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Turning on the blue light

We don't often get to hear what the lives of those in the emergency services are really like, and most of us would steer clear of an ambulance or fire engine if we could. But at a recent community fun day in Bangor, 2500 locals got to get up close to emergency service vehicles and the police helicopter.

At the event organised by Ards & North Down PCSP in partnership with the Ards and North Down Locality Planning Group, the emergency services, partner agencies and community and voluntary groups got the chance to educate and engage with the public about the work they undertake every day in the community.

Ards & North Down PCSP Chair Cllr Rachel Woods said:

"This event provided a great opportunity for the public to engage with the emergency services along with our local community organisations and advice services while having fun for free. I hope it's possible that this can happen annually."



Two future firefighters get into the spirit!



Pupils preparing for the Roadshow at The Theatre At The Mill

Roadsafe Roadshow at Mossley Mill

Antrim & Newtownabbey PCSP have been the latest to host the Roadsafe NI Roadshow, which uses powerful personal accounts and dramatic film footage to help make a positive impact on the driving behaviours of young people.

The Roadshow - a partnership between the PSNI, PCSP, Roadsafe NI and NIFRS - was delivered to 300 year 14 pupils. After hearing from survivors and learning more about road safety, pupils watched a full scale re-enactment of a fatal car crash, seeing the devastation caused by careless driving.



Part of the Roadshow gives pupils an idea of the chaos left behind by a road traffic collision



#Appy Days

Over 1000 pupils from across the Causeway Coast & Glens area have received important lessons about online safety at the 'Don't Worry Be #appy' Internet Resilience and Safety conference held at the Ulster University in Coleraine.

The Conference was organised by Causeway Coast & Glens PCSP in partnership with the NSPCC, Western Health and Social Care Trust, Northern Health and Social Care Trust and the Education Authority.

The aim was to help educate young people about how to keep safe, well and healthy online whilst also respecting that the digital world is important to them, their lives and future careers.

The conference included a wide range of digital influencers like local vlogger Adam McCallion, otherwise known as 'IzonHow' and online safety trainer Wayne Denner who highlighted the importance of your online reputation.

The PSNI provided an overview of digital crime statistics and how to prevent falling victim to scams while the NSPCC, in partnership with local 02 Gurus, highlighted the importance of security settings on mobile devices. ChildLine vlogger Maja talked through ways to keep healthy online and how to get support.



The Awards were hosted by Cool FM's Pete Snodden

And the winner is...

Over 150 guests came together for the Antrim & Newtownabbey PCSP Youth Awards 2019, which highlighted the outstanding achievements and valuable contributions made by young people across the district.

Speaking at the event, PCSP Chair, Cllr Noreen McClelland said she was overwhelmed by "...the vast amount of work our young people carry out and the huge range of talent we have right here in our borough. Our young people play a vital role in our society and I am delighted that we can recognize their efforts through these awards."

The winners of the 2019 Youth Awards were:

- Youth Champion Award: **Michael Henderson**
- Heart of Gold Award: **Aimee Adams**
- Community Champion Award: **Niall McCaffrey**
- Sport Champion Award: **Ethan Harris-O'Neill**
- Entrepreneurship Award: **Lewis Robinson**
- Creativity Award: **James Stirling**
- Grit Award: **Blaze Shields-Pettitt**
- Volunteer Champion Award: **Craig Bowers**



Heart of Gold winner Aimee Adams and Sport Champion Winner Ethan Harris O'Neill

Engaging with Young People

Enagh is Enough

The popular Enagh Lough has become safer for visitors thanks to a partnership between Derry & Strabane PCSP and Enagh Youth Forum.

Following the success of the 45 life belts and casings along the Foyle and Mourne rivers last year, the project means that there are life belts and throw ropes at key position along the banks of the lough.

PCSP Chair Ald Mary Hamilton said: "I am delighted that the PCSP was able to enhance the safety of the lough through fitting this life saving equipment. Last year's installations along the Foyle and Mourne rivers has proved invaluable

to our emergency services. We hope that the provision of this life saving equipment will ensure that the lough is a safer place for all its users."

Paul Hughes from Enagh Youth Forum explained: "The lack of life belts at the lough was identified as a concern by the young people of the area and we are delighted that the PCSP was able to quickly address this issue. The lough is utilised by many organisations especially young people and this provision will definitely add to the safety of the area. We will be working with the young people to educate them on water safety and the importance of protecting this investment from our PCSP."



Community Safety Warden Niall Doran, PCSP Manager Dermot Harrigan, PCSP Member and Chair of Strathfoyle Maydown Community Safety Forum Cllr Gus Hastings, Enagh Youth Forum's Linda Sharkey and Paul Hughes, PCSP Chair Ald Mary Hamilton, and Community Safety Warden Matt Plummer

Growing Older, Growing Safer

Two powerful projects working with local community groups have come together to make an even bigger impact in South Belfast and the wider Belfast area.

