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Anti-drugs initiatives to the fore

Drug disposal bin launched in Lisburn

A drugs disposal safe has been installed in Lisburn for the first time as part of an initiative to remove illegal and prescription drugs off the streets.

The RAPID (Remove All Prescription and Illegal Drugs) drug disposal safe is a community safety initiative between Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP, PSNI, Resurgam Trust, ASCERT and the local community. The service is completely anonymous and the bin can be used by anyone in the community to safely dispose of any unused or out of date medicines, illegal drugs or legal highs. All individuals depositing drugs in the disposal safe are legally protected from further investigation or prosecution.

Speaking about the initiative, Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP Chair, Cllr. Scott Carson said, **“I welcome this new initiative to Lisburn. We are all aware of the dangers of illegal drugs and the effects that these have in communities but prescribed drugs can equally be as dangerous in the wrong hands or if taken with other substances. I would urge the community to make use of this new facility in Lisburn. It is free from any investigations or prosecutions and this initiative is designed to dispose of prescribed and illegal drugs safely.”**

FRONT COVER IMAGE:

Cllr Scott Carson, Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP Chair pictured with C/Insp John Wilson PSNI, Independent members of the PCSP and representatives from ASCERT and Resurgam Trust at the launch.



Young people from Banbridge SRC who took part in the recent campaign pictured with Theresa Burke (centre).

Young people learn the dangers of drugs

Over 200 young people recently took part in a Drugs Awareness Campaign organised by Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP.

Hosted by the Southern Regional Colleges (SRC) in Portadown, Lurgan and Banbridge the hard hitting campaign aims to educate young people on the dangers, effects and consequences of drugs. As part of the campaign Theresa Burke, a mother whose 22 year old son Kealan tragically died as a result of taking drugs, gave a very personal account of the devastating impact of drug use.

To date over 2,000 post primary young people have participated in this project and have had the opportunity to experience how drugs can affect a family and the surrounding community.

Speaking about the campaign Cllr. Robert Smith, PCSP Chair said:

“Alarmingly, young people are increasingly misusing alcohol and illegal drugs and it is vital that we take honest, hard hitting campaigns like this directly to young people to teach them how drugs can completely ruin their lives. We thank Theresa for her courage in speaking about her devastating experience to try and persuade others to stay away from drugs.”

For more information please contact the PCSP on 028 3831 2400 or pcsp@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

Drink Driving arrests rise by 40%

Provisional figures released recently by the PSNI show that the number of drivers and motorcyclists arrested for drink driving during the Police winter drink drive operation, which ran between 27 November 2015 and 2 January 2016, has risen by just over 40% compared to the same period in 2014-2015.

Speaking about the figures Board Chair Anne Connolly said:

“Whilst the rise in the number of arrests for drink driving shows that the police operation has been very effective, it is shocking that there were 114 more arrests compared to the same period last year (396 arrests in total). Clearly some people are still not getting the message of the dangers and serious consequences of drinking and driving.

PCSPs alongside the PSNI actively supported the ‘Never Ever Drink and Drive’ campaign which ran over the Christmas period. This message needs to be reinforced throughout the year and we will work with the PCSPs, PSNI and other agencies to continue to raise awareness of the serious impact drinking and driving can have across communities.”

Commenting on the figures, T/ACC Alan Todd said:

“When we launched this operation at the end of November, we warned drivers not to take the risk because Police are determined to catch drink drivers. While we have seen a huge increase in detections, it’s difficult to accept

Winter drink drive operation results

(27 Nov 2015 – 2 Jan 2016)

- Total detections 396 (up from 282 last year)
- Youngest person detected, 16 years of age
- Oldest person detected, 83 years of age
- 325 Males, 71 Females detected
- Highest reading 140mg (legal limit is 35 micrograms of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath).
- **4231** Preliminary Breath Tests were carried out.

[click here](#)

to view drink Drive figures by District

this situation as a success, we shouldn’t be detecting anyone drink driving.

Every year across Northern Ireland, drinking and driving kills, maims and wrecks families. Police will continue to detect people who insist on driving after having taken drugs or alcohol. We are again appealing for all motorists to consider the consequences of their actions.”

