The Policing & Community Safety Partnerships Newsletter

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Welcoming our reconstituted PCSPs!



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ISSUE 1

Aug - Sept 2020











Find out more about PCSPs:



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Welcoming new Members to our reconstituted PCSPs

In June 2020, the Policing Board completed PCSPs reconstitution with the appointment of 118 new independent members.

The new members come from a wide range of roles and backgrounds, and represent the communities which they serve. They'll work alongside local Councillors, the PSNI and a range of other statutory agencies (you can find out who on the last page of Inpartnership!) to improve policing and community safety issues across their Council areas.

Justice Minister Naomi Long welcomed the appointments and said; **"Policing and Community Safety Partnerships work to improve community safety, tackle anti-social behaviour and improve confidence in policing.**

I am very grateful to each of the 118 new independent members for their commitment to the work of their local PCSP. I trust that they will find the task a rewarding one."

click here to read the appointment release



Watch here to find out all about the work of PCSPs



"All these people have stepped forward in their local areas as they want to make a difference to policing and community safety issues across our community through the work of the Partnerships. People of all ages and backgrounds who will be working with local councillors, the police and a range of statutory partners to help make your neighbourhood safer." Doug Garett, Policing Board Chair





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"Can I pass on my thanks and appreciation to the Wardens, they have undoubtedly been doing an invaluable job during this period and their interventions have been able to keep people safe and indeed to save lives." Cllr Sandra Duffy, PCSP member

Supporting Resilience Groups

Derry & Strabane PCSP has been using re-routed funds and their Community Safety Wardens to support community and resilience groups throughout the District during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Alongside providing funding, PCSP staff helped to manage the Community Hub, which acted as a liaison between referral agencies like AdviceNI and the Health Service, the Community Resilience Groups, and the clients who needed support.

Community Safety Wardens were also still active during the period, responding to referrals and concerns for the public, helping to advise on social distancing, transporting food parcels and working with the PSNI Neighbourhood Teams to deal with anti-social behaviour. Their quick response also meant successful intervention in two suicide attempts.



Community Safety Wardens working at a foodbank



#APPY DAYS

During the lockdown, digital safety, wellbeing and support services became more important than ever – which is why Causeway, Coast & Glens PCSP have launched their new digital wellbeing and safeguarding resource pack, aimed at parents to help keep themselves and their kids safe online.

The pack was created in partnership with the NSPCC, Northern and Western Health and Social Care Trusts, PSNI and the Education Authority, and helps ensure that children and families who may be vulnerable to online abuse and scams know how to protect themselves.

PCSP member Ald George Duddy said: "We are witnessing the wonderful side of the online world, where grandparents can see and talk to grandchildren whilst in isolation, communities can connect and support one another through volunteering and providing practical help and our children have been able to keep up to date with their education.

"However, we also know of the dangers and pitfalls of the online world and we must not forget or be complacent in taking measures to stay safe. This support pack provides practical advice for staying safe online, along with the importance of looking after your mental health and developing resilience skills."



click here to download your copy



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Good Morning, Angels!

During the the Covid-19 pandemic, Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP's Good Morning Scheme has been making a huge difference to the community. Operated in partnership with the Southern Health and Social Care Trust, the Good Morning Scheme reaches out to those vulnerable and in need and offers them a friendly chat and information and advice. A PCSP staff member, Sandra Parker, even took on the role of ringing some of the clients on the Good Morning Scheme!

Speaking about her role, Sandra said **"I've heard some truly fascinating life stories** from very inspirational people, including the first lady driving instructor in N. Ireland, and women working for the navy during the war.

I also have great laughs with people too. Plenty of craic, wonderful storytellers.

All really makes you appreciate your life, youth and health."

If you, or an older person you know, could benefit from a regular call from the Good Morning volunteers please email: **pcsp@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk** or call **07789 901369.**



Sharing the Love

Research from the Mental Health Foundation suggests 4 out of 10 young people have felt lonely due to the Covid-19 restrictions and feeling isolated is something which can impact people of all ages and all walks of life.

To help tackle loneliness in their area, Mid & East Antrim PCSP have worked with the Mid and East Antrim Loneliness Project to distribute mental health boxes to vulnerable young people. The boxes contain 7 days of fun activities and resources designed to improve mental wellbeing. The project also distributed salad growing kits to older residents to help them reconnect with nature and improve their mental health. Hugh Nelson from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust, commented on the project:

"Loneliness can affect anyone from teenagers and young adults, new parents, carers and recently bereaved, to students, older people and those with disabilities.