The Growing Older, Growing Safer project focused on establishing why older and vulnerable people are so reluctant to talk about personal safety issues and with the support of South Belfast DPCSP developed a safeguarding folder to direct

people to the appropriate resources and organisations.

The Community Guardians Project empowers community volunteers with the knowledge and confidence to act as social guardians in their communities. It provides positive opportunities to engage directly with members of South Belfast DPCSP to build their confidence to improve policing and community safety.



Cecilia Whitehorn, Project Contractor from CM Works and Lord Mayor for Belfast Deirdre Hargey at the event.

An invisible operation to improve online safety

Students at eight post primary schools across Fermanagh and Omagh have been finding out about sharing images online in a unique way.

Without the knowledge of students or most of the staff, young actors posed as new additions to the year group and began to perform their piece in the middle of a normal Assembly. The performance involved real PSNI Officers who stayed on afterwards to facilitate a discussion.

To support the message, the PCSP worked with Western Digital Safeguarding Steering Group to train a Digital Safeguarding Champion for each school.



The facilitated discussion included resources for parents and children alike



Reminders of the dangers were placed around the school

Teaming up to tackle traffic

Mid & East Antrim PCSP and the PSNI have been working with Acorn Integrated Primary School to tackle traffic issues outside the school.

As well as putting up road safety signs, the PSNI are holding a road safety workshop for all the pupils to get them working together to design new road safety posters.

Like many schools in Northern Ireland, Acorn sits in a residential area, meaning the lack of parking causes congestion that makes it difficult to cross the road safely.

School Principal Mrs Clodagh Webb says: "By the end of this campaign, we hope that by engaging with pupils, staff,

parents and local residents, it will increase their awareness of the importance of road safety. We hope that drivers will see the signs and get on board with the message that this is all about safety for the kids and residents."

PSNI Inspector Trevor Atkinson added: "It is important that all pupils can travel to and from school safely and everyone has a responsibility to make this happen."

On your bike!

Fifteen Cycling Ulster clubs have received mobile video cameras and hi vis vests thanks to a project with Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP.

The safety equipment will help the clubs work closer with the PSNI in reporting dangerous situations on the roads, as well as encouraging safer cycling. The project also provides an opportunity for clubs to engage with the PCSP and PSNI, sharing ideas for improving road safety and creating a working partnership.



Participants in the project

RAPID expansion

The RAPID project, which has been helping PCSPs and community groups all over Northern Ireland tackle the disposal of prescription and illegal drugs, has got a new bin in their arsenal! Working with Derry & Strabane PCSP, a new bin has been installed in Haughey's Costcutters in Strabane.



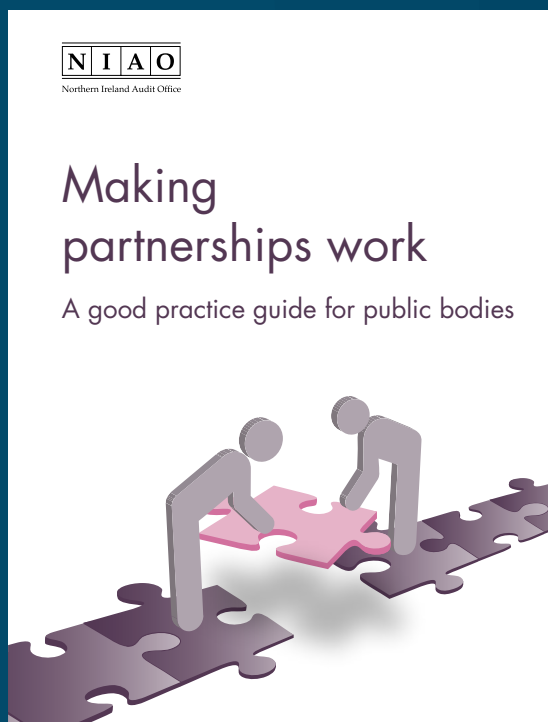
[L-R] PCSP Officer Vanessa Russell, PSNI Con Donna McKeegan, Proprietor Brian Haughey and PCSP Vice Chair Patsy McGonagle

Planning & Strategy

Good Practice Guidance for Partnership Working

The Northern Ireland Audit Office has released documentation designed to help public bodies work together more effectively – and PCSPs are a featured case study!

The focus is on how the PCSP Support Hubs have formalised collaborative working amongst statutory agencies at a local level. This means sharing information to improve the circumstances of vulnerable individuals and producing successful outcomes which couldn't necessarily be achieved by just one public service body.