FRONT COVER IMAGE:

Pictured with the ‘Life Choices’ DVD are Con. Marty Allen, PSNI Schools Officer, students from Loughry College in Cookstown and Cllr Phelim Gildernew, Chair of Mid Ulster PCSP.

Life Choices DVD launched in Mid Ulster

A ‘hard-hitting’ new DVD which shows the sometimes devastating consequences of poor choices made by young people is being rolled out in schools and colleges across Mid Ulster by the PSNI and local PCSP.

The Life Choices DVD was developed by Insp Keith Jamieson, PSNI who worked with a local young film maker, Gerald D’earth, and his cast and crew, to produce what has been described as a ‘hard-hitting’ and ‘thought-provoking’ piece of film.

Locations in and around the Dungannon area were used in the film, and the teachers and pupils of Drumglass High School grasped the opportunity to participate, with a number of enthusiastic students taking on acting roles.

The DVD covers issues such as underage drinking and cyber bullying, drug taking, peer pressure and assault, and will be delivered by PSNI Schools Officers.



D/Insp Mark Dennison speaking at the event with panel members Eithne McIlroy, PBNI and Patricia Muldoon, YJA.

Public Protection awareness session for PCSPs

As part of the ongoing training for PCSPs a Public Protection awareness session was recently organised for members at the Board's offices. The aim of the event was to give PCSPs a better understanding of the work of the PSNI and other agencies who are involved in various areas of Public Protection in Northern Ireland.

The event opened with a presentation on the role and remit of the PSNI's Human Trafficking Unit by Supt. John Roberts. He also gave an overview of some of the operations the Unit have undertaken to tackle this heinous crime. A session on Reducing Offending in Partnership (ROP) was then delivered by D/Insp Mark Dennison, PSNI, Eithne McIlroy, Probation Board and Patricia Muldoon, Youth Justice Agency. During this session the speakers provided an overview of the 3 strands of ROP: Prevent and Deter; Catch and Control; and Rehabilitate and Resettle explaining each of their roles within this partnership.

Jacqui Montgomery - Devlin, Children's Services Manager with Barnardo's, then delivered a presentation on the aims of the organisation in reducing the risk of young people being sexually exploited. This followed with an overview of the wide and varied work of the PSNI's Public Protection Unit by C/Supt George Clarke. This included the work of the Central Referral Unit, Rape Crime Unit and Child Internet Protection Team. He also outlined how the PSNI are tackling Child Sexual Exploitation and Domestic Abuse and how offenders are managed.

Throughout the event attendees were given the opportunity to question the speakers on their areas of work and some interesting issues were raised during discussions. Feedback from the session was very positive and the Board is currently working on a programme for the coming year to assist PCSP members with a range of information to build up their knowledge of key policing issues affecting communities.

Reducing Offending in Partnership*

- 550 - Young People and Adults managed through ROP
- 75% Adults - 25% Young People
- 97% Male - 3 % Female
- Average Age - 21 years
- Youngest 13 - Theft and Drugs
- Oldest 56 - Shoplifting and Burglary

[click here](#) to find out more

*figures as of 1/2/16



C/Supt George Clarke presenting at the session

FRONT COVER IMAGE:
C/Supt George Clarke (3rd right) and Jacqui Montgomery - Devlin (far right) pictured with some members from Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP who attended the event.



Pictured at one of the RADAR visits organised by the PCSP are pupils from Ballycastle High School.

Causeway, Coast & Glens on the RADAR

Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP has commenced a project which will give approximately 1,700 primary school pupils and 1,500 post-primary school pupils from across the council area an opportunity to visit RADAR in the coming weeks.

RADAR, Risk Avoidance Danger Awareness Resource, Northern Ireland's first fully interactive, safety and life skills education centre, enables young people to explore dangerous situations in a risk-free setting. It has been designed to inspire, engage and inform young people on how best to keep themselves safe.

