobic and Sectarian Incidents and Crimes, by Policing District – April 2021 to March 2022<sup>4</sup>**

Policing District	Racist Incidents		Racist Crimes		Homophobic Incidents		Homophobic Crimes		Sectarian Incidents		Sectarian Crimes	
	Apr 2021 – Mar 2022	Change from 2020/21	Apr 2021 – Mar 2022	Change from 2020/21	Apr 2021 – Mar 2022	Change from 2020/21	Apr 2021 – Mar 2022	Change from 2020/21	Apr 2021 – Mar 2022	Change from 2020/21	Apr 2021 – Mar 2022	Change from 2020/21
<b>Belfast City</b>	572	134	371	64	160	-2	105	6	324	-43	242	-33
<b>Lisburn and Castlereagh</b>	80	36	51	21	33	9	20	10	66	2	43	6
<b>Ards and North Down</b>	56	18	30	13	22	11	10	2	37	14	26	11
<b>Newry, Mourne and Down</b>	96	33	97	40	39	8	43	16	57	27	41	18
<b>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon</b>	145	42	93	5	56	20	39	14	93	7	61	12
<b>Mid Ulster</b>	66	23	50	25	27	17	28	21	96	36	5	42
<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	36	15	26	6	22	-1	12	-2	36	-9	25	-6
<b>Derry City and Strabane</b>	92	30	76	29	39	7	34	8	114	24	86	14
<b>Causeway Coast and Glens</b>	35	-20	19	-17	18	3	10	-9	83	29	68	31
<b>Mid and East Antrim</b>	85	43	54	23	25	15	17	14	50	-21	27	-27
<b>Antrim and Newtownabbey</b>	72	-12	66	5	22	10	19	11	111	67	76	38
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>1335</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>1067</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>106</b>

<sup>4</sup> PSNI Statistics - Financial year update, period ending 31 March 2023, providing figures for 2021/2022 (Published 16 May 2023)

**Figure 6: Trends in racist incidents and crimes recorded by the police since 2004/05**



As can be seen from **Figure 6** there had been a steady decrease in Racist Hate Crimes between 2014/15 and 2019/20 except for 2018/19 which saw a slight increase. However, since that dip the racist incident and crime levels have taken a sharp increase with incident levels reaching 1135 across the districts. This has led to some of the PCSPs beginning to incorporate Hate Crime projects and initiatives into their action plans in order to combat the rising number of issues.

Ards & North Down PCSP partnered with the council’s Good Relations section to support the organisation Terra Nova who produced a play called the ‘The Trumpet and the King’. The play itself focuses on friendships across cultural and religious divides and how art can give people hope of connection, communion and understanding.



The aim of the project was to encourage greater reporting of all types of hate crime, deliver cultural diversity, deliver hate crime awareness raising events and to help individuals have a better sense of integration, belonging and cohesion. Overall, **3** sessions were held with a total 47 participants, 100% reported an increase in knowledge of Hate Crime.

Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP took part in Hate Crime Awareness Week through various social media campaigns between 9<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October. In total 12 Facebook posts were issued with a total reach of 6.5k, 3 Instagram posts and 2 stories with a reach of 84 and 6584 users with an improved knowledge/awareness of Hate Crime and how to address it.

Alongside this ABC also supported a project called 'Read All About It', a 45-minute drama performance piece created by Spanner in the works Theatre Company focussing on



issues of cultural diversity and racism due to the increasing crime trends. The



production told the story of 4 young people who are put into detention in school, all 4 are from different cultural backgrounds who learn about

each other's cultures, prejudices and how they are influenced by their parents and families. The initiative was delivered in 8 post primary schools to approx. 700 students, 90% felt they had improved knowledge and awareness of the subjects discussed.

Derry & Strabane PCSP funded a Hate Crime based project through their Small Grant Scheme, the project was run by Strabane Ethnic Community Association within National Hate Crime Awareness Week. The project included 122 participants and was ran in partnership with Derry & Strabane Council, Strathfoyle Community Safety Wardens and PSNI.

