



**Armagh Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP Annual
Report**
2024/25

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Chair and Vice Chair Foreword

As the outgoing Chair and Vice Chair of Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP), we are pleased to be able to share some of the highlights from our work in 2024/25 to help make our borough a safer place for everyone.

Over the past year, the Partnership has delivered a wide range of programmes, events, and initiatives that have made a real difference to people's lives. We've worked closely with our partners to tackle key priorities set by the Department of Justice and the NI Policing Board—making our communities better places to live, work, and spend time.

A big thank you to all the statutory bodies we have worked in partnership with. These collaborations have grown stronger over time, and we're looking forward to continuing that great work together in the year ahead.

We want to thank the PCSP team for their hard work and commitment and whose efforts really make a difference and thank our PCSP Members for their continued support and for helping shape the future of our borough.

The PCSP was formally reconstituted in June, and we would like to recognise and thank our outgoing members for their dedication to community safety and policing oversight during their term and warmly welcome our new members who have now commenced their journey with us.

We remain committed to making a positive impact in our community, this report reflects on the progress made over the past 12 months—and sets the stage for the work still to come.

Outgoing Chair Alderman Mark Baxter & Vice Chair Caoímhe McNeill



Executive Summary

The overall outcome that Armagh Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP aims to achieve is a safe community where we respect the law and each other.

During 2024/25, the partnership delivered projects that really made a difference. Enhancing everyday life for residents, supporting local businesses, and strengthening the Borough as a vibrant place to live and work.

General Crime Trends

A total of 10,110 crimes were recorded across the borough in 2023/24 which reflects a 1% decrease from the previous year's figure of 10,207. However, compared to 2013/14, crime has risen by 9%, suggesting a gradual long-term increase.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) - 4,813 ASB incidents were reported in 2023/24. This marks an 8% drop from 2022/23 (5,233 incidents) and a 10.8% reduction compared to 2013/14 (5,393 incidents). The borough has now seen three consecutive years of decline in ASB, indicating positive progress in community safety.

Violent Crime and Burglary - Police have reported a significant reduction in violent crime and burglary, particularly in areas such as Armagh and Cushier. These improvements are largely credited to strong community engagement and targeted policing strategies, despite ongoing financial pressures.

Drug-Related Offences - The borough ranks as the third highest in Northern Ireland for drug seizures and arrests, following Belfast and Derry/Strabane. Prescription drug misuse has emerged as a growing concern, requiring continued community education and support.

Domestic Violence - Domestic abuse remains a serious and persistent issue within the ABC Borough. According to PSNI statistics the borough ranks second highest in Northern Ireland for domestic abuse incidents, following Belfast. Over the past two years, more than 6,000 incidents have been reported locally. These figures include both criminal offences and non-crime incidents, such as verbal intimidation and coercive control—forms of abuse that are increasingly being recognised and reported. Victims often experience repeated abuse before seeking help, underscoring the need for early intervention and support. On average, the PSNI responds to a domestic abuse call every 19 minutes across Northern Ireland.

Policing & Resource Challenges - Budget restrictions have led to a decline in the number of officers and detectives, which may impact response times for non-emergency incidents. Despite these constraints, local police remain committed to maintaining visibility and strengthening ties with the community, particularly through engagement by the Local Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

Activity this year included:

- Projects aimed at reducing crime and fear of crime across rural and urban communities especially older and vulnerable people by educating and informing the community of steps that can be taken to prevent becoming a victim of crime.
- Projects that aim to reduce the damage to communities caused by anti-social behaviour in the Borough, with an emphasis on problem solving partnership working, early intervention and diversionary activity
- Projects that aim to reduce harm and raise awareness on a range of issues including hate crime, domestic and sexual violence, internet safety, personal safety, and safety on the road with a specific emphasis on young people.
- Activities that support monitoring of local police performance and ensure local accountability.
- Activities and projects that support community and police engagement.
- Activities that build community confidence in the rule of law

Delivery the Functions of the PCSP	<p>Facilitation of PCSP private & public meetings and meaningful engagement with local people on matters of community safety and policing.</p> <p>Awareness raising of the work of the PCSP using traditional and social media methods.</p>
Crime Prevention	<p>Initiatives including the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home security & scams prevention – with a particular focus older people • General crime prevention awareness raising • Increasing No cold calling zones • Text Alert Scheme • Supporting Watch Schemes • Good Morning Service • Business and agricultural Crime Prevention
Anti-social behaviour	<p>Improving community safety and tackling ASB locally by delivering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASB Diversionary Programmes • Problem solving partnership working. • Intergenerational programmes • Offensive graffiti removal (including the removal of hate crime related graffiti). • Get Home Safe Bus
Reducing Harm	<p>Initiatives aimed at reducing harm and raising awareness of support on issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic & Sexual Violence

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet and personal safety – including cybercrime. • Road safety • Vulnerability and mental health • Drugs and alcohol • Hate Crime • Engagement with young people to provide early intervention awareness, support, and information available on a range of issues which negatively impact them. • Provision of Community Safety Warden service
Community Confidence in policing	<p>Monitoring police performance</p> <p>Delivering activities to support community and police engagement</p> <p>Supporting local communities to become resilient to harmful influence and coercive control of organised crime.</p>

Introduction

Borough Overview

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough extends to an area of approximately 554 square miles and adjoins the boundary of five neighbouring Council areas: Mid Ulster District Council, Newry Mourne and Down District Council, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council (by Lough Neagh) and Monaghan County Council in the Republic of Ireland.

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council has 41 Elected Members, who provide representation to a population of almost 220,000 residents and over 8,000 businesses and is the largest Council in Northern Ireland after Belfast. The Borough has 3 main urban centres, 6 local towns, 29 villages and 66 small settlements. The urban centres are Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon urban area, which includes the 3 elements of Portadown, Central Craigavon and Lurgan. The 6 local towns are Dromore, Rathfriland, Gilford, Tandragee, Markethill and Keady.

Community Planning

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council's Community Plan, entitled '*Connected*,' sets out the future direction of the Borough and aims to shape the areas in which people live, work, and visit from now until 2030.

The work of the PCSP fits into the overarching aim of the Community theme in '*Connected*' i.e. 'We live in a caring and safe Borough, where people lead healthy, fulfilling lives and take pride in shaping, nurturing and enriching community life.'

Community Planning is a process that enables councils, statutory bodies, and the community to work together to develop and implement a shared vision for promoting the well-being of their area and pave the way for the most efficient use of scarce resources. It involves everyone working together to make life better for local people and deliver real improvements. It means planning to improve the big issues that matter to people like health, education, employment, safety, and the environment.

The Council has led on the community planning process for the Borough and has worked collaboratively with a wide range of partners including the PCSP. The PCSP looks forward to playing a lead role in the delivery of the Safe and Welcoming Communities pillar of the Corporate Plan ensuring ongoing collaboration of more integrated, people centred, public services.



Background of the PCSP

Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP is a partnership between Elected Representatives from Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council, representatives of the local community and statutory bodies that have been designated regionally by the Northern Ireland Assembly under the Justice Act (NI) 2011.

Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP has ten political members appointed by Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council reflecting the political balance of the Council as a whole at the last Local Government Election. The NI Policing Board appoints nine independent members of the community. Together these members form the Policing Committee of the PCSP. In addition, PCSPs have representatives from seven designated bodies who all have a role to play in community safety.

- Probation Board for Northern Ireland
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- Youth Justice Agency
- Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service
- Southern Health and Social Services Trust
- Education Authority Northern Ireland
- Police Service of Northern Ireland

Each year Council nominates the Chairperson of the PCSP, and the Vice-Chair of the Partnership is one of the Independent Members elected by the other Independent Members of the Partnership.

The PCSP was formally reconstituted in June 2024 with five Independent Members sadly leaving and six new Independent Members appointed by the NI Policing Board. Three existing Independent Members were re-appointed.