"During Covid-19 the lockdown restrictions have exacerbated this issue for everyone, not least our young people and older people.

"Through these packs we are reaching out to our community during this difficult time to reassure them they are not alone and we are in this together."







One of the quick-grow salad kits ready for planting





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Insp Leslie Badger, Rory Best and David Brown, Ulster Farmers Union Vice President at the Open Farm Weekend

Open Farm Weekend

The PCSP and PSNI branded tractor made an appearance at the Open Farm Weekend, where virtual visitors had the opportunity to see the latest in farm technology and to hear from PSNI's Insp Badger on their approach to rural crime.

click here to find out more about tackling rural crime

#SaferCommunitiesNI

PCSPs across Northern Ireland have been working with PSNI on a Safer Communities campaign, designed to respond to issues and concerns in communities, inform the public of what actions are being taken, and increase public confidence.

The campaign offered advice on issues including digital safety, business crime, domestic abuse, protecting older people, antisocial behaviour and general crime prevention.

Keep an eye out for the latest posts!





The launch of our Police Property Fund Scheme is now scheduled for Autumn 2020.

Interested in applying?

Register your interest by emailing

policepropertyfund @nipolicingboard.org.uk

Read more about the Scheme





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making our community safer

"This project has been our point of contact with so many different bodies and organisations and this project has supported us with constant information and updates on how we should deal with these situations. All of which were dealt with quickly and without trouble." St Mary's Residents Association

Network Support

West Belfast District PCSP have been supporting the community through lockdown by funding a Community Safety Co-Ordinator through the Falls Community Council. The project works with a range of partners including Belfast City Council, PSNI, the Housing Executive, Housing Associations and Education Authority.

The project entails supporting, and working with existing Community Safety groups, helping develop their structures and highlight community safety work, issues and concerns for local people

The project reports to the West Belfas DPCSP.



 West Belfast Community Safety @WestSafety - 14 Jun
 ALERTIT: We have had reports of scammers claiming to be phoning on behalf of supply tests. Do not give these people your bank details, this is a scam.

 Image: Community Safety @WestSafety - 16 Jun
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Project members meeting with the area's MP Paul Maskey

Community Hub in Action

Mid & East Antrim PCSP have been working in partnership with the Health and Social Care Trusts and Public Health Authority on the creation of a Community Hub to coordinate support for the vulnerable people throughout the borough.

The Community Hub has many roles:

 To act as a referral point from which to co-ordinate, record and report voluntary community activities in the area To support and sustain voluntary community organisations. The Council Community Hub will also act as a referral and focal point from which to coordinate, record and report the volunteer community activities in their Boroughs / Districts / Cities

Through referrals from both local bodies and individuals, during the Covid-19 lockdown the Hub has delivered 500 food parcels a week to the most vulnerable in the community. Feedback from recipients and their families has been overwhelmingly positive, providing a lifeline in uncertain times. Weeks of delivery





Special delivery





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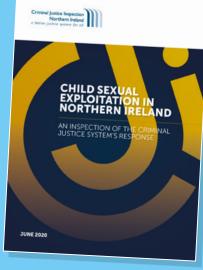
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Latest publications Victims & **Policing Plan** PolicingBoard Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland 2020-25 & Performance Plan 2020-21 VICTIMS AND WITNESSES click here to read more & ANNUAL Performance Plan JULY 2020

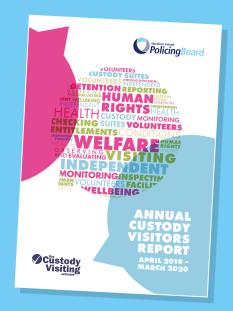
Witnesses

click here to read the report



Child Sexual Exploitation

click here to read the report



ICV Annual Report

click here to read the report





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Stay Scamwise

The ScamwiseNI Partnership was created to engage and inform people in Northern Ireland about the very real risks of falling victim to scams, and of the range of scams that exist.

Stay up to date with the latest

f Scamwiseni



Read the Little Book of Big Scams

Film Fridays!

government services

ScamwiseNI have been hard at work with Spanner in the Works theatre company producing a series of short films to educate people on scams.

The films give realistic examples of HMRC scams, holiday scams, and romance scams and how easy they are to fall for.