## **Best Practice Example – Hate Crime**

### **Belfast PCSP**

**Name of Project:** Hate Crime and Fear of Hate Crime

**Project Partners:** Hate Crime Delivery Group, Belfast Citywide Hate Crime Group

**Funded Amount:** £25,000

**Description of the project:** Belfast PCSP has worked together with their partners to develop a contemporary understanding of the needs of minority groups in Belfast by directly engaging with relevant individuals connected to minority groups. The 'No Place for Hate' awareness campaign was also created to educate the community about various types of Hate Crime through a radio advert and to raise awareness of the PSNI online reporting service.

### How Much

- 63 x 30 second spots across Q Radio, U105 and Cool FM.

### How Well and Better Off

Radio advertising:

- Q Radio estimates that listeners will have heard the message 5.5 times,
- U105 reports over 220,000 adults heard the message around 5.5 times on average,
- Cool FM reports over 428,000 adults heard the message around 3.5 times on average.

Outdoor advertising:

- Visuals on Adshels resulted in 62.4% coverage of all adults in the city seeing them around 8.3 times on average,
- Adverts placed on buses mean 475,000 adults saw them around 3.5 times on average.

Online Advertising:

- Belfasttelegraph.com reported over 265,000 impressions and 286 advert clicks to the reporting page.
- Daily Mirror/Belfast Telegraph reported over 199,000 impressions and 110 clicks to the reporting page.

Social Media:

- Over 4300 post engagements, reaching over 97,000 individuals, 188 post shares and 145 link clicks to the reporting page.



## **Best Practice Example – Hate Crime (Youth)**

**Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP**

**Project Name:** NI Hyatt Youth In Action Project

**Project Partners:** Brownlow PSNI Neighbourhood Team, Council Sports Development Department, Rio Ferdinand Foundation, UEFA Foundation for Children

**Funded Amount:** £550 + staff time

**Description of Project:** A football tournament held in Portadown People's Park, supported by the Rio Ferdinand Foundation and EAFA and delivered in partnership with Sports Development from ABC Council, Brownlow NPT and NI Hyatt

The Youth In Action programme is a collaboration between the Rio Ferdinand Foundation and the UEFA Foundation to train and support young people to take a lead in tackling inequality and racism in their own communities in Northern Ireland and Ireland. The first project undertaken in this collaboration saw 15 young people from the Syrian refugee and asylum seeker community in the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon council area undertake a youth leadership qualification and work with our team and volunteers from our partners at NI Hyatt (a Syrian led organisation in the

region) to deliver a family football and cultural event in Portadown in the summer of 2021. Brownlow NPT and PCSP worked with partners to help them organise their event and took part on the day. A video was produced and is available on YouTube at the following link: <https://youtu.be/HICxw8bCfPI>

Excerpt from the Rio Ferdinand Foundation website:

*This short film showcases just some of the incredible work of the young people we have been working with from the Syrian refugee and asylum seeker community of Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon. Truly grateful to our partner NI Hyatt, UEFA Foundation for Children and Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council [including PCSP] This the first stage of our ongoing work and will form the cornerstone of what we plan to be an ongoing programme of youth led citizenship and social action that will create a fairer and more inclusive society.*



### **How Much**

- 15 young Syrian Young people supported to deliver the project.
- 164 Attendees at the tournament.

### **How Well**

- 98% of 164 participants reporting satisfaction with activity.

### **Better off**

- 15 Syrian young people supported.
- 158 (95%) of 164 participants stated more likely to engage with police and/or have increased community confidence in policing.

## **Best Practice Example – Hate Crime - Disability**

### **Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP**

**Name of Project:** Disability Project

**Funded Amount:** £10,000

**Partners:** Mencap, Disability Action, Action, Northern Health and Social Care Trust, Western Health and Social Care Trust, Leonard Cheshire Disability Hate Crime Advocate, Victim Support, Rossmar School, Sandleford school, Neighbourhood Watch network, PSNI, Older People Community Navigator BCRC, Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Equality Officer. Triangle Housing.

