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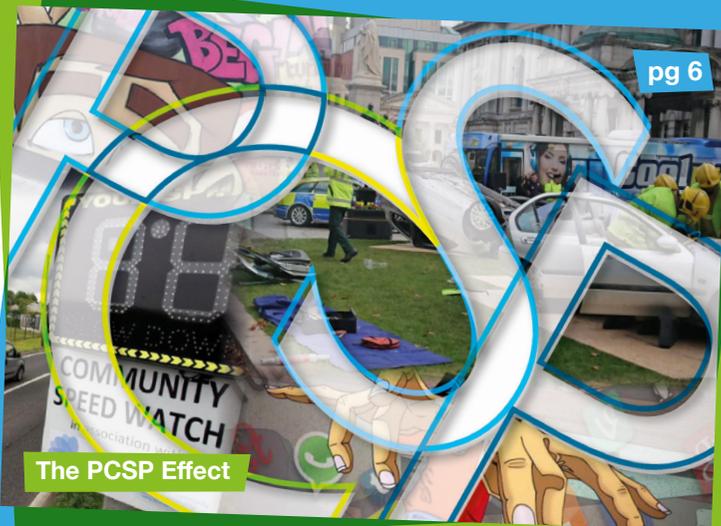
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Order in the courtroom in Antrim & Newtownabbey

Would you like to #bepartofit and #makeadifference to policing and safety in your community?

The local elections in May this year will trigger the need for all 11 Policing and Community Partnerships (PCSPs) across Northern Ireland to be reconstituted and the Policing Board has now started the process to recruit independent members for each Council area.

As many of our readers will know, the PCSPs' role is to consult and engage with the local community to identify and prioritise particular issues of concern and prepare plans for how these can be tackled. They monitor the performance of the police and work to gain the co-operation of the public with the police in preventing crime. And they deliver a reduction in crime and enhance community safety through interventions, delivery groups or by supporting the work of others.

Chair of the Northern Ireland Policing Board, Anne Connolly, encouraged people of all ages and abilities to apply to become part of their local PCSP: **"If you have ever considered how your local police could do things better; ever thought that your particular skills could be helpful in resolving issues you know your community is having; or if you are ready to make a difference to the area you live or work in, now is your chance."**

If you'd like to hear more from Anne Connolly [click here](#)

I believe we all have a part to play in building the society we want to live in, and wanted to bring my skills to the table with other people and agencies who have a shared interest in making our area a safer place to live.

Niall Kelly
PCSP Independent Member

I joined the PCSP because I wanted to ensure that young people from my area have a voice, and issues important to them are flagged to those who have the power to do something about it.

Emma McIlveen
PCSP Independent Member



If you'd like to hear more about it from those on the ground, you can watch our short film.

Would you like to #bepartofit and #makeadifference to policing and safety in your community?

(L-R) Board Members Dolores Kelly MLA, Joanne Bunting MLA and Gerry Kelly MLA at the launch



(L-R) Board and Partnership Committee members Wendy Osborne, John Blair MLA and Brice Dickson are supporting the launch



Is this for you?

Applications for independent members will close at 12 noon on Friday 12th April 2019, with the appointment process due to be fully completed and new independent members ready to take up their positions in March 2020.

Here are some quick tips:

You must live in, or be able to demonstrate a close connection and active interest in, the Council area you apply for

This is a voluntary role with no allowance, although members can claim a general expense payment

Full training is provided

Interested?

Then for a full run down and to get an application pack, go to www.pcsp.org/recruitment or phone **028 90 408 553**

SCAM? ASK US



The Scamwise NI Partnership has launched a new initiative with the Post Office which aims to help protect people from being scammed.

The initiative, the first of its kind in the UK, will encourage Post Office customers to ask counter staff if they think something could be a scam. The Post Office counter staff can advise them if they think their request is unusual or if it is a scam they have come across before.

