



Annual Report 2018/19



Ards and North Down Policing and Community Safety Partnership (AND PCSP)

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Contents**Page number**

1. Introduction	3 – 6
2. Details of PCSP membership	7 – 9
3. Profile of Ards and North Down Council area.	10
4. Community Planning and Ards and North Down PCSP	10
5. Funding breakdown	10 – 11
6. Strategic priority 1	12
7. Strategic priority 2	13 – 17
8. Strategic priority 3	18
9. How well did the Policing Committee work	18
10. PCSP contact details	19



Photo – Community Safety Fun Day at Bangor Elim Complex, March 2019

**Councillor Rachel Woods, Chair of Ards and North Down Policing and
Community Safety Partnership and Irene Boyd, Vice Chair.**



1. Introduction to Ards and North Down PCSP

1.1 Ards and North Down PCSP

On 25th June 2015 Ards and North Down PCSP was constituted.

The PCSP is made up of local Councillors, members of the community who were appointed by the Policing Board and representatives from statutory organisations who play a role in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, namely;

- The PSNI
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- The Probation Board for Northern Ireland
- The Health and Social Care Trust
- The Education Authority
- The Youth Justice Agency
- Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service

The PCSP is funded and monitored through the Joint Committee made up of the NI Policing Board and the Department of Justice.

1.2 Review of PCSP business

AND PCSP held eleven business meetings, two public meetings and fourteen sub-group meetings during 2018-19. Management of the work of the PCSP was enabled by the three sub-groups which met regularly and made recommendations to the full PCSP meetings. These three groups are: Monitoring sub-group, Community Safety Sub-Group and the Drugs and Alcohol Awareness Sub-Group.

The 2018/ 2019 Action Plan was delivered, and a new three-year Strategy and one-year Action Plan was developed. A public consultation period took place between December and February 2019. The PCSP held two public meetings and three additional meetings with specific stakeholders.

A total of 29 awards were made to organisations and community groups to run projects that delivered against the Action Plan.

AND PCSP also directly managed a further nine projects and supported two local community policing groups.

1.3 Public Engagement

In 2018 / 2019 the Partnership undertook several public engagement activities ranging from public meetings of the Policing Committee to members attending local events, i.e. Partners and Community Together (PACT) and Community Policing Liaison Committees (CPLC'S), road safety school events and crime prevention initiatives

The PCSP accompanied by PSNI also held two meetings with Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers in December 2018 in Newtownards to provide information on scams and in February 2019 in Ballywalter where the subject matter was drug awareness. These meetings enhanced the knowledge of Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Volunteers. The NHW coordinators found these meetings helpful and have asked for regular meetings going forward.

Two meetings of the Policing Committee were held in public;

- The first meeting in Newtownards in June 2018 reported on the annual state of policing in the Borough and resulted in good local press coverage.
- The second was a special public consultation involving the PCSP, the Policing Board and the PSNI was held in September 2018. The consultation technology, Menti Meter was used to determine local issues and policing priorities that the PSNI and the Chief Constable should focus on. The meeting was held in Bangor individuals and groups from across the Borough were invited, including community representatives, politicians and the voluntary sector. 55 people attended and useful data was collected to inform future policing priorities in Ards and North Down.

In October 2018 the PCSP commissioned an independent consultant to assist with the development of a new three-year strategy and one-year action plan. A comprehensive series of consultation meetings were held from December 2018 to February 2019;

- Two workshops with PSCP members
- One with Council Staff from the Community and Wellbeing section and
- Two public meetings during January 2019 in Bangor and Newtownards.

Three strategic priorities were identified:

- SP1 to form and successfully deliver the functions of the PCSP
- SP2 to improve community safety by tackling crime and anti-social behaviour
- SP3 to support community confidence in policing

In February 2019 the new AND PCSP 2019/ 2022 Strategy and one-year Action Plan was submitted to the Department of Justice and approved. This Plan will guide the PCSP through the next three years which will include the PCSP reconstitution following the Local Government elections in May 2019 and the appointment of new Independent members in 2020.



The Community Safety Fun Day held at Elim Complex, Bangor, March 2019

In addition, the following meetings of AND PCSP were held.