**Description of Project:** The disability programme aimed specifically to examine crime and fear of crime amongst people with disability with the aim of developing projects to help increase safety and feeling of safety amongst this target group.

The programme aimed at encouraging active participation from people with disabilities on action planning and decisions related to their feeling of safety across the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area to help inform partnership decision on programmes and projects to support feelings of safety within this target group.

It was recognised by members that this was a significant piece of work which must be carefully considered in order to be as inclusive as possible going forward and that it should not be rushed and should be progressed with a structured approach to not only incorporate various communication methods which encourage participation and engagement but also include training and awareness raising among partnership members/organisations and beyond to help support people with disabilities to have their views and concerns heard. It was recognised that this is a piece of work would progress beyond the 2020/21 action plan.

The disability consultation aims to create a baseline for how safe people with disabilities feel in the Causeway Coast and Glens area. It was recognised by the PCSP that although statistics of disability hate crime are low that this may be unreported.

The PCSP felt it was important to consult with people with disabilities (and their carers) to examine how safe they feel in the local area.

It was also recognised by the partnership that more training was required to ensure services are accessible, that PCSP members have developed skills to enable them to effectively engage with people with different communication needs.

### How Much

- 4 Makaton training courses (2 taster and 2 level one).
- 20 participants completed Makaton taster training and 21 participants completed Makaton level one.
- 1 learning disability awareness training course organized. 9 participants completed.
- 2 easy read technical training courses arranged. 7 participants completed.
- 2 consultation questionnaires developed (one for people with disabilities and one for people carers or those supporting people with disabilities).
- 2 easy read questionnaires produced to help support effective consultation.
- 2 easy read resources for neighbourhood watch and general crime prevention advice was produced.



### How Well

- 100% participants of easy read training found it helpful.
- 100% Makaton trainees said they felt it would help them in their work.
- 100% of respondents from the learning disability training rated the training as very good quality and met all the outlined objectives.
- 3783 posts reached on Facebook consultation. 88 post engagements (by the end of financial year) \*
- 70 completed consultation surveys (by the end of the financial year). Consultation officially closed on 19th May 2022.

## Better Off

- 100% Makaton participants felt that the training helped them recognize the challenges others face when communicating and accessing services.
- 100% participants of easy read training felt better equipped to produce accessible information for people with disabilities.
- 100% Makaton trainees said they felt it would help them communicate better in their work.
- 60% of attendees at the learning disability awareness training said their knowledge/experience of learning disabilities had gone from poor to very good because of the training. 20% said it improved from poor to good and 20% said their knowledge had stayed the same.
- 100% of attendees at learning disability awareness training stated they had increased confidence in including people with learning disabilities in their work.

## FEAR OF CRIME

PCSPs continued to fund initiatives, including **Home Security Equipment, Property Marking, Text Alert, Neighbourhood Watch Schemes (NHW) & Farm Watch.**

Fear of crime remains an issue in all the districts with the PCSPs continuing to focus on projects that can help to alleviate this fear. Some of the ways in which they do this is providing home safety packs, conducting home visits, providing home security equipment, property marking sessions, text alert schemes and farm watch schemes for the rural community. All PCSPs continue to work in partnership with Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) to help problem solve in the local area,



including through NHW.

The Home Security Equipment projects vary across the PCSPs, but all provide the same basic service of conducting home visits & providing various different types of home security equipment, particularly to the elderly/vulnerable community or people who have previously been victims of these types of crime.

Several PCSPs also provide property marking services, usually holding sessions to mark bikes or trailers in conjunction with their local Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Some of the PCSPs also 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.