In 2024-25 Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP consisted of the following members:

PCSP Membership (as of Reconstitution June 2024)

Elected Members	Independent Members	Designated Organisations
Alderman Mark Baxter (DUP)	Mr Gilbert Lee	Northern Ireland Probation Board
Councillor Julie Flaherty (UUP)	Mr James Camblin	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Alderman Paul Greenfield (DUP)	Mrs Lynne McCausland	Youth Justice Agency

Councillor Keith Haughian (SF)	Mr Paul Finegan	Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service
Councillor Lavelle McIlwrath (DUP)	Mr Johnny Mercer	Southern Health and Social Services Trust
Councillor Clare McConville Walker (SF)	Mr Barry McCrory	Education Authority Northern Ireland
Councillor Kevin Savage (SF)	Mr Blaine McCartney	Police Service of Northern Ireland
Alderman Gareth Wilson (DUP)	Mrs Holly Knox	
Councillor Sarah Duffy (SF)	Miss Caoímhe McNeill (Vice Chair)	
Councillor Joy Ferguson (APNI)		

Working together with our partner agencies to make our community safer



PCSP Member Meeting Attendance

	Policing Committee (4 meetings held)	PCSP Meeting (4 meetings held)
Political Members		
Alderman Mark Baxter	4	4
Councillor Julie Flaherty	3	4
Alderman Paul Greenfield	3	4
Councillor Keith Haughian	3	2
Councillor Lavelle McIlwrath	3	3
Councillor Clare McConville Walker	3	2
Councillor Kevin Savage	4	2
Alderman Gareth Wilson	3	3
Councillor Sarah Duffy	0	2
Councillor Joy Ferguson	1	1
Independent Members		
Mr Gilbert Lee	4	3
Mr James Camblin	2	3
Mrs Lynne McCausland	3	3
Mr Paul Finegan	2	3
Mr Johnny Mercer	4	3
Mr Barry McCrory	1	3
Mr Blaine McCartney	1	2
Mrs Holly Knox	3	2
Miss Caoímhe McNeill (Vice Chair)	2	2
Miss Katie Matthews*	n/a	0
Mr Joe Gibson*	n/a	0
Miss Courtney Wells*	n/a	0
Miss Meadh O'Dowd*	n/a	0
Mrs Deidre Kennedy*	n/a	1
Designated Organisations		
Probation Board for Northern Ireland	n/a	3
Northern Ireland Housing Executive	n/a	4
Youth Justice Agency	n/a	3
Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service	n/a	4
Southern Health and Social Services Trust	n/a	3
Education Authority Northern Ireland	n/a	3
Police Service of Northern Ireland	4	4

*Ceased to be members at reconstitution June 2024

PCSP Contact Details

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PCSP funding by Action Plan theme

Action Plan theme	Operational funding breakdown
Strategic Objective 2: Improve Community Safety	
Crime Prevention Initiatives & Campaigns	74,832.00
Good Morning Scheme	11,052.00
ASB Diversionary Programmes	23,378.00
Intergenerational Programmes	15,878.00
Graffiti Removal Scheme	15,878.00
Drugs & Alcohol Initiatives, Workshops & Awareness Raising	21,378.00
Get Home Safe Bus	27,878.00
Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness Raising Initiatives	22,378.00
Schools & Young Peoples Engagement	20,878.00
Road Safety Education & Awareness Initiatives	15,308.00
Community Safety Warden Service	92,878.00
Strategic Objective 3: Improve Community Confidence in Policing	
Monitor Local Police Performance	750.00
Engagement of Local Community and Police	10,000.00
Text Alert Scheme	13,878.00
Watch Schemes & No Cold Calling Zones	13,378.00
Total Operational	384,722.00

Year-end Financials

2025/25 Expenditure

<i>Budget Line</i>	<i>Allocated amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent</i>
<i>Administration and Operational</i>	£412,722	£382,297.65
<i>Meeting Expenses</i>	£12,500	£6,619.83
<i>Total Budget (Admin, Operational and Meeting Expenses)</i>	£425,222	£416,917.48

The Full Financial Statement can be found at Appendix 1

Strategic Priority 1

To ensure effective delivery in response to local need and improve the visibility and recognition of the work of the PCSP through effective consultation, communication and engagement.

through:

- *carrying out meaningful engagement in the district with the local community, relevant statutory partners / agencies, businesses and the community & voluntary sector in the development and implementation of PCSP Action Plans.*
- *ensuring ongoing two-way engagement in the district with the local community, relevant statutory partners / agencies, businesses and the community & voluntary sector to provide a problem-solving forum to identify effective solutions to local issues, ensuring sufficient flexibility to address issues as they emerge, and seeking relevant expertise from the designated organisations as appropriate;*
- *using a range of platforms, including multi-media, to communicate and promote the work of the PCSP; and*
- *increasing awareness of the work of the PCSP.*

OBA Overview

How much did we do?

- Public Consultation Survey carried out with 367 questionnaires completed
- 13 Community Engagement Meetings held & attended by 246 participants/attendees
- 6 Instagram Grid Posts, 270 Instagram Stories, 12 Instagram reels
- 642 Facebook posts

How well did we do it?

- 246 participants/attendees at consultation/engagement meetings
- 5513 Facebook likes (+4% on previous year)

- 6333 Facebook followers (+9% on previous year)
- 404 Instagram followers (+ 17% on previous year)
- Facebook reach 187,100
- 213 Reports in local press
- £57,119 Advertising Equivalent Value

Is anyone better off?

- 100% of 12,249 social media users with an increased awareness of the work of PCSPs
- 100% of 246 members of the public satisfied with the meeting/event and felt they had their voice heard (not including protesters)

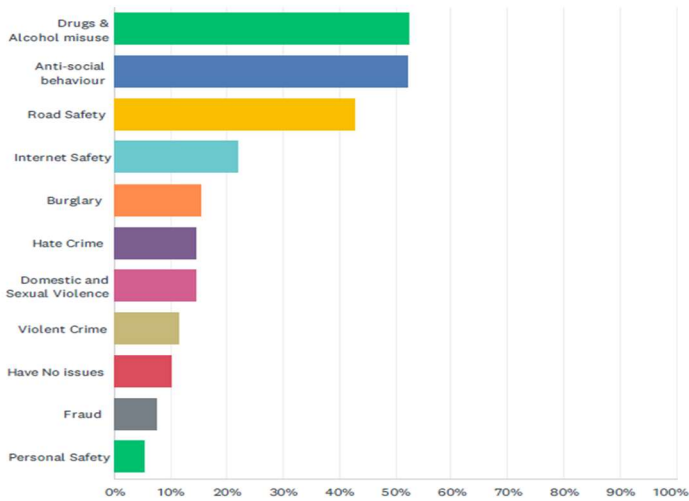
Throughout the year the views of people who attend our events or visit our information stands are gathered by asking them for the priorities the PCSP should be concentrating on.

PCSP staff hold numerous engagement events and information days, including our regular Community Engagement Meetings which allow local people direct access to a local senior PSNI Officer who provides and update on policing in their local area and a forum for local people to discuss issues they are experiencing in their local community.

The partnership is regularly invited to attend events such as wellness days, fun days, information events, etc organised by statutory, voluntary and community organisations with an information stand to promote the work of the PCSP and provide advice and support.

