

Policing and Community Safety Partnerships

who they are and what they do





Tackling **Drug and Alcohol** abuse is a key objective for PCSPs. They do this via smart initiatives like the RAPID drug disposal bins which enable the community to dispose of harmful drugs and substances anonymously. **Road Safety** is a prominent issue for all communities and PCSPs tackle this by delivering projects such as Bee Safe, Kids' Court, mobile speed units and the RoadSafe Roadshow.

Fear of Crime is a real concern for the most vulnerable in the community. PCSPs provide support and reassurance to our older people by fitting home safety equipment as part of the Safer Homes Scheme, providing Text Alert and no cold calling signage. Cyber Crime is a growing issue. PCSPs continue to educate the community on cyber safety through a range of projects and events such as plays and discussions.



What are PCSPs?

Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) are local bodies made up of Councillors and independent people from each council area who work alongside 7 statutory organisations to make your community safer and ensure that the voices of local people are heard on policing and community safety issues.

They work with communities to develop solutions to tackle crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.

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There are 11 PCSPs, one in each Council area. Belfast has one PCSP and four District PCSPs to reflect the East, West, North and South of the city.

What do PCSPs do?

They:

Consult and engage with the local community on policing and community safety. Each PCSP has a Policing Committee with a distinct responsibility to provide views to the relevant police commander and the Policing Board on policing matters.

Monitor the performance of the police and work to gain the co-operation of the public with the police in preventing crime. Identify and prioritise particular issues of concern and prepare plans for how these can be tackled.

Help deliver a reduction in crime and



enhance community safety in each district, through interventions, delivery groups or by supporting the work of others.



Policing Committee

Each PCSP operates a Policing Committee which works with local police to develop the local policing plan and monitor their performance against this plan.

It's job is to:

- provide views to a relevant police commander and the Policing Board on any matter concerning the district;
- monitor performance of the police in carrying out the policing plan in the district; and
- make arrangements for obtaining the co-operation of the public with the police in preventing crime and enhancing community safety in the district.

Who are PCSP Members?

Depending on the size of the Council, PCSPs are made up of:

- 8, 9 or 10 political members (Councillors) nominated by the Council;
- 7, 8 or 9 independent members appointed by the Policing Board following public advertisement; and
- representatives of 7 designated organisations which contribute to police and community safety issues.

Who do the PCSPs work in partnership with?

Many of the issues which PCSPs deal with cannot be solved single handedly. PCSPs consult with local communities to identify what their concerns are and work collaboratively with statutory agencies and other relevant groups to discuss, agree and coordinate actions in response.

PCSPs identify the main issues in their areas and develop ways to tackle them. From educating young people on cyber crime to enabling older people to live without the fear of crime; from educating drivers on road safety to finding ways to tackle drug and alcohol abuse – all this takes collaborative working and PCSPs develop solutions with partners to make a real difference on the ground.



The following organisations have been designated as members of the PCSPs. They provide extensive expertise in community safety and facilitate joined up working to provide effective outcomes for local communities.















Who funds and supports PCSPs work?

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

This funding allows PCSPs to consult and engage with communities and deliver hundreds of initiatives and projects which tackle important issues like anti-social behaviour and drug and alcohol abuse.

They are responsible for delivering three strategic priorities in line with the Programme for Government, the Community Safety Strategy and the Northern Ireland Policing Plan.

These are to:

- 1. successfully deliver the functions of the PCSP for the area;
- 2. improve community safety by tackling actual and perceived crime and anti-social behaviour;
- 3. support community confidence in policing.





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The PCSPs continue to tackle anti-social behaviour through **Community Safety** Warden Schemes and by rolling out diversionary projects like Cage Football, DJing skills and initiatives to enhance engagement with young people.

PCSPs raise domestic and sexual abuse and violence and fund in some areas.

PCSPs work in partnership with other agencies and community groups to reduce crime in the community through projects such as Neighbourhood Watch.

PCSPs give support to rural communities to tackle rural crime by offering free equipment marking and delivering initiatives such as Farm Watch.

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