Another type of project to help alleviate fear of crime that all PCSPs completed in 2021/22 was a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (NHW). The NHW schemes (almost 900 across Northern Ireland) are implemented in partnership with NPTs and PCSPs with the aim of supporting local people to support the local community and their properties. The scheme provides improved home security, greater vigilance, community spirit and improves the environment.

Finally, some of the more rural PCSPs also run a Farm Watch scheme which aims to address concerns raised by the rural community and providing them with an opportunity to help reduce the risk of the most vulnerable becoming a victim of rural crime. Some of the initiatives include, specific farm watch roadside/property signage, unique reference numbers for farm machinery and an email and text alert service from the police.

### **How Much**

- 694 home security checks carried out.
- More than 6,100 pieces of home security equipment provided.
- 550 items were marked at 28 property marking events held by PCSPs.
- 891 NHW schemes in place across the districts.
- 886 text alerts sent by PCSPs.
- 6 people signed up to Farm Watch.

### **How Well**

- 100% of recipients reported being satisfied with the service provided.
- 100% of participants were satisfied with the marking process.
- 99% of coordinators reporting satisfaction with activities.
- 97% who are satisfied with the text alert service.

### **Better Off**

- 99% of recipients reported feeling safer in their home following the service.
- 98% of users felt more engaged with the PCSP or PSNI.
- 100% of participants reported an improved knowledge of crime prevention awareness.
- 98% NHW are more confident and informed in delivery of their scheme.
- 100% participants reporting satisfaction with Farm Watch activities.

## Best Practice Example – Fear of Crime

### Newry, Mourne & Down PCSP

**Name of Project:** Fear of Crime, Burglary & Crime Prevention

**Project Partners:**

**Funded Amount:** £55,000

**Description of the project:** Despite the downward trend of the crime rate in this area over the years, feedback from residents and the local community shows an increase in the fear of crime.

This is why the PCSP has continued to fund many of their fear of crime initiatives, funding 1,700 home safety packs and the much-valued Home Secure Scheme to provide home safety devices to residents who are elderly, vulnerable, have a fear of crime or have been victims of crime.

Alongside this the PCSP has continued with their Neighbourhood Watch scheme, and although the events were not possible in a face-to-face capacity due to covid, the coordinators continued to get support by phone, email, newsletters, and online events. Finally, the PCSP continued to work in partnership with PSNI to provide bike marking, trailer marking and marine property marking sessions when covid restrictions had been lifted.

### How Much

- 291 referrals to Home Secure Scheme.
- 1700 home safety packs distributed.
- 32 referrals the Social Alarm Scheme.
- 32 alarm systems installed via the Social Alarm Scheme.
- 115 Neighbourhood Watch schemes.
- 2 new NHW schemes.
- 3 online NHW network meetings facilitated.
- 10 property marking events (2 marine, 6 trailer, 2 bike)

### How Well

- 100% of recipients reported being satisfied with the scheme.
- 100% of beneficiaries report satisfaction with the Social Alarm Scheme.



## Better Off

- 100% of recipients reported feeling safer in their homes because of the new devices fitted.
- 100% of people at crime prevention events reported improved knowledge of crime prevention awareness.

## ROAD SAFETY

Whilst the number of deaths fell in 2021/22 compared to the previous year, there was a marked increase in all other road traffic accident statistics compared to the previous year.

**Table 11** provides the breakdown of casualties from road traffic collisions across Northern Ireland for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.

**Table 11: Casualties in Recorded Injury Road Traffic Collisions by Severity of Injury and Policing District 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 (PSNI Statistics – published July 2022)**