[click here](#) to access the full guidance document and effectiveness checklist.



Crime figures published

The PSNI has published the latest recorded crime figures which reveal that 100,995 crimes were recorded in Northern Ireland last year, representing a rise of 2.9% on the previous year.

Speaking about the figures, Policing Board Chair Anne Connolly said:

“These figures provide an insight into the range of crime types and resulting demands on the PSNI in its service to the community.

Since 2016/17, when the lowest level was recorded, the figures have shown an annual increase but still remain relatively low when compared with other policing areas.

That said, in this report there are some notable increases in a number of reported crime types which require further analysis. There are also areas where crime

reports have fallen so it is equally important to understand why this is the case.

As a Board, we are mindful that behind every statistic is a crime victim and we want people to have the confidence to report crime and be satisfied in how their case has been handled by the police and the wider criminal justice system.

The Board will be questioning the Chief Constable at the June meeting so that there can be full scrutiny and understanding of the published figures.”

[click here](#) to access the figures

Focus on: Hate Crime

No Hate Here

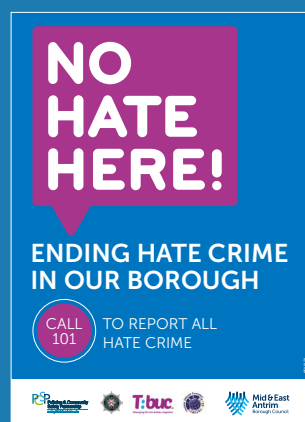
A joint initiative by Mid & East Antrim PCSP, the Council, the PSNI and Inter Ethnic Forum has been set up to help tackle hate crime and encourage local businesses and organisations to support those who have been victims through signposting support services.

A resource pack explaining what hate crime is, how to report it and where to get support has been rolled out across local businesses. The PSNI will also provide training to a number of local businesses and organisations.

Mayor of Mid & East Antrim, Cllr Lindsay Millar said: **“Mid and East Antrim prides itself on being a place that is welcoming, vibrant and diverse. There is a collective responsibility on statutory agencies, elected representatives, and community leaders to enable the community plan, Putting People First, to take shape and help work together to ensure everyone who lives, works and visits here is treated with dignity and respect.”**

Ivy Goddard from the Mid & East Antrim Inter Ethnic Forum said: **“Being victimised because of who you are, or who people think you are is fundamentally wrong. The spike in racist crime across our society is worrying and we are committed to preventing further escalation through this campaign, as well as other preventative initiatives that we are involved in.”**

PSNI Insp Michael Simpson said: **“This is an issue that requires more than just a policing response and we are delighted to join with our partners to encourage more people to do what they can to support victims.”**



Getting smart about preventing hate crime

Community members in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon got to learn more about promoting inclusion, the impact of hate crimes and how to actively prevent racism in their area through the PCSP and Council Good Relations supported OCN Level 2 qualification.



Some of the successful participants. Front row, l-r Lynette Cooke, PCSP Development Officer, Maciek Bator who helped develop the OCN and Edel Skelton, Good Relations Officer.

How detention is challenging perceptions

Schools across Mid & East Antrim have been hosting “Read All About It”, a thought provoking play by Spanner in the Works, featuring five young people from different backgrounds who meet in detention. In a Breakfast Club-esque plot, the pupils learn about each other’s cultures and how their own parents have influenced their perceptions. As well as the performance pupils also get stuck into discussion on cultural diversity.

Mayor of Mid & East Antrim, Cllr Lindsay Millar said: **“This is a great way to engage with young people and highlight the issue of hate**



Pupils gathered to watch the show

crime in an innovative way. It will also get our next generations thinking about what their perceptions of people from different backgrounds are, and how they are formed. Special thanks to Ballymena Learning Together and YMCA as well for their help running this amazing event.”

The plays are part of the ‘No Hate Here’ campaign being rolled out across Mid and East Antrim by the Council, PCSP, PSNI and Inter Ethnic Forum.



Pupils at Bee Safe 2019.

Beesafe, Bikesafe

Almost 1800 P7 pupils from Ards and North Down took part in the PCSP funded Bee Safe 2019 in Newtownards recently.

Pupils attended 10 minute safety workshops delivered by officers from the PSNI, Fire Service, RNLI, Translink and the Council's Community safety, Home Safety and Recycling teams.

The PCSP has also supported Bikesafe in partnership with PSNI and IAM Road Smart where more than 20 cyclists took part in a classroom session looking at the key aspects of motorcycle safety, followed by an on the road assessment by an advanced police motorcyclist.



Attendees at the Bikesafe training.

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

PBNI Probation Board for Northern Ireland

HSC Health and Social Care Board