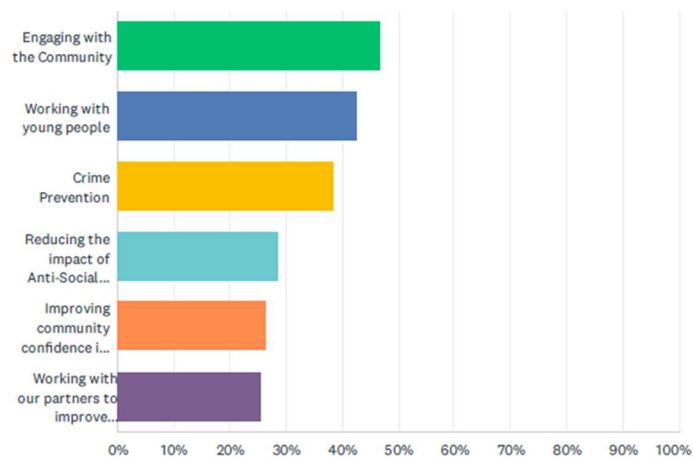
Best practice examples

Name of engagement activity/event	Community Consultation Survey
Cost of event:	No cost – staff time only
Partners:	n/a
Description of activity/event	<p>Questionnaires were distributed at programmes, events and information stands Quarter and posted on our Social Media platforms throughout the 2nd and 3rd asking for views. 367 people completed the questionnaire, and a summary of the data included:</p> <p>Public consultation survey completed by 367 people.</p> <p>Current three biggest issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASB (52%)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drugs & Alcohol Misuse (53%) • Road Safety 43% <p>Most Important activities PCSP and partners should concentrate on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging with the community • Working with young people • Crime Prevention <p>How much confidence do you have in the Police.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Confidence (32%) • Some confidence (61%) • No confidence (7%) 																								
Impact of the work	<p>The information collected was extremely useful to sense check and provide a data to inform members when deciding on the next years Action Plan priorities. Listening and responding to issues identified enables the partnership to prioritise and deliver projects on the things that really matter to people of the borough. This information also provides baseline information to be able to measure the impact of our work over a longer period.</p>																								
OBA	<p>How Much Did We Do? 1 Community Consultation conducted.</p> <p>How Well Did We Do? 367 people provided their views on Community Safety and Policing</p> <p>Is Anyone Better Off? 100% of those who provided their views felt their voice was heard.</p> <p>Q1 What do you feel are currently the 3 biggest issues where you live?</p> <p>Answered: 368 Skipped: 2</p>  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Issue</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Drugs & Alcohol misuse</td> <td>53%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anti-social behaviour</td> <td>43%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Road Safety</td> <td>43%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Internet Safety</td> <td>21%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burglary</td> <td>15%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hate Crime</td> <td>14%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Domestic and Sexual Violence</td> <td>14%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Violent Crime</td> <td>11%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Have No issues</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fraud</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Personal Safety</td> <td>5%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Issue	Percentage	Drugs & Alcohol misuse	53%	Anti-social behaviour	43%	Road Safety	43%	Internet Safety	21%	Burglary	15%	Hate Crime	14%	Domestic and Sexual Violence	14%	Violent Crime	11%	Have No issues	10%	Fraud	8%	Personal Safety	5%
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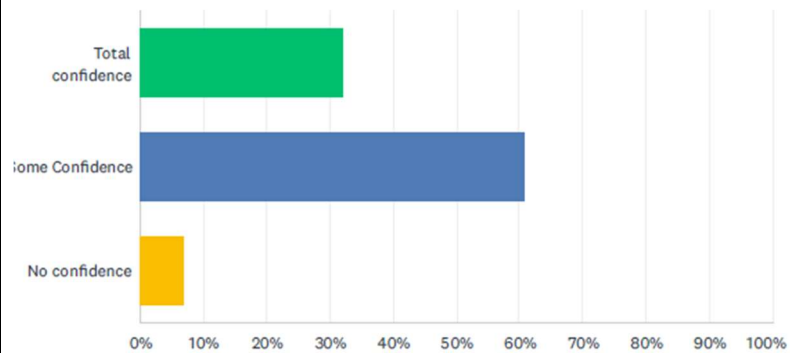
Q2 Please choose the most important activities you think the PCSP and it's partners should concentrate on where you live?


Answered: 364 Skipped: 6



Q4 How much confidence do you have in the Police?

Answered: 364 Skipped: 6



Name of Event	Community Engagement Meetings
Funded amount	£781.05
Partners	PSNI
Description of project	<p>A series of quarterly meetings held in community venues to enable local people to talk directly to their local Neighbourhood Policing Inspector. These important meetings are attended by Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators, local elected representatives, community groups and members of the public.</p> <p>It should be noted that 2 Community Engagement Meetings were subject to protests. PCSP staff along with venue staff and PSNI personnel successfully enabled the meetings to continue.</p>
Impact of the project	<p>Issues raised at 13 meetings held right across the Borough and were attended by 246 participants/attendees in total. Issues of local concern such as ASB, anti-social driving, parking, drugs, business crime and rural crime were discussed and connections made with various agencies and PSNI Officers to enable positive action to be taken to improve the safety and quality of life of communities.</p>
OBA	<p>How Much Did We Do? 13 Meetings held.</p> <p>How Well Did We Do? 246 people provided with an opportunity to bring issues directly to PSNI and other agencies.</p> <p>Is Anyone Better Off? 246 people had their voice heard on local issues that mattered to them.</p>
 <p>The poster features a diverse group of community members, including a man in a wheelchair, a woman in a wheelchair, and several people standing. The text reads: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEETING. Below this, it says: LOCAL POLICE WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE TO GIVE AN UPDATE ON POLICING IN YOUR AREA AND TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY HAVE. At the bottom, there is a Facebook icon with the handle @armaghbanbridgecraigavonPCSP, the PCSP Policing & Community Safety Partnership logo, and the PSNI logo.</p>	

Strategic Priority 2

Strategic Priority 2 - *To improve community safety by prioritising and addressing local community safety issues, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.*

Through:

- *utilising the partnership created by the statutory, elected and independent/ community membership of the PCSP to initiate and lead work to improve community safety and tackle ASB locally.*
- *working in partnership to develop outcome and locality focused interventions to address the most pressing crime types and behaviours impacting local community safety, as evidenced by local need, with appropriate targets and indicators so that impacts can be measured.*
- *drawing on best practice, promote early intervention and collaborating effectively to improve PCSP-supported projects and programmes that address the underlying causes of ASB, crime and the fear of crime in the community, including, where appropriate, a focus on changing behaviours.*
- *enhancing safety and feelings of safety, in particular for those who might be more vulnerable.*
- *engaging with partners in the district, to horizon scan in order to respond to and re-direct resources to respond to emerging local community safety issues.*
- *having cognisance of the Community Safety Framework in developing local plans, and providing a feedback loop to the Community Safety Board on local issues in order to inform community safety policy development – and vice versa; and*

Providing comprehensive community input into decision making processes about tackling actual and perceived anti-social behaviour and giving feedback to the community on the effectiveness of interventions on meeting outcomes.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

PCSP Officers have continued to build strong collaborative partnerships with local stakeholders, implementing multi-agency problem-solving approaches in identified hotspot locations such as parks, open spaces, residential and other public areas where incidents of anti-social behaviour (ASB) had been highlighted to the PCSP or its partners, including:

- Taghnevan, Lurgan
- Tullygally, Lurgan
- Rathfriland
- Portadown known drug sites
- Madden Road, Tandragee
- St Patrick's College grounds, Banbridge
- Lissize Park, Banbridge
- Dromore Street Banbridge
- Dollingstown
- Brookfield Mills, Banbridge
- Lurgan Park
- Ballyoran, Portadown
- Magheralin

Throughout the year, an extensive programme of diversionary activities was delivered, incorporating a diverse mix of sport, music, arts, and issue-based sessions. A total of 49 sessions were held, engaging 475 participants across various parts of our Borough.