Policing District	2020/21					2021/22				
	Killed	Seriously Injured	Total KSI <sup>1</sup>	Slightly Injured	Total	Killed	Seriously Injured	Total KSI <sup>1</sup>	Slightly Injured	Total
Belfast City	4	61	65	1,174	<b>1,239</b>	4	136	140	1,690	<b>1,830</b>
Derry City & Strabane	3	32	35	457	<b>492</b>	1	65	66	563	<b>629</b>
Antrim & Newtownabbey	3	40	43	415	<b>458</b>	6	55	61	527	<b>588</b>
Ards & North Down	3	38	41	397	<b>438</b>	7	60	67	484	<b>551</b>
Causeway Coast & Glens	9	35	44	312	<b>356</b>	5	65	70	528	<b>598</b>
Lisburn & Castlereagh City	2	49	51	400	<b>451</b>	2	80	82	540	<b>622</b>
Mid & East Antrim	6	46	52	249	<b>301</b>	3	60	63	394	<b>457</b>
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	7	64	71	544	<b>615</b>	2	107	109	635	<b>744</b>
Fermanagh & Omagh	3	49	52	294	<b>346</b>	6	70	76	355	<b>431</b>
Mid Ulster	4	46	50	327	<b>377</b>	4	91	95	488	<b>583</b>
Newry, Mourne and Down	9	78	87	502	<b>589</b>	5	106	111	668	<b>779</b>
<b>Northern Ireland Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>5,071</b>	<b>5,662</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>6,872</b>	<b>7,812</b>

Notes: KSI - Killed or seriously injured

Whilst there remained a level of prevailing restrictions associated with COVID-19 which impacted the delivery of several direct road safety interventions at the beginning of the implementation year, PCSPs delivered almost 350 road safety education/awareness sessions which targeted all age groups and all road users.

Almost 6,000 young people and 1,500 older people were able to access training, information or online guidance in relation to staying safe on the roads.

At the beginning of the implementation year, face to face initiatives remained challenging. PCSPs continued to use online resources that had been jointly developed during 2020/21.

Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP utilised the Crash Car Simulator for schools to ensure that road safety awareness education was not neglected during the pandemic. The crash car simulator gives participants an insight into the devastating impact of road traffic collisions. They also delivered several RTC demos in post primary schools which were very effective in delivering road safety messages to a large audience.



Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP also linked with Neighbourhood Policing Teams to engage with many primary schools to deliver road safety messages, working with 7 primary schools to raise awareness of speeding and inconsiderate parking near school buildings. Each participating school received two



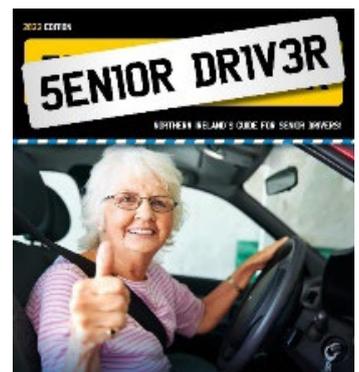
bespoke no parking signs.



The Causeway Coast & Glens PCSP joined forces with the PSNI and NIFRS to deliver the **2 Fast 2 Soon** project to drive home the importance of road safety at events right across the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough council area. Several road traffic collision demonstrations were played out. The events also featured the PCSP's car

crash simulator, and the primary objective was to encourage better driving and a safer approach to getting behind the wheel.

Causeway Coast & Glens PCSP also worked in partnership with New Driver NI to develop a resource booklet for the Senior Driver.



This was designed to assist older drivers who may not have driven at all during the lockdown periods.



Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP, along with other PCSPs, supported Road Safe NI with their booklet of top tips for key stage 2 children, Street Smart, Road Safe. The booklet is a comprehensive 36-page guide covering all aspects of how children can stay safe whilst using the roads, either as a pedestrian, cyclist or passenger.

Belfast PCSP delivered the *Teenager Road Safety Awareness* project which is designed in partnership with the NI Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS), PCSP and PSNI to raise awareness around the consequence of a traffic accident happening due to excess speed, driving whilst impaired through drink or drugs, lack of situational awareness and distractions.

The aim of this project is to deliver a range of driver safety programmes targeted to young people starting to drive or those likely to be passengers in cars with new drivers i.e., those 15 – 18 years of age.