During the visits, students will participate in seven specialised workshops on issues such as Road Safety, Fire Safety, Drugs & Alcohol, Anti-Social Behaviour, E-Safety, Diverse Communities and Anti-Sectarianism. The project, which fits with the PCSP's strategic priorities, is also raising awareness of the PCSP and increasing collaboration with local schools across the District.

[click here](#) for more information on the RADAR Centre.

FRONT COVER IMAGE:
Students from North Coast Integrated College learning about Disability Awareness at the RADAR centre.



Northland Community Safety Wardens pictured with some of the International Students.

Wardens support international students event

Northland Community Safety Wardens (CSW) recently participated in the Ulster University Magee Campus International Student Orientation Event. During the session the Wardens provided information to the students, who are attending the University, on the service they provide, how they can be contacted and their hours of work. Each student was also given a personal security pack.

The CSW Scheme aims to address issues of low-level anti-social and nuisance behavior in the residential area surrounding the Magee Campus. The presence of the Wardens acts as a deterrent to anti-social behavior occurring and reduces the fear of crime in the community for both residents and students alike.

Employing four wardens the scheme is managed by Derry & Strabane PCSP in partnership with Ulster University and Derry City and Strabane District Council, while NI Fire and Rescue Service provide the office accommodation.



Pictured at the public forum are (l-r) Sean O Baoill, Facilitator, Hanna McIlveen, Victim Support, Cllr Scott Carson, PCSP Chair and Sgt Daryl Lucas.

Lisburn hosts race hate public forum

Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP in collaboration with local police recently hosted a race hate themed public forum in Lisburn. The forum had contributions from the PSNI, Victim Support and the Welcome House. A facilitator was also in attendance and undertook an exercise to challenge perceptions and prejudices on hate crime.

Speaking about the event Cllr Scott Carson, Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP Chair said

“The PCSP is delighted to have hosted this public forum. Hate crime of any form is unacceptable and we want to continue to raise awareness and increase reporting.

Everyone has a role to play in challenging attitudes of prejudice and hatred. Recent research highlights that under-reporting of hate crime is an issue and victims must feel confident in reporting incidents to the Police.”

Anyone who has any information relating to hate crime is asked to contact police on **101**. If someone would prefer to provide information without giving their details, they can contact the independent charity Crime stoppers and speak to them anonymously on **0800 555 111**.

[click here](#)

to report Hate crime online via the PSNI website



Raising awareness about Sexual Abuse

Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week is running from 1 - 7 February 2016 and the theme for this year is “it’s not okay”.

The focus is on the fact that all forms of sexual abuse and sexual violence are unacceptable and victims/survivors should not have to tolerate it. There should also be adequate services to support those who have experienced it and clear guidelines for reporting it.

Please join in this national campaign by joining the conversation on social media following the hashtag #itsnotokay.

[click here](#)

for more information



NIFRS Issues Home Fire Safety Reminder

Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) is asking people to make home fire safety a priority in 2016, to help protect themselves and their families from the dangers of fire.

Tragically 11 people lost their lives in accidental dwelling fires last year, an increase of 3 compared to 2014.

Alan Walmsley, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, NIFRS said: "For us, as a fire and rescue service, one accidental fire death is one too many and we want to reach a stage where we have no fatalities in Northern Ireland due to accidental house fires. We remain steadfast in our commitment to achieving that.

By routinely completing a number of simple fire safety steps, you can drastically reduce the risk of a fire in your home this year and beyond. Get into the habit of checking your smoke alarms every week to make sure they are working and plan your escape route. Remember to make fire safety in the home the one New Year's resolution you never break – it could save you and your family's life."

To arrange a free Home Fire Safety Check call **028 9260 0477**.
Text phone/ Minicom **028 9262 8800**.

[click here](#) for more information

What's happening in your PCSP?

PCSPs hold a variety of meetings and events each month.

For details on what is coming up in your local PCSP [click here](#)

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



PCSPs work with a number of designated partners.



Northern Ireland
Fire & Rescue Service



PBNI Probation Board
for Northern Ireland



Health and Social
Care Board

Find out more about PCSPs:

www.pcsp.org