- Skate Jam – Solitude Park
- Lurgan Festival of Bowls
- Epicentre Empowerment Programme
- Edgarstown Den Creative Project
- Skate & Create – Solitude Park
- Music Workshop with Carrick Primary School
- Dromore Boxing Project
- Brownlow College Summer Programme
- Edgarstown Arts Project
- ASB Programme – Futureproof and Banbridge NPT
- EA Interclub Basketball Tournament
- Community Space Engagement – Lurgan and Portadown
- Tullygally diversionary Programme
- Girls Empowerment Programme (GEM) with REACT Armagh

Other projects under the Anti-social behaviour section of the Action Plan include:

- Get Home Safe Bus
- Offensive Graffiti Removal Scheme
- Intergenerational Programmes

How much did we do?

13 ASB Hotspots monitored with problem solving/partnership working actions carried out

14 Diversionary projects delivered to 476 participants over 49 sessions.

53 Nights of Service - Get Home Safe Bus with a total of 3005 service users

52 requests for removal of Offensive Graffiti with 35 sq m of offensive graffiti removed

5 Intergenerational Projects delivered involving 129 participants

How well did we do it

100% of 7 partners reporting satisfaction with ASB Hotspot partnership working

476 (99%) of participants reporting satisfaction with diversionary activities

100% of 37 partners reporting satisfaction with diversionary activities

100% of 3005 Get Home Safe service users reported satisfaction with the service

100% of 52 people who have requested removal report satisfaction with the Offensive Graffiti Removal Scheme

Is anyone better off?

100% of 7 partners reporting improved partnership working with key stakeholders to deal with ASB because of PCSP involvement.

421 (88%) participants with changed behaviour/circumstances because of their participation in an ASB Diversionary project or session.

100% of 3005 Get Home Safe service users felt safer because of the service.

100% of people who requested removal of offensive graffiti felt their area was improved/felt safer because of graffiti removal.

Best practice example – ASB Diversionary

Name of Project	Interclub Basketball Tournament
Funded amount	£400
Partners	Council's Sports Development, Community Development, clan Eireann Youth Club, Scotch Street Youth Club and Oasis Youth Club
Description of project	The Interclub Basketball Tournament served as an energetic platform for young people from diverse backgrounds to come together in a shared, positive experience. As well as encouraging new friendships, initiatives like this play a vital role in strengthening connections across the youth work sector and promoting

	meaningful cross-community engagement and good relations.
Impact of the project	<p><i>Feedback from Youth Club Leaders:</i></p> <p><i>No issues to report regarding prior behaviour concerns. ALL the young people present are highly interested in sporting pursuits and relished the chance to become involved with other clubs and compete together. As a club, it is wonderful to engage with so many young people at a contentious age on a Saturday evening.</i></p> <p><i>Clann Éireann Youth Club are delighted to have made connections with Oasis and Scotch Street and look forward to furthering these connections. The support of PCSP makes these interclub events possible as transport costs can be a great challenge for us. Very Grateful</i></p>
OBA	<p>How Much Did We Do? 45 participants</p> <p>How Well Did We Do? 100% of 45 participants reported satisfaction with the activities. 100% of 5 partners reported satisfaction with the activities.</p> <p>Is Anyone Better Off? 100% of 45 participants with changed behaviour/circumstances because of the activity 100% of 5 partners reporting improved partnership working with other key stakeholders (because of their involvement with PCSP).</p>



Theme: Crime Prevention

This section of our Action Plan focused on delivering targeted projects to reduce crime and the fear of crime, while enhancing feelings of safety and security across both rural and urban communities. Particular attention was given to older and vulnerable residents, with initiatives designed to educate and inform the public about practical steps they can take to avoid becoming victims of crime.

Despite a decline in reported incidents, burglary continues to be a concern within our communities. Crime prevention remains a top priority, as identified by local feedback. We remain committed to maintaining these low levels through proactive engagement and support.

Older residents have benefited from our support of the Good Morning Telephone Service and delivery of the Older Persons Home Security Scheme. This scheme is available to individuals aged 65+ in the ABC area who have experienced domestic burglary, doorstep crime, or who live with a genuine fear of such incidents. It offers a thorough home security assessment, tailored recommendations to improve safety. We have delivered regular crime prevention talks to local groups throughout the year.

Our commitment to tackling Hate Crime was reflected in the delivery of **We Stand Together** training, in collaboration with the Hate Crime Advocacy Service and local Neighbourhood Policing Teams. We also hosted a Hate Crime Awareness Conference titled **Put Yourself in Their Shoes**, which was attended by 120 participants and promoted greater understanding and empathy across the community.

Personal safety, especially for Women and Girls, was the main topic for our **Run Safe, Run Well** event delivered in Partnership with our colleagues from Armagh and Lurgan Neighbourhood Policing Team. With interesting speakers and practical advice on personal and road safety.

How much did we do?

40 Referrals for home security visits to people aged 65+

26 Home Security visits carried out

22 Home Security telephone reassurance calls provided

268 Items of home security equipment provided

14 onward referrals to partner agencies

37 Crime Prevention/SCAM Awareness Presentations conducted to local groups to 851 attendees

Approximately 7,000 RFID Sleeves, distributed to residents across ABC Borough via Crime Prevention Packs, at promotional events, distributed individually or via partners

3 Keep Safe Keep Well Conferences aimed at people aged 65+ attended by 390 older people.

259 Signal Blocking Faraday Pouches were distributed to prevent keyless car theft
215 Registered users of the Good Morning Service supported.
4 We Stand Together training courses delivered to 180 participants.
120 people attended Hate Crime Conference – Put Yourself in Their Shoes

How well did we do it?


100% of 33 of participants reporting satisfaction with home visit/call.
100% of 851 people who heard a crime prevention/scams awareness presentation were satisfied with the content.
100% of 390 attendees at the Keep Safe Keep Well conferences were satisfied with the event.
100% of 134 recipients of Faraday Pouches were satisfied.
98% of 215 Good Morning Service users were satisfied with the service.
100% of 28 participants who completed the evaluation reported satisfaction with the We Stand Together Training course.
100% of 52 participants who completed the evaluation reported satisfaction with the Put Yourself in Their Shoes Conference.

Is anyone better off?

100% of 33 participants who feel safer after a home security visit/call.
100% of 33 participants with improved awareness/knowledge/understanding of crime prevention & property security measures after a home security visit/call.
100% of 851 people who heard a crime prevention/scams awareness presentation had improved awareness of crime prevention and property security measures and were more likely to report crime/engage with police.
100% of 390 people who attended the Keep Safe Keep Well Conferences had an improved awareness/knowledge/understanding of how to keep themselves safe.
100% of 134 recipients of Faraday Pouches had an improved understanding of Keyless Car Theft and security measures they could take to help prevent theft of their vehicle.
98% of Good Morning Service Users felt safer and more equipped to live independently.
97% of people who attended the We Stand Together training have increased awareness of how to be an active bystander.
100% of attendees who completed the evaluation form have increased awareness/knowledge of hate crime and supports available following the Put Yourself in Their Shoes Conference.