NIFRS hosted a number of dates dedicated to Road Safety for teenagers. PSNI Road Policing and NIFRS and PCSP Project Officer have re-developed the programme which is promoted and delivered through youth clubs in Belfast. Six youth groups were able to avail of the project during 2021/22.

At the beginning of each session the teenagers were asked to complete a questionnaire to determine their attitudes towards driving and road safety. The responses were quite alarming, with answers of *“I like taking risks,” “I love driving fast”* and *“I only use my phone to check for messages.”*

After each session, the answers to the questionnaire were met with different responses being *“I will take fewer risks,” “I will never use my phone”* and *“I will always wear my seatbelt.” “I don’t want to learn to drive”*.

Each group gave feedback after the session with comments of *“This is a great program; I have learned a lot.”* *“Videos were hard hitting and seeing the person being cut out from the car was disturbing, I will definitely drive safer and talk to my friends about their driving.”* *“Very effective course, I hope many people learn from the visual aids presentation.”*

### **Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs)**

A Speed Indicator Device (SID) is a vehicle activated illuminated sign displaying vehicle speeds to the driver. In 2021/22 PCSPs continued to use SIDs as an important tool in raising awareness of excess speed, which is a factor in road traffic collisions, with a total of 105 static and 46 mobile SIDs provided by PCSPs.



## **6.3 STRATEGIC PRIORITY THREE – TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY CONFIDENCE IN POLICING.**

**(See page 9 for full text)**

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.

Findings from the 'Experience of Crime and Perceptions of Crime and Policing and Justice' 2021/22 telephone survey found that overall public confidence in the police and police accountability arrangements (based on a seven-strand composite measure) was 82% in 2021/22, down from 86% in 2020/21. Six of the seven indicators that comprise the composite measure showed a statistically significant decrease over the same period.

In terms of the local police, findings suggested that, in 2021/22, 55% rated their local police as doing an excellent or good job, a decrease from 62% in 2020/21. When asked about overall confidence in their local police, the proportion of respondents who stated that, when taking everything into account, they had confidence in the police in their area, fell from 75% to 72%.

With regards to community engagement, a decrease was also observed in the proportion agreeing that the police and other agencies 'seek people's views about the anti-social behaviour (ASB) and crime issues that matter', which fell from 42% to 38% between 2020/21 and 2021/22; the proportion of 2021/22 respondents agreeing these issues are being dealt with (47%) showed no statistically significant change from last year (50%).

Throughout 2021/2022, PCSPs continued to monitor local police performances through Policing Committees. In total, there were 58 Policing Committee meetings held, across all districts, 19 of which were public meetings.

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

(a) Provide views to a relevant District Commander and to the Policing Board on any matter concerning the policing of the district.

(b) Monitor the performance of the police in carrying out –

(i) The policing plan in relation to the district; and

(ii) The local policing plan applying to the district or any part of the district.

(c) Make arrangements for obtaining the co-operation of the public with the police in preventing crime and enhancing community safety in the district.

During 2021/22, Policing Board officials worked with PSNI to develop a Policing Committee reporting template. This was developed in line with consultation and recommendations from PCSP members in relation to a lack of consistency in reporting which was potentially impacting Policing Committee's from delivering on their legislative functions.

Following an initial scoping workshop, held in September 2020, with PCSP Chairs, Vice Chairs and Managers, a draft reporting template was produced incorporating both the Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment (SARA) problem solving model and the Outcome based Accountability (OBA) methodology.

A follow up workshop was held in December 2021 which provided the draft template for discussion and suggestions with the aim to launch it as a pilot during 2022/23.

The reporting template is aimed at providing a focused report for Policing Committees which provides quantitative data for context and key qualitative information, including:

- The nature of the problem(s) being reported.
- Community engagement and involvement in addressing the problem.
- The active role PSNI are playing.
- Any evidence of co-design in seeking a solution.

- If it is an ongoing or long-term problem, what next steps are required, for example:
  - Greater community engagement.
  - Greater partner involvement.
  - Funding / in-kind support.
  - School / youth engagement required.
  - Should the problem continue to be taken forward by the PSNI or is another partner better placed to take it forward?