A recent survey by Partnership member Consumer Council revealed that one third of consumers here have been targeted by a scam in the past three years and that 74% of scams are sent via email.

Chief Superintendent Simon Walls explained: **“Scams are not simply an issue for older or vulnerable within our society, they can happen to anyone regardless of age and unfortunately there is a scam out there with each of our names on it. The ScamwiseNI Partnership are doing all we can to highlight these so that the general public become scam aware.”**

At the launch attendees heard from Post Office representatives who highlighted the benefits of involvement in the initiative: **“Millions of customers visit Post Offices across the UK every day, and our branches are often right at the heart of the communities they serve. That means they often know their local customers well, and can spot anything out of the ordinary, as well as picking up on patterns that might suggest a scam. Working with the ScamwiseNI Partnership makes absolute sense, and means we can help to play an important part in protecting our customers and communities.”**

[click here](#)

to watch the films produced by Scamwise and the Post Office.

Head of Security at Post Office Simon Hutchinson, Policing Board Vice Chair Debbie Watters, and Ch/Supt Simon Walls



Calum Greenhow, CEO of the National Federation of SubPostmasters talked about the impact Post Offices can make in their community



Dozens of organisations attended to find out more about the initiative

Find out more about the Scamwise Partnership:

nidirect.gov.uk/scamwiseni

 **ScamwiseNI**

Top marks for road safety

PCSPs are continuing to support a series of Road Safe NI road safety quizzes across the country to get kids really thinking about how to stay safe on the road

Ards & North Down

11 schools took part in the Ards & North Down regional heat with Bangor's Grange Park Primary getting top marks with second and third place going to Bloomfield and Carrowdore primary schools.

Terry Malcolm of the North Down & Ards Road Safety Committee, who co-facilitated the event, said: "This was a great event, getting children of that age interested in Road Safety and I hope the interest gathers momentum for next year's quiz."



Teams at the venue getting ready to quiz



Pupils from Portstewart Primary School, winners of the Causeway Coast and Glens heat of the Northern Ireland Primary School Road Safety Quiz pictured with the Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, Cllr Brenda Chivers, PCSP Chair Cllr Margaret Ann McKillop, PCSP Officer Melissa Lemon, Con Sid Henry Roads Policing Education Officer, David Jackson from Road Safety NI, Seamus Higgins and quiz master Peter Melarkey.

Causeway, Coast & Glens

The Causeway, Coast & Glens Road Safety quiz saw 25 schools competing to make their way to the regional final. The top prize was taken by Portstewart Primary School, with second and third place going to Rasharkin and St Colum's primary schools.

PCSP Chair Cllr Margaret Anne McKillop explained the importance of supporting events like this: "The PCSP is committed to improving community and road safety throughout the Causeway Coast and Glens and I was privileged to attend our local heat of this popular initiative. I wish the competitors all the very best for the final in March."

The PCSP Effect

The Northern Ireland Policing Board and the Department of Justice have just released the 2017/2018 PCSP Effectiveness report, which highlights the achievements and impacts that PCSPs have had across Northern Ireland.

PCSPs play a very important role in building successful partnerships and strong relations at a local level allowing real improvements community safety, tackling crime and supporting community confidence in policing.

The report outlines the overarching strategic focus of PCSPs, and the work they're doing to tackle issues like drugs and alcohol, anti-social behaviour, road safety and domestic violence.

[click here](#) to view the report on the PCSP website.



Young drivers tested their mettle in a range of vehicles

Smart Cars, Smarter Drivers

Almost 100 17 and 18 year old potential drivers tested their skills this February in Ards & North down.

The L and R plate holders took part in practical skills tests, a road safety theory quiz, and tested their skills in a variety of different vehicles.

The event, funded by the PCSP and developed in conjunction with the PSNI, RAC Services, CLPC and NIFRS also gave the young drivers a chance to learn more about the effects of drugs and alcohol on their bodies.