Best practice example – Crime & Fear of Crime

Name of Project	Crime Prevention & Scam Awareness Talks
Funded amount	£4,000
Partners	PSNI, local community groups, older people's groups
Description of project	<p>The Partnership has several team members who have been professionally trained to provide crime prevention advice to the standard of PSNI Crime Prevention Officers. This enables the PCSP to visit groups to provide advice and guidance on ways to keep themselves and their homes safe.</p> <p>In 2024/25 over 35 community or social groups have received a presentation on practical measures they can implement in their homes that will improve their security and risk of becoming a victim of domestic burglary, bogus callers or scams whilst also signposting to other support agencies and services available.</p> <p>Typically, each talk will cover topics such as Scams – telephone, online, text, doorstep callers, identity theft. Physical Home security Personal safety – when out and about</p> <p>We have been prioritising groups of people who more likely to be adversely affected by crime or fear of crime, especially older adults and vulnerable people.</p> <p>Every participant receives a pack of information and crime prevention items to help them remain safe in the home and when out and about.</p>
Impact of the project	<p>We receive regular requests for this presentation which is very much in demand and the <i>feedback</i> from group leaders is overwhelmingly positive.</p> <p>Clanrye Carers Group – Crime Preventing and Scams talk. <i>I just wanted to say thanks so much for this morning. It was so enlightening and the carers all really appreciated it so thanks again for giving up your time.</i></p> <p>From Mencap, Keady - personal safety and home security talk <i>"I wanted to let you know we had Billy out talking to the tenants earlier and he done such a great job. He spoke to them in a way they could understand. And most of the tenants want him back."</i></p> <p>From Social Worker at Banbridge Medical Group - Scams Talk</p>

	<i>"Thank you so much for doing talk yesterday. It was brilliant, everyone seemed to enjoy it."</i>
OBA	<p>How Much Did We Do? 37 Crime Prevention/SCAM Awareness Presentations conducted to local groups to 851 attendees</p> <p>How Well Did We Do? 100% of 851 people who heard a crime prevention/scams awareness presentation were satisfied with the content.</p> <p>Is Anyone Better Off? 100% of 851 people who heard a crime prevention/scams awareness presentation had improved awareness of crime prevention and property security measures and were more likely to report crime/engage with police.</p>
	

Best practice example – Hate Crime

Name of Project	Put Yourself in Their Shoes Hate Crime Conference
Funded amount	£2,410.82
Partners	PSNI, Victims Support Hate Crime Advocacy Service, Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council Good Relations Team
Description of project	As part of National Hate Crime Awareness Week, a hard-hitting conference to raise awareness of Hate Crime was held at Craigavon Civic and Conference Centre – and left a significant impact on those in attendance.

	Organised in partnership with Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon Policing & Community Safety Partnership and Victim Support NI, the 'Put Yourself in their Shoes' event gave voice to a number of guest speakers from a variety of walks of life, who shared their very personal experiences of being a victim of Hate Crime.
Impact of the project	<p><i>Feedback from participants:</i></p> <p><i>Excellent workshop, very well organised. Thanks for all the information stands. Great location to hold event. Good car parking. Staff very approachable.</i></p> <p><i>This was an excellent event with an excellent blend of speakers, a mix of advocates, professionals and people with lived experience. It was also great to see the exhibitors and talk with service providers about new research, initiatives and issues.</i></p> <p><i>Loved experienced stories tellers they were excellent and an important aspect of the event. Excellent speakers – very well organised and exceptional networking opportunities</i></p> <p><i>Thank you so much I have learned so much.</i></p> <p><i>This has been one of the best events I have been to. All the speakers including the story tellers were inspirational.</i></p>
OBA	<p>How much did we do? 120 participants</p> <p>How well did we do it? 100% of 52 participants who completed the evaluation reporting satisfaction with activities/service.</p> <p>100% of 3 partners reporting satisfaction with activities/service.</p> <p>Is anyone better off? 85% of 52 respondents have increased awareness/knowledge of hate crime and impact on victims.</p> <p>100% of 52 respondents have increased awareness/knowledge of the hate crime advocacy service after the conference.</p> <p>100% of 52 respondents have increased awareness/knowledge – of being an active bystander and after the conference.</p>

100% participants more likely to use or refer victims to the Hate Crime Advocacy Service after the conference.



Theme: Reducing Harm

Included under this sub-heading of our Action Plan were activities that sought to address:

- Domestic & Sexual Violence awareness raising support and signposting
- Engagement with Young People to raise awareness of the support and information available on a range of emerging issues
- Road Safety Education and Awareness (including SIDs)
- Community Safety Wardens
- Drugs and Alcohol Initiatives, workshops and awareness raising (including RAPID bins)

How much did we do?

53 men supported and 170 1-2-1 Counselling Sessions delivered by Men's Advisory Project

25 children supported by Women's Aid in the SAHRA Project with 86 support sessions provided.

21 Schools took part in our Bee Safe Programme delivered to 750 Primary 7 pupils.

1000 students engaged with at Southern Regional College Freshers Fayres across the Borough

5 performances of the Theatre in Education Tour of 'Click' delivered in partnership with the Southern Regional College Level 3 Performing Arts students and Foundation Degree Creative Music and Audio Production Students. Attended by 500 Primary 6/7 pupils from local primary schools across the Borough and 24 SRC Students with Additional Needs.

27 young people aged 11-16 took part in the EA/PCSP Making Links Invitational Youth Organisations Pool Tournament.

80 young men participated in an International Mens Day Inter-Club event delivered in partnership with the EA.

9 ABC Road Safety Committee meetings facilitated.

50 Road Safety talks delivered in ABC Borough and several information events attended in partnership with ABC Road Safety Committee which engaged with 4738 local people.

11 Semi-permanent Speed Indicator Devices (SIDSs) and 3 portable SIDS deployed across the Borough by local Neighbourhood Policing Teams (25 locations and 227 days deployment)

700 students from Lurgan and Portadown post primary schools attended the PSNI Road Safe Roadshow in Craigavon Civic Centre

15 people attended a Basic Car Maintenance Evening to learn about tyre safety and oil fluid levels in their vehicle.

1545 Community Safety Warden Patrols carried out totalling 3912 hours of patrols worked.

18 Theresa Burke Drugs Awareness Talks delivered to 2419 people.

550 people attended a performance of "I Love You Mum" theatre production over 4 performances.

12 RAPID (Remove All Prescription and Illegal Drugs) bins – 40,757 individual drugs items (mainly tablets) removed from circulation.

How well did we do it?

100% of clients receiving counselling sessions by Men's Advisory Project were satisfied with the service.

100% of children supported by the SAHRA Project were happy with the support provided.

750 Primary 7 Students who participated in Bee Safe, and 100% of 21 teachers, were satisfied with the sessions they attended.

100% of young people engaged with at SRC Freshers Fayres were satisfied with the engagement.

524 pupils/students who attended a performance of "Click" were happy with the performance.

100% of 27 participants of the Youth Organisations Pool Tournament were satisfied with the event and support youth leaders provided very positive feedback.

100% of the 80 attendees at the International Men's Day Event enjoyed the event and would like to take part in another similar event in the future.

11 ABC Road Safety Committee members satisfied with the support received.

4738 local people were satisfied with road safety talks/information stands.

100% of 5 partners reporting satisfaction with SID provision.

700 students who attended the Road Safe Roadshow were satisfied with the show.

15 people thought the Car Maintenance Evening was very worthwhile.

100% of partners and businesses (who completed the survey) were satisfied with the level of engagement with Community Safety Wardens

98% of people who listened to the Theresa Burk Drugs Awareness Talk were satisfied with its content.

99% of audience members of "I Love You Mum" theatre production was happy with the performance.

100% of Partners (PSNI, PHA, Starte 360) reporting satisfaction with RAPID bin management.

Is anyone better off?

89% of participants of Male Domestic Violence Counselling felt safer and more supported.

100% of children referred to the SAHRA Project felt better supported and have a better understanding of how it feels to be safe and unsafe.

100% of 750 pupils who attended Bee Safe sessions had improved knowledge and awareness of how to keep themselves safe moving into the next stage of their education.

100% of 1000 SRC Students engaged with at Freshers Fayres had improved awareness/knowledge of community safety issues.

100% of 524 pupils/students who attended a performance of "Click" had improved awareness/knowledge of online safety.

27 participants in the Invitation Youth Organisations Pool Tournament had increased knowledge of vaping and other well-being issues.

100% of 80 participants in the International Mens Day Interclub Event and many have since attended other similar workshops.

24 people involved with the ABC Road Safety Committee with increased knowledge of road safety who will apply that knowledge to improve road safety in the Borough.

4738 local people had improved awareness/knowledge of how to keep themselves safety on the road because of their engagement at road safety talks/information stands.

75% of Local Neighbourhood Teams better equipped to respond to community road safety concerns. 100% of Semi-permanent SIDs reporting an average reduction in speed, e.g. in Quarter 3 over 112,000 vehicles passed the semi-permanent SIDs with the vast majority travelling at or below the speed limit and only around 1% of vehicles travelling more than 10mph over the speed limit.