You can find them on:





Watch the film on HMRC scams her



Watch the film on holiday scams he



Stay Scamwise

Between April and July 2020, PSNI have received almost 300 reports of HMRC-related scams. They're urging the public to be on their guard against scammers, and to protect those who are older or more vulnerable.

click here to find out more





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STAY OUT, STAY ALIVE

On a hot summer day, it can be tempting to grab some pals and head down to the quarry to go for a nice refreshing swim - but it could be the last thing you ever do.

DAERA are urging people across Northern Ireland to stay away from quarries during the hot summer months, and encourage others to do the same with a social media campaign to educate on the dangers.

The water in quarries is much, much colder than the water you find in lakes, rivers and the sea. When you jump in, there's a chance you'll go into shock. If you don't, the cold will make you exhausted much faster than usual.

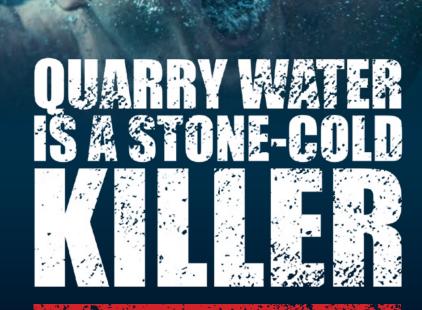
If you jump into very cold water, there is a three stage response your body will follow:

0 – 4 minutes – cold shock	A sudden plunge into cold water initiates a gasp response which can cause you to drown within seconds of entering the water. It also affects breathing, heart rate and body's metabolism.
4 – 30 minutes - loss of performance	Poor circulation causes stiff fingers, reduced coordination and loss of motor skills and power. This makes it nearly impossible to grasp a rescue line or hoist. Swimming to safety or climbing out of the water is no longer physically possible. At this stage the cause of death is by drowning.
more than 30 minutes – hypothermia	Most cold water deaths result from cold shock or loss of performance. Few people survive to get hypothermia. True hypothermia only sets in after 30 minutes. However, in a quarry with steep sides, no vegetation or rafts, it is possible that you could stay in the water for 30 minutes.

click here to find out more about the campaign







STAY OUT, STAY ALIVI

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domestic and sexual abuse helpline 0808 802 1414

Freephone confidential 24/7 helpline

Call now.

dsahelpline.org

Support for those fleeing domestic abuse

Infrastructure Minister Nichola Mallon and Justice Minister Naomi Long have announced that free public transport travel will be available for those fleeing domestic abuse. The transport will be available for people where refuge or emergency accomodation has been arranged through the 24hr Domestic and Sexual Abuse Helpline, Housing Executive or Women's Aid.

If you're experiencing domestic and sexual abuse, help is available:

24 Hour Helpline: 0808 802 1414

ww.womensiadni.org

www.mapni.co.uk

www.dsahelpline.org

#KeepingPeopleSafe

During the Covid-19 pandemic, PSNI have seen reports of sexual assault in Northern Ireland fall. It's important to know that if you have been a victim, support is available, and if you choose to report, you will be treated with sensitivity and respect.

Contact PSNI on 101, or 999 in an emergency

We care

we care • we listen • we act

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Reporting crime online

Did you know that you can now report a crime or incident online? PSNI have introduced an online reporting form which is a quick and easy way to report non-emergency incidents.

click here to find out how

You can still call **101** in a non-emergency where you need assistance and/or advice. There's also advice on how to contact the Police if you are deaf, deafened or hard of hearing via textphone. Always call **999** in an emergency where you need immediate assistance or feel threatened

If you have been a witness to a crime and wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Domestic and sexual abuse action plan

PSNI: on 101 or

999 in an emergency

The Justice and Health Ministers have published the annual plan for the NI Executive's domestic and sexual abuse strategy. This is year five of a seven year plan, and also includes a progress report for 2019-20.



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Consultation Corner

If you are interested in having your say on issues that impact on policing and community safety issues check out the latest consultations:



DNA and fingerprint retention

Department of Justice is conducting a consultation on proposals to amend the legislation governing the retention of DNA and fingerprints in Northern Ireland – this closes on 28 August 2020.

click here to find out more



Organised Crime

Department of Justice have released two consultations on the response to organised crime in Northern Ireland. Both close on 2 October 2020.

click here to find out more

Stats update

In the 12 months from 1st July 2019 to 30th June 2020, there were 101,217 recorded offenses in Northern Ireland - a decrease of 1.3% compared to the previous 12 months.

You can find annual and monthly stats as well as trend reports on the PSNI website.

click here

to find out more

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



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PCSPs are funded and supported

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