Eyes forward! Virtual Reality played a major part in the day

Tough Choices

Armagh Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP has been working in partnership with local students to educate others on the issues that affect them as they grow up.

The very talented Second Year Performing Arts students at Southern Regional College Armagh Campus and their tutor Teresa McBride have created a play which creatively demonstrates the experiences of young people as they negotiate a world full of risks.

Choices examines some of the issues prevalent within teen society today, like drugs misuse, mental health issues, and the dangers involved with sending nude images.



Actors from the play

The PCSP plan on working with next year's students to create another play on the topics they feel are most important to them, and have encouraged local schools to host performances of this year's play.

Focus on: Domestic and Sexual Violence



Startling imagery of Hidden Experiences.

Hidden Experiences

Domestic abuse statistics for 2016/2017 show that reported domestic and sexual abuse crimes are at their highest level in ten years. A third of these victims are male.

Working in partnership with Men's Action Network, Derry & Strabane PCSP have hosted a Hidden Experiences conference, designed to

highlight the experiences of male victims of domestic violence, and to better equip practitioners to respond to their needs.

Men's Action Network has also been awarded funding from the PCSP Small Project Support Awards, and Derry & Strabane PCSP are looking forward to supporting similar projects.



Participants at the Hidden Experience Conference, which will help ensure male domestic and sexual abuse victims will be better supported

Lessons Learned

Fermanagh Women's Aid have been looking at new ways to equip, support and signpost those who may be victims of domestic and sexual violence.

Having identified the one to one relationship and support the hair and beauty therapists have with their clients, Women's Aid have given training to South West College hair and beauty students to spot signs of domestic and sexual violence.

The series of workshops are designed to raise awareness of sexual and domestic abuse with students, teaching them appropriate responses and the best ways to signpost support groups.

[click here](#)

to find out more about Fermanagh Women's Aid.



Training co-ordinator Michelle Alonso talks to students

[click here](#) to find out more about Men's Action Network.

MAPping help for men

125 free counselling sessions are being provided to male victims of crime in the Mid and East Antrim Council area.

Mid & East Antrim PCSP has come together with MAPNI to highlight the services that MAPNI can provide to male victims of domestic and sexual

abuse. The project aims to ensure that Mid and East Antrim has the ability to offer counselling at a local venue for male victims and survivors.

The counselling sessions have been promoted locally amongst PSNI, Victims Support and the wider community.

The project also aims to raise awareness amongst the PSNI and other statutory officials of the availability of counselling sessions for male victims, and how best to signpost the available support.

[click here](#)

to find out more about MAP NI.



Making improvements with ND&SVP

The Northern Domestic & Sexual Violence Partnership (ND&SVP) recently hosted a conference which brought together all the agencies dealing with domestic and sexual violence across the Northern Trust area, including Mid & East Antrim PCSP.

Attended by over 100 practitioners, its aim was to raise awareness of their work and the range of member agencies and support services available to those affected by domestic or sexual violence or abuse.

[click here](#)

to find out more about the ND&SVP.



Attendees heard from Welsh Women's Aid Ambassador Rachel Williams

Putting victims first

This year's Rowan Conference - which takes place each year during Sexual Violence & Sexual Abuse Awareness Week - focused on understanding sexually harmful behaviour, and ensuring that the perspective of victims stays at the forefront of research and practice.

Sponsored by Mid & East Antrim PCSP, the conference raises awareness of issues of vulnerable people and victims, and gives support agencies a chance to network.

[click here](#) to find out more about The Rowan Centre.



Tackling street-level drug dealing

Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP have been working in partnership with PSNI and Crimestoppers to tackle street level drug dealing in the area.

They have produced a multi media campaign to raise awareness of the resources available to the public to report crime and community concerns.