100% of the 700 students and 4 teacher representatives said that this had made a difference to them and their students and had improved their awareness/knowledge of road safety.

15 participants of the Car Maintenance Evening had improved their knowledge of road safety.

100% of partners/businesses (who took part in the survey) reported feeling supported and confident that community safety was improved and crime reduced because of the Community Safety Wardens activity.

99% of recipients of a Theresa Burke Drugs Awareness Talk had improved awareness/knowledge of the negative effects of drug use.

98% of 550 people who came to a performance of "I Love You Mum" had an increased awareness/knowledge of drugs and their effects.

40,757 individual drugs items (mainly tablets) removed from circulation.

Best practice example – Domestic and Sexual Violence

Name of Project	SAHRA Project
Funded amount	£5000
Partners	Women's Aid Armagh Down
Description of project	<p>Since its inception in 2021 (until Jan 2023) PSNI's Operation Encompass (OpEd) saw police attend 1659 domestic abuse incidents with 3111 children exposed to domestic abuse across the Southern and South Eastern Trust areas.</p> <p>While Operation Encompass provides the vital notification to the child's school that this child is living with the impact of Domestic Abuse, the schools did not have the specialist training, skills or resources to provide the one-to-one support that may be needed at that time for that child.</p> <p>Women's Aid Armagh Down was supported by ABC PCSP and other partners to provide support to children referred to them by school safeguarding teachers.</p> <p>A specially trained SAHRA worker provided up to 6 weeks of specialist 1-2-1 support to a child referred to them following a notification from OpEd. This was done with consent of both the child and a parent. Creating a safe space where the child could discuss their experiences and develop healthy coping mechanisms.</p> <p>Focussing on healthy relationships and learning to recognise red flags increased their confidence to build positive relationships in the future. Significant improvements in emotional well-being among participating students was also noted. Participants were better equipped to manage difficult situations and feel more empowered to speak up for themselves.</p>
Impact of the project	<p>Feedback from schools:</p> <p>City of Armagh High School</p> <p><i>"Since women's aid has become involved in our school, we have seen the massive difference they have had through a range of workshops and assemblies as part of our empowering the pupil's curriculum we run. Furthermore, we have been so fortunate to have them create and run the SAHRA Project over the last year. The positive influence, a person to listen to and support that this 6-week program has given has been immense to young kids suffering domestic violence through the</i></p>

	<p><i>encompass system. I truly hope that this program continues.”</i></p> <p>St. Malachy’s Primary School <i>“Several years ago, the school became increasingly concerned about the number of Operation Encompass phone calls, which highlighted domestic incidents affecting students. This prompted the school to seek assistance from Women's Aid, who were fortunately able to implement a dedicated service tailored to support these students by providing necessary interventions. Clare and Jessica have been instrumental in delivering this programme, which focuses on healthy relationships and offers consistent weekly support. Clare and Jessica's contributions have been invaluable to our school community. Their programme has not only bridged the gap between awareness and intervention but has also equipped our students with the tools they need to thrive. Through their efforts, students have been educated on healthy relationships, empowered to recognise and understand the dynamics of their own experiences, and provided with valuable coping mechanisms. Their work has had a positive impact, and we hope this continues in the future.”</i></p> <p>Hart Memorial Primary School, Portadown</p> <p><i>“At our school, we have found the work with SAHRA to be invaluable to help us address pupil safety on the back of challenging situations in home lives. The project effectively bridges the gap between home difficulties and the school setting, in a way which we as a school could not do.</i></p>
OBA	<p>How Much Did We Do? 25 children supported by Women’s Aid in the SAHRA Project with 86 support sessions provided.</p> <p>How Well Did We Do? 100% of children supported by the SAHRA Project were happy with the support provided.</p> <p>Is Anyone Better Off? 100% of children supported by the SAHRA Project felt better supported and have a better understanding of how it feels to be safe and unsafe.</p>

Best practice example – Road Safety

Name of Project	ABC Road Safety Committee
Funded amount	£42.80 and staff time
Partners	ABC Road Safety Committee (Registered charity), PSNI, NIFRS
Description of project	<p>The Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Road Safety Committee is a local subcommittee of the registered charity Road Safe NI, established in 2020 to promote road safety awareness across the borough and surrounding areas.</p> <p>Road safety remains a high priority in the Borough. In 2024 there were 8 people killed in road traffic collisions 97 individuals sustained serious injuries and 580 people were slightly injured within the borough. Around 685 casualties were recorded in total.</p> <p>This places the borough among the higher-risk districts in Northern Ireland for serious road traffic injuries, though not the highest in terms of fatalities. ABC PCSP recognised this as a priority and has provided administrative and practical support to the ABC Road Safety Committee.</p> <p>Working in partnership with PSNI Roads Policing, NIFRS, Road Safe NI, and the Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) ensures a coordinated approach to road safety education and awareness.</p> <p>The committee is dedicated to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing public awareness of safe driving practices and pedestrian safety • Supporting individuals and families affected by serious road traffic collisions • Collaborating with schools, community organisations, and emergency services to deliver educational initiatives • Membership and Structure <p>The committee comprises approximately 20 members and volunteers, including representatives from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSNI • NI Fire & Rescue Service • Council • Road Safe NI

	<p>Recent initiatives include:</p> <p>Producing and providing road safety education resources and presentations.</p> <p>Promoting services to support bereavement, trauma, and mental health in the aftermath of road incidents</p> <p>Delivering road safety talks to local groups and schools.</p> <p>Attending local events to provide information and advice to people to increase good road user behaviour.</p> <p>Lobbying for road safety improvements in the area, including upgrade to the A1 dual carriageway.</p> <p>The committee actively engages with the community through its social media presence and is supported by the ABC PCSP to further its outreach and impact.</p>
Impact of the project	<p>Delivered targeted information events to improve driver and passenger behaviour.</p> <p>Has partnered with organisations such as The Road Ahead Support Group to promote access to trauma and bereavement resources.</p> <p>Conducted outreach campaigns focused on safe driving, pedestrian awareness, and the consequences of careless driving behaviour.</p> <p>Engaged with schools and youth groups to instil road safety values in younger people.</p> <p>Has maintained an active presence on social media to share road safety messages.</p> <p>Has contributed to a growing culture of empathy, accountability, and prevention on local roads.</p>
OBA	<p>How Much Did We Do?</p> <p>9 ABC Road Safety Committee meetings facilitated.</p> <p>50 Road Safety talks delivered in ABC Borough and several information events attended in partnership with ABC Road Safety Committee which engaged with 4738 local people.</p>

	<p>How Well Did We Do? 11 ABC Road Safety Committee members satisfied with the support received. 4738 local people were satisfied with road safety talks/information stands.</p> <p>Is Anyone Better Off? 24 people with increased knowledge of road safety who will apply that knowledge to improve road safety in the Borough. 4738 local people had improved awareness/knowledge of how to keep themselves safety on the road because of their engagement at road safety talks/information stands.</p>
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Best practice example – Online Safety

Name of Project	SRC Performing Arts Tour of “Click”
Funded amount	£989.62
Partners	Southern Regional College (SRC), PSNI, local schools, PIPS Hope and Support
Description of project	C L I C K

	<p>This internet safety drama included messages around catfishing, the dangers of taking and sharing inappropriate photos, talking to strangers when gaming, adding strangers on Snapchat and allowing people to see a person's location on Snapchat maps.</p> <p>The play was written and performed by Level 3 SRC Performing Arts students supported by Foundation Degree Creative Music and Audio Production students. These students performed their self-written performance in four locations to 500 pupils of five primary schools as well as adults with additional needs who attend courses in SR.</p> <p>Click covered key topics about protecting privacy and staying safe online. The SRC students brought these crucial issues to life in an entertaining and captivating way.</p> <p>The drama concluded with PSNI Neighbourhood Officers speaking about the law around these crimes and reassurance about how to get help.</p>
Impact of the project	<p>Not only did this performance reach 524 students but also helped the SRC Performing Arts and Creative Music and Audio Production students to gain vital experience in researching, writing, producing and delivering a live performance and experience of touring with a production.</p> <p>Feedback from Facebook posts:</p> <p><i>So relevant today especially hearing the sentencing today of Alexander McCartney, 26, from County Armagh, sentenced to life in prison with a minimum term of 20 years after admitting to the manslaughter of a 12-year-old girl and having over 3500 victims. A stark warning to all that this kind of abuse is not acceptable and deserves the utmost punishment available.</i></p> <p><i>Amazingly powerful student scripted play, was lucky enough to catch it before it went out on tour, well done to everyone involved.</i></p>
OBA	<p>How Much Did We Do? 5 performances delivered to 524 audience members.</p> <p>How Well Did We Do? 524 participants reported satisfaction with the production.</p>

Is Anyone Better Off?