A primary aim of Strategic Priority 3 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, 281 engagement events took place with over 4,000 people attending.

Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP arranged a *Baba Marta Bulgarian Roma Community Event* where Armagh NPT engaged with both children and adults from the Bulgarian Roma Community through a range of crafts in celebration of Baba Martha Day. 20 Bulgarian Roma individuals, 2 PSNI officers, 1 Council Community Development/GR Officer, a facilitator and 4 staff from Armagh Roma Traveller Support Group attended the event. All those who attended said they would be more likely to engage with police as a result.

*The adults were initially hesitant at the presence of uniformed police officers, as their experience in their own country is generally negative. However, after some initial engagement they were comfortable chatting to police. All participants were really satisfied with the event, one family in particular said that the police attendance was wonderful. Their son really took a shine to the NPT Constable and followed her about everywhere asking lots of questions. At one point she was helping him with his English and teaching him new words.*

Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP also ran the Get Active Programme with Poyntzpass GAA project. Officers from the Banbridge NPT took part in a 4-week fitness programme. The sessions were attended by 80 young people and were designed to work on five key components of children's fitness, Balance, Strength, Speed, Agility and Flexibility in a fun and friendly environment where anyone no matter what fitness level they are at could participate in and enjoy. Feedback was also very positive with regards to engagement with police and the feeling that the police officers were "normal".



*The two officers in particular were fantastic and spent time talking and engaging with the kids, GAA leaders said that this was a great way to break down barriers with the police in that area which has traditionally been a hard-to-reach area for police.*

Ards and North Down continued to deliver Advocate for Policing funding programme undertaken and supported by the PSNI and its Neighbourhood Policing Teams and PCSP that builds community confidence in the rule of law. The programme was co-designed and targeted hard to reach teenagers and young people in partnership with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) and Housing Associations, Community Networks, community groups in both urban and rural schools, the Probation Board for Northern Ireland (PBNI), Youth Justice Agency (YJA) and the Education Authority (EA). A total of 10 projects were supported with 41 sessions delivered.

West Belfast DPCSP were able to fully implement their *PCSP Conversation Piece – Young People Confidence in Policing* project which engaged young people across the city in facilitated, structured conversations about confidence in policing and embedding a culture of lawfulness. Extern NI were awarded the contract to develop the programme, in consultation with PSNI Lead Officers by utilising the priority areas of concern for young people, including:

- Supply of drugs
- Stop and Search
- Crowd control / ASB / riot situations

The PSNI participate in the delivery of the programme and PSNI have lauded the impact of the project, despite being heavily impacted by Covid 19. Due to Covid-19 restrictions and the need for face-to-face delivery, this project was extended into 2021-22.

The project was commissioned with the belief that “humanising” a police officer will provide a way to open the conversation on a personal level. Extern NI target the programme at young people who are excluded from school and their communities and who have either previously been involved in Anti-social behaviour, including rioting and street protests, or those at high risk of becoming involved in such activities.

### During 2021-22:

#### How Much

- 116 participants – 13 groups (North 19) (South 16) (East 27) (West 54).
- 58 sessions delivered to 13 groups.

#### How Well

- 100% attendance at all sessions by 6 groups.
- 95% attendance rate overall for all sessions.
- 2 police officers have attended all themed sessions (38 sessions).
- 100% Stakeholders indicate satisfaction with the project.

#### Better Off

- 87% participants with improved understanding of policing and a culture of lawfulness.
- 79% young people more likely to engage with police on future projects.
- 54% young people more likely to report crime.
- 100% groups keen to instigate projects with PSNI in the area.

**Comments from Police Officers** - “Definitely useful and moving in the right direction helping the young people understand why Police do certain things and understand there are real people under the Uniform that are ultimately trying to help them or other victims of crime.”