PCSP Chair Cllr Joe Nelson said the PCSP is committed to highlighting the impact of drugs communities, explaining: **“Our ultimate aim is to give confidence to communities to report drug dealing and make our cities and towns safer places for everyone. We can all play a part in stopping it by reporting drug dealers. We also want those taking drugs, their families or friends, to seek support from local services to make changes before it’s too late.”**

Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PSNI Chief Inspector Jon Burrows said: **“In order to tackle this type of criminality, it is imperative we get information from the community. Those involved in drug dealing bring misery and heartache to the areas they operate, with complete disregard to the lives they destroy. This advertising campaign shows the various methods of reporting criminal activity both through policing channels and also anonymously. Crimestoppers plays a vital role in reducing the fear of speaking out against those intent on causing hurt and harm.”**

[click here](#) to find out more about Crimestoppers



PCSP Chair Cllr Joe Nelson, Crimestoppers' Sue Steen and Ch/Insp Jon Burrows at the launch



Child Sexual Exploitation: Are the laws strong enough?

The Department of Justice has published a consultation paper on a review of the law which protects children from sexual exploitation and abuse.

The consultation looks at existing criminal law relating to a number of specific areas including indecent images of children, grooming and on-line exploitation, as well as proposals to introduce additional measures to assist with upskirting and strengthening police powers to prevent and stop exploitation and abuse.

The Department is seeking views on the current laws and additional measures, and will develop proposals to be considered by a future Justice Minister.

[click here](#) to access the consultation.



Turning the Curve

Ards & North Down PCSP has been busy consulting with the community on what its future priorities should be. Following engagement with over 300 people from the community and statutory partners through a mixture of online surveys and public meeting, the PCSP has finalised its new 3 year strategy.

Chair of Ards & North Down PCSP, Cllr Rachel Woods, commented: **“The process has provided the PCSP with a greater insight into the issues affecting different areas in our Borough and allowed us to formulate plans to try and “turn the curve” in addressing sometimes stubborn crime, fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, safety and confidence in policing issues. I would like to thank everyone that was involved in this very useful process.”**

Over 70 attendees were hosted across the public meetings

ROC gets rolling

Mid & East Antrim PCSP have been working with community engagement charity Redeeming Our Communities (ROC) to talk about how they can work together to improve community safety.

The charity brings together local community groups and statutory bodies to deliver practical change and the recent ROC Conversation event identified a number of needs and issues within the community such as isolation, anti-social behaviour and a need for community facilities and volunteers. The next step is moving the talk into action.

ROC Conversation host and Founding Director, Debra Green OBE was impressed by the positive work already taking place in the town. She said: **“The ROC Conversation always highlights hidden work taking place in communities as well as showing how easily gaps in provision can be met by existing community groups once they become aware of the need.”**



The community comes together at the ROC meeting to talk about how they can work together

ROC Event Co-ordinator, Keeva Watson, said that 58 guests at the ROC Conversation signed up to be part of ROC Carrickfergus Action Group: **“This is a tremendous response by local people who are willing to work together to improve Carrickfergus. We’ll looking forward to moving this talk into action.”**

[click here](#) to find out more about ROC.



Planning for future action

No silence in this courtroom!

Children in Antrim and Newtownabbey have been finding their voices and challenging drivers caught speeding outside their schools in the latest round of Kids' Courts.

The projects, in conjunction with PSNI, bring drivers clocked doing over the speed limit in front of primary school children to be grilled with tough questions.



PCSP Chair Cllr Noreen McClelland outside Thompson Primary School in Newtownabbey



MID & EAST ANTRIM AGEWELL PARTNERSHIP

Handyperson Service

Handyperson Service available for older people from Mid & East Antrim aged 60 years and over, to carry out small home repairs for £10 per hour (max 3 hours)

Contact MEAAP on 028 25658604 to book

The handyperson can!

Ageing Well

It's never been easier to be an older person in Mid & East Antrim with the roll-out of the Council's new Ageing Well Model, focused on supporting and promoting long-term, high quality independent living for older people.