100% of 5 teachers and 524 students who have improved awareness/knowledge of online safety and how to get support.



Best practice example - Alcohol, drug and substance abuse

Name of Project	Production of “I Love you Mum – I promise I won’t die.”
Funded amount	£2500
Partners	Local schools, DSFM Foundation
Description of project	<p>ABC PCSP was able to provide support to bring a Powerful Theatre Performance on choices and consequences of drugs use to a local audience. 550 people were able to experience the moving and impactful performance of “I Love You, Mum – I Promise I Won’t Die”, a verbatim play written by Mark Wheeler and commissioned by the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation.</p> <p>The play was delivered locally in 2 schools and at a community performance in Portadown Town Hall.</p> <p>The production tells the true story of Daniel Spargo-Mabbs, a 16-year-old who tragically lost his life after taking MDMA at a party. His final words to his mother— “I love you, Mum. I promise I won’t die”—became the title of this deeply impactful piece.</p> <p>Performed with minimal staging and powerful multimedia elements, the play uses real interviews with Daniel’s family and friends to explore the ripple effects of one decision. It’s a raw, honest portrayal that encourages young people to think critically about peer pressure, drug use, and the importance of informed choices.</p> <p>Although the play has been widely performed across schools in England and Scotland since 2017, it only recently made its debut in Northern Ireland schools in Spring 2025, thanks to the support of several PCSPs including ABC.</p> <p>A key driver to bring the production to a Northern Ireland Audience was Sandra Larmour, a mother from County Armagh, who lost her daughter Jeni to ketamine on her first day at university in 2020. She partnered with the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation to bring the play to Northern Ireland, in her bid to prevent similar tragedies.</p> <p>For more information about the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation and their work in drug education, visit www.dsmfoundation.org.uk</p>

Impact of the project	<p>Quote from Sandra Larmour: <i>So grateful for the opportunity to work with you all at The Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation and Ever Unique Productions alongside Larchfield Estate and Lucinda Kinnaird . along with Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP and Newry, Mourne & Down PCSP and the other PCSPs involved. What a team! And looking forward to making it happen again.</i></p> <p>Comment from audience members: <i>"Thank you for coming to Northern Ireland, unbelievable moving Performance."</i></p> <p><i>"Thank you! Our pupils are still talking about your performance."</i></p>
OBA	<p>How Much Did We Do? 4 Performances to 550 audience members</p> <p>How Well Did We Do? 99% of 550 people who watched the performance reported satisfaction with the delivery.</p> <p>Is Anyone Better Off? 98% of those who came along to see the play had an improved awareness/knowledge of the issues raised.</p>



Strategic Priority 3

Strategic Priority 3 – *To support confidence in policing, including through collaborative problem solving with communities*

through:

- *ensuring local accountability through the Policing Committee's role in monitoring police performance.*
- *identifying priorities from the PCSP Plan for consideration in the development of the local Policing Plan which are consistent with the Northern Ireland Policing Plan.*
- *providing views to the District Commander through the Policing Committee and supporting the PSNI to engage with the community to identify and address local problems.*
- *delivering initiatives that link to identified local problems that impact confidence in policing.*
- *carrying out meaningful local events aimed at increasing PSNI engagement with local communities to build and strengthen public confidence in policing.*
- *delivering PCSP initiatives in the hardest to reach communities.*
- *providing a platform for the PCSP and PSNI to engage with young people, including on the themes of upholding the rule of law, and of ways of increasing confidence in policing; and*
- *building community confidence in the rule of law by helping mitigate the harm caused to people and communities by paramilitarism, criminality and organised crime consistent with wider Programme for Government objectives and through use of co-design principles, where appropriate.*

OBA Overview

How much did we do?

- 4 private Policing Committees held.
- 13 Community Engagement Meetings held & attended by 246 participants/attendees

- 13 Police Engagement initiatives supported
- 1911 Text Alert Scheme registered users
- 221 text messages sent to Text Alert users
- 176 Neighbourhood Watch Schemes covering 10110 households, 726 Farm Watch premises and 123 Cold Calling Zones in the Borough

How well did we do it?

- 100% of 246 members of the public satisfied with meeting/event.
- 67% average attendance of members at Private Policing Committee meetings.
- 277 people who took part in police engagement projects were satisfied
- 97% of Text Alert users satisfied with the service.
- 97% of Watch Schemes feeling supported by partners.

Is anyone better off?

- 100% of attendees with an increased knowledge of local policing priorities after attending a Public Community Engagement meeting.
- Average of 67% of Policing Committee members had increased knowledge of local policing priorities and changes on how crime is policed.
- 277 who took part in police engagement sessions had increased community confidence in policing or would be more likely to engage positively with police in the future.
- 98% of registered Text Alert users felt more engaged with and 93% felt they had increased community confidence in policing.
- 74% of NHW Coordinators believe their area is safer because of NHW.
- 51% of NHW Coordinators have increased confidence in policing (low mainly because of lack of engagement with link officers).
- 100% of Farm Watch participants have increased awareness/knowledge of crime prevention measures.

Local community engagement with the PSNI

In 2024/25 the PCSP facilitated a range of engagement opportunities for local geographic and thematic communities with the police, including provision of the Text Alert Service and support for Neighbourhood Watch schemes and their Coordinators.

Encouraging engagement between the police and young people was seen as a priority and therefore most of the activity delivered involved young people at risk of being influenced by organised crime gangs and supporting the empowerment of young women and girls. Neighbourhood Policing Teams were encouraged to submit proposals for engagement initiatives which included:

- **Lurgan NPT and YMCA Lurgan** – 6-week programme with students of Craigavon Senior High School identified as being likely to engage in risk taking behaviour or entering the criminal justice system.
- **Lurgan Inter-club Olympics with Lurgan NPT** – included a workshop on Lawfulness and the risks and consequences of anti-social behaviour.