**Chief inspector Brannigan, West Belfast** - "I have to say from the outset that the team and I found the series of engagements, not only beneficial but significant in their context. Looking at the overall picture, this was a group of kids from the wider Divis Area and attached to St Peter's Immaculata Youth Club, many of whom had a very negative view of policing in West Belfast, following the Distillery Street disorder in Aug '20. To have brought those kids together with police in meaningful discussion, in just over a year after that, is a major achievement in itself for all concerned."

**Sergeant Rebecca Adams, Community Planning** - "This is a project which continues to grow – both in terms of groups wishing to avail of it and by reputation. It provides a fantastic opportunity to sit down and simply talk and engage in conversation with groups of young people in an open, honest and transparent way, to let young people learn more about us as Police Officers and people and about the main topics which are important to the young people and their perceptions.

It allows us to go into places and areas with the young people who can have a very negative opinion on Police prior to the sessions and concludes with us being able to explain to them why we do what we do and how we do it. We attend the first sessions in our plain clothes, and as aforementioned in the report, this provides a chance to not just humanise us, but break down barriers even if it is just discussing normal out of work things like sports teams."

### **Comments from Young People**

"It was good, learnt loads".

"Good programme, very informative".

"Very informative and well presented".

It was good, had fun, learnt loads".

"I think it taught us all that cops aren't as bad as people make them out to be".

"It's been amazing, so far".

### **Comment from Extern**

"All the groups, particularly enjoyed the informative sessions, that were equipment based, riot gear, drug box, police cars etc. They all commented on the excellent

engagement with the police, and they hoped to maintain the relationships and engagement established during the programme.”

The busy Newcastle Road is home to St Columban’s primary school, meaning those that speed are endangering children who may be playing or crossing going to and from school. Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP, working with NPT officers agreed to run a Kids Court to try and emphasise the issue.

Kids Court saw eight speeding motorists face a panel of P7 judges to explain their reasons for speeding outside the school, as well as being quizzed on their road safety knowledge.



Kids Court often proves a powerful experience for motorists as they come face to face with the young lives they are endangering, and 100% of those involved said they had greater knowledge of the dangers of exceeding the speed limit.

## Safety Campaigns – Joined-up Working

PCSPs have once again been vital in getting key safety messages and campaigns out to their communities, through events, leaflet drops and social media. In additions, projects and initiatives that complement campaigns have been implemented:

With over £3.5 million lost to scams this year so far, it’s an issue which has affected many people across Northern Ireland. For Newry, Mourne & Down PCSP, scams and scam prevention were topics discussed frequently at meetings and public engagement events.



With groups taking a break due to pandemic restrictions, feedback from community members was that while information being circulated online was useful, it wasn’t accessible to more vulnerable community members such as older people who weren’t comfortable accessing information online. Individuals were more isolated than usual and were not reaching information how they normally would, for example, in their community groups or via speaking to friends and family. This prompted PCSP to organise “Scambassador” online training session to much success.

Scambassadors are people from local areas who are known to vulnerable members of the community in everyday life. In this instance, training was given to those who would continue to be in touch with vulnerable people throughout the pandemic - Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators, community group representatives. Library staff, elected reps, PCSP Partnership members, church groups and GPs.

Training was developed and coordinated by Newry, Mourne & Down PCSP and delivered by a local PSNI Crime Prevention Officer and the Community Banking Team Leader from Ulster Bank.

## PSNI Campaigns supported by PCSPs



## 7. 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 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Like 2020/21, this year was impacted of periods of lockdown which impacted the PCSPs' ability to fully implement interventions that are best delivered on face-to-face basis. However, the adaptations and innovative methods developed by PCSPs during 2020/21 were essential in ensuring that work to increase community safety and confidence in policing continued, in consultation with key stakeholders and grassroots groups.

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

PCSPs also work with a number of designated partners:

- PSNI
- Housing Executive
- Youth Justice Agency
- Probation Board
- Education Authority
- Health and Social Care Board
- NIFRS



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