The new Ageing Well services include:

- Good Morning telephone calls which promote key health messages
- A handyperson service that supports older people remaining in their homes
- A home security scheme which includes safety checks and installation of safety equipment like locks and lighting
- Community and social engagement, with support given to local volunteering opportunities as well as training that encourages older people to get more comfortable using tech

[click here](#) to get in touch.

Put the brakes on speeding

You'll see a lot of speed detection and alert signs popping up across Mid & East Antrim over the next few months. The PCSP have funded the signs as part of a scheme to tackle speeding, particularly in areas where young people may be playing or going to school.

The signs don't just highlight your speed – they record the data, allowing the PCSP and PSNI to build up a picture of just how many cars are flouting the law.

Chair of Mid & East Antrim PCSP Cllr Paul Sinclair said: **“Mid and East Antrim PCSP are committed to making our communities safer and it is hoped that this initiative will go some way to addressing the many road safety concerns raised by our communities across the borough. 55 people died on our roads last year, and this needs to stop.”**

PSNI Chief Inspector Stephen Humphries welcomed the initiative: **“Anything that gets drivers to pay more attention to their speed has to be a good investment. People want to be able to feel safe in the place where they live and I would encourage anyone travelling across this borough, particularly close to schools, or play parks, to pay more attention to their speed and other road users.”**

Connecting with the Chinese Community

The PSNI and PCSP came together with the Chinese community in Lisburn and Castlereagh to provide crime prevention information including some important messaging on the increasing range and types of scams.

The PCSP and PSNI also talked through some advice on how the PSNI deal with hate crimes targeted at minority ethnic communities.



PCSP Chair Cllr Brian Harvey with the area Chief Inspector

If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam

Stay 4 steps ahead of a scam by using this scam test

Seems too good to be true

Contacted out of the blue

Asked for personal details

Money is requested

For more information, or to report a scam visit www.psni.gov.uk/scamwiseni

scamwiseni
IN PARTNERSHIP

Help us to help you prevent burglary

Most burglaries tend to be opportunistic rather than planned so if your home does not look secure it could be at risk.

To stop a burglar, you need to think like one!

PCSP Policing & Community Safety Partnerships
making our community safer

Keeping People Safe



House Burglaries

You can significantly reduce the chance of your home being burgled by taking a few simple precautions:

Top Ten Tips

1. Close and lock all doors and windows even if you are only going out for a few minutes.
2. Leave a light on if it will be dark before you get home. Consider security lights. To a burglar a dark house is an empty house.
3. Keep your valuables out of sight.
4. Cancel milk or other deliveries if you will be away from home.
5. Don't leave car keys near your door, letterbox or windows.
6. Always check who is at the door. Not sure? Don't open the door.
7. Set your alarm when going out and at night time. If you do not have an alarm consider installing one.
8. Ask a neighbour or a friend to check your property and to remain posted from the porch/hallway.
9. Inform police if your house is to be vacant for any length of time.
10. Always keep sheds and outbuildings locked and secure ladders.

Most house break-ins are opportunistic

CALL THE POLICE **101**
IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999

Northern Ireland
CrimeStoppers!
0800 555111
100% anonymous

For more practical home security tips, visit www.psni.police or call the Police and ask for your local Crime Prevention Officer or Local Policing Team

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Some of the information handed out on the day



And the award goes to...

Preparations are now underway for the first ever PCSP Recognition and Awards event on 29th May.

Each year, PCSPs work hard with their partners on a range of projects to help make communities safer and this year, the Policing Board and Department of Justice will recognise their areas of excellence.

The award categories will recognise achievements in engagement, innovation and communication, as well as projects and programmes that tackle issues like antisocial behaviour, embedding a culture of lawfulness and confidence in policing.

Nominations for the awards are open now, and will close on March 29th. If you're involved with the PCSP or want more information on the nominations, contact your local PCSP Manager.

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

www.pcsp.org

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