- **Girls Empowerment Programme with REACT and Armagh NPT** – a 4-week programme including providing personal safety and increased confidence in the police.
- **Youth Annexe Girls Empowerment Programme – Lurgan NPT** – 6-week programme for girls aged 12-14 providing an opportunity for the girls to develop confidence and resilience and explore how to make appropriate and informed choices.
- **St Malachys Court and Armagh NPT** – This engagement was aimed at early positive engagement with Armagh NPT and residents of a new social housing development in Armagh City
- **Pool Tournament & Football Competition – Armagh NPT** – Working in partnership with Armagh NPT and EA Youth Service to deliver a pool competition which allowed officers to chat informally with young people to break down barriers of mistrust of police with local young people.
- **Girls Night In – Banbridge Resource Centre and Banbridge NPT** – An evening session for young women exploring confidence, self-esteem, social media, sextortion and violence against women and girls.
- **Children’s Home and Armagh NPT** – Police met with cared for young people for whom the Woodside Adolescent Centre had concerns about risk taking behaviour and regularly going missing. The emphasis of this engagement was to reduce mistrust of authority figures and encourage informed choices for their future.
- **Migrant Support Service – Portadown NPT** – Event for ladies to discuss domestic violence reporting and laws in Northern Ireland – nationalities included Portuguese, Brazilian, Romanian, Bulgarian and Syrian
- **Girls Empowerment Programme – Banbridge NPT** – A 4-week Police engagement through dance where each week an issue-based session including self-worth, mental well-being, healthy relationships, staying safe online and personal safety.
- **Women’s Boxing Programme – Banbridge NPT** – 4 session programmes focussing on empowering women from the Dromore and Rathfriland area and including personal safety and information and support for victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence.
- **Spreaghadh Na Gaeilge (Irish Language Youth Club) and Lurgan NPT** – Lurgan NPT officers met with the young people to explain the role of the Neighbourhood Team and encourage positive engagement with police.
- **Bike Project – Banbridge NPT** – Children from Dromore Central Primary School worked with Dromore Chamber of Commerce and the NPT to repair donated bicycles for local children in need. Officers were able to chat informally to young people about their role and give important personal and road safety messages whilst also helping other children to have access to a bicycle.

Best practice examples – PSNI engaging with young people.

Name of Project/Initiative/Event	Woodside Children's Home – Armagh NPT Engagement Programme
Funded amount	£125.00
Partners	Social Services, Care Home Staff, Armagh NPT
Description of project/initiative/event	<p>Recognised as a particularly vulnerable group, young people in the care system are often mistrustful of authority and police in particular. Carers in Woodside Adolescent Centre had real concerns about negative behaviours of some of the young people including likelihood to become involved in criminal behaviour, being exploited or regularly going missing.</p> <p>This engagement was designed to build relationships with children in care and increase communication and relationships between carers and the police. NPT Officers spent time getting to know the young people and discussing behaviours and consequences of drugs, ASB missing episodes and shoplifting.</p> <p>The emphasis was around reducing mistrust of the police and social services and for the young people to think about their futures and be able to make informed choices for themselves. The programme concluded with a team building outing to Prison Island where the young people had fun and demonstrated their critical thinking skills in a positive environment.</p>
Impact of the project/initiative/event	Police officers were engaged in the full programme and positive outcomes were noted, such as better relationships and communication between staff and residents and fewer reports of ASB being reported to police. Further engagement with the staff, residents and police would help to re-enforce positive relationships and would be welcomed by the staff.
OBA	<p>How Much Did We Do? 3 young people and 2 staff took part.</p> <p>How Well Did We Do? 5 participants felt the engagement was worthwhile and positive.</p>

	Is Anyone Better Off? 100% of 5 participants more likely to engage positively and have increased community confidence in policing.
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Best practice example – PSNI engaging with the public.

Name of Project/Initiative/Event	Portadown NPT Engagement with the Migrant Support Centre
Funded amount	£59.13 and Staff time
Partners	PSNI, Migrant Support Service
Description of project/initiative/event	<p>Portadown NPT held a very positive event with ladies of differing nationalities to help them understand the laws to protect domestic violence victims, supports available and encourage reporting. An overview of types of domestic and sexual violence, where to seek help and how to report were covered in a presentation by the Crime Prevention Officer. The session was followed by an informal chat over a cup of tea which allowed any questions to be brought up discreetly.</p> <p>Ladies who took part included those who spoke Portuguese, Brazilian, Romanian, Bulgarian and Syrian.</p>
Impact of the project/initiative/event	<p>All the women present were grateful for the information which they will now spread to their peers and reported that they felt more knowledgeable and confident about the laws of the country that would protect them. The Migrant Support Centre was grateful for police input and confident that the service users benefitted from the interaction and information received.</p> <p>All those present also stated that they would have more confidence to engage with the police.</p>

OBA	<p>How Much Did We Do? 1 information session delivered to 10 women of various nationalities.</p> <p>How Well Did We Do? 100% of 10 women who participated were satisfied with the engagement.</p> <p>Is Anyone Better Off? 10 women more likely to engage with the police and able to provide information to their peers on support available to end violence against women and girls.</p>
<div data-bbox="459 660 1153 1064">  <p>Migrant Support Service</p> <p>migrantappointments@gmail.com www.abcmigrant.co.uk</p> <p>028 3898 8610</p> <div> <p>Opening hours: Monday - Friday 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM</p> <p>Address: Unit F, Mayfair Business Park 193-205 Garvaghy Road Portadown, BT62 1HA</p> </div>  </div>	

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Financial Statement

ARMAGH CITY, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON PCSP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Budget Category	Budget agreed Apr 24-Mar 25 £	Changes to budget less than 20% £	Revised Budget Apr 24-Mar 25 £	Actual Expenditure 2024/25 £	Expenditure Accrued £	Total Expenditure to date £
Salaries	27,000.00	-	27,000.00	27,000.00	0.00	27,000.00
Running Costs Internal Audit	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Sub-total running costs	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
Total Administration	28,000.00	-	28,000.00	28,000.00	-	28,000.00
OPERATIONAL						
Strategic Objective 1: Form & Deliver functions of PCSP						
Deliver PCSP Functions	5,000.00	-	5,000.00	4,956.27	10.00	4,966.27
Strategic Objective 2: Improve Community Safety						
Crime Prevention Initiatives & Campaigns	74,832.00	-	74,832.00	66,636.52	7,484.20	74,120.72
Good Morning Service	11,052.00	-	11,052.00	11,052.00	0.00	11,052.00

ASB Diversionary Programmes	23,378.00	(1,325.00)	22,053.00	18,388.65	2,980.25	21,368.90
Intergenerational Programmes	15,878.00	-	15,878.00	12,878.31	2,631.09	15,509.40
Graffiti Removal Scheme	15,878.00	-	15,878.00	15,229.00	945.00	16,174.00
Drugs & Alcohol Initiatives, Workshops & Awareness Raising	21,378.00	-	21,378.00	21,231.03	215.00	21,446.03
Get Home Safe Bus	27,878.00	1,325.00	29,203.00	25,603.00	3,600.00	29,203.00
Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness Raising Initiatives	22,378.00	-	22,378.00	20,853.00	1,515.00	22,368.00
Schools & Young Peoples Engagement	20,878.00	-	20,878.00	18,063.32	2,462.71	20,526.03
Road Safety Education & Awareness Initiatives	15,308.00	-	15,308.00	15,378.10	34.00	15,412.10
Community Safety Warden Service	92,878.00	-	92,878.00	92,878.00	0.00	92,878.00
Strategic Objective 3: Improve Community Confidence in Policing						
Monitor Local Police Performance	750.00	-	750.00	410.67	0.00	410.67
Engagement of Local Community and Police	10,000.00	-	10,000.00	6,380.84	3,203.69	9,584.53
Text Alert Scheme	13,878.00	-	13,878.00	13,880.00	0.00	13,880.00
Watch Schemes & No Cold Calling Zones	13,378.00	-	13,378.00	13,398.00	0.00	13,398.00

Total Operational	384,722.00	-	384,722.00	357,216.71	25,080.94	382,297.65
TOTAL ADMIN & OPERATIONAL	412,722.00	-	412,722.00	385,216.71	25,080.94	410,297.65
Meeting Expenses	12,500.00	-	12,500.00	6,619.83	-	6,619.83
OVERALL TOTAL	425,222.00	-	425,222.00	391,836.54	25,080.94	416,917.48

Certificate of Chief Executive Officer

I am satisfied that the expenditure shown has been wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred by the Council on the local Policing and Community Safety Partnership and that the grant receivable from the Joint Committee is in accordance with the regulations and conditions applicable.



Chief Executive Officer
2nd July 2025