List of meetings of Ards and North Down PCSP 2018-2019

Table 1

Meetings of Ards and North Down PCSP	
Bangor Aurora Leisure Complex	4th June 2018
Signal Centre, Bangor	20th August 2018
Sketrick House, Newtownards	8th October 2018
Signal Centre, Bangor	12th November 2018
Blair Mayne Leisure Complex	28th January 2019
Signal Centre, Bangor	25th March 2019
Public Meetings	
Londonderry Park, Newtownards	25th June 2018
Signal Centre, Bangor	24th September 2018
Londonderry Park, Newtownards	8th January 2019
Signal Centre, Bangor	8th January 2019
Meetings of the Policing Committee	
Londonderry Park, Newtownards	25th June 2018
Londonderry Park, Newtownards	20th August 2018
Londonderry Park, Newtownards	29th October 2018
Signal centre, Bangor	25th February 2019
Ards and North Down PCSP training	
Ards and North Down PCSP Strategy and Action Plan Development Workshops	
Blair Mayne Leisure Centre, Newtownards	28th January 2019
Londonderry Park, Newtownards.	13th December 2018

1.4 Governance meetings

Governance meetings with DOJ and Policing Board took place in May 2018 and January 2019 involving the Chair, Vice Chair and Officers. These meetings allowed for

the discussion on performance and issues such as the Assets Recovery Community Schemes (ARCS) application process.

2. Details of PCSP Membership

Ards and North Down Policing and Community Safety Partnership is comprised of ten Elected Members, nine independent members and representatives from seven designated bodies. All members act as a conduit for the flow of information from members of the public to the PCSP regarding all matters relating to policing and community safety.

During the year, one of our independent members resigned and the Health Service representative resigned. The Policing Board's processing requests from AND PCSP to replace these members. Late in the year the Policing Board also commenced its recruitment process to appoint new Independent members to the PCSP in 2020.

2.1 The Policing Committee

The Policing Committee forms an important element of the PCSP. The Committee which is made up of the 19 political and independent members is charged specifically with enhancing public confidence in policing by monitoring police performance and ensuring that policing services deliver for local communities.

ELECTED MEMBERS



Councillor
Alistair Cathcart



Councillor
Stephen Cooper



Councillor
Trevor Cummings



Councillor
Nigel Edmund



Alderman
Robert Gibson



Alderman
Ian Henry



Alderman
Wesley Irvine



Councillor Jimmy
Menagh



Councillor
Scott Wilson



Councillor
Rachel Woods

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS



Louise
Green



Sandra
Henderson



Alison
Blayney



Albert
Spratt



Irene
Boyd



Paula
McQuade



Louise
Little



Kay Barrie

STATUTORY MEMBERS



Northern Ireland
Fire & Rescue Service



<https://www.ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/resident/community/pcsp>

<https://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk/>

3. Borough Profile

Ards and North Down (AND) has a population of 157,000 (8.6% of the Northern Ireland total) and comprises a unique mix of urban and rural communities. The largest towns, in order of size, are Bangor (60,260), Newtownards (28,437), Holywood (12,131), Comber (8,933) and Donaghadee (6,856) and each is in the north of the borough.

The remainder of the population lives mainly in 19 smaller villages – Balloo, Ballygowan, Ballyhalbert, Ballywalter, Carrowdore, Conlig, Cloughey, Crawfordsburn, Greyabbey, Groomsport, Helens Bay, Killinchy, Kircubbin, Lisbane, Millisle, Portaferry, Portavogie, Seahill and Whiterock. 80% of residents live in the northern 25% of our borough. Rural isolation is experienced by some communities.

The area has long been recognised as a very desirable place to live, with many and superb amenities – schools, leisure and sports facilities, good transport links, quality infrastructure. It is one of the least deprived areas in Northern Ireland, ranking 10 out of the 11 new Council areas. However, there are five Wards ranked between 150th and 168th most deprived in Northern Ireland; these are in Newtownards and the Ards Peninsula

One of the primary challenges facing us from a social perspective comes from our aging population and how we can support health and wellbeing. Since 2001, there has been a 6.6% decrease in the number of people under the age of 16, while there has been marked increase of 40% in the number of people aged over 65 years. The borough has a higher percentage of residents over the age of 40 than the Northern Ireland average, yet a lower percentage under the age of 40 years.

4. Community Planning and the PCSP

The PCSP continues to engage with the Ards and North Down Community Planning process which has resulted in the development of the Ards and North Down Big Plan. The Plan calls for citizens to “feel safe in their homes, in the community and out in public.” To achieve this, outcome three of the plan wants all citizens to be able to; “Live in communities where they are respected, safe and secure” The Community Plan highlights the PCSP as the delivery agent for community safety issues.

In keeping with this, the PCSP has participated in discussions regarding the Active Ageing element of the plan. The SOLACE group have given assurance that the PCSP will be key delivery mechanism for community safety actions in the community plan.

5. Funding Breakdown under SP2 for 2017/2018

Twenty-one projects were supported during the year and a further 10 projects were delivered directly by the PCSP working alongside our partner agencies.

Table 2 – Funding Breakdown 2017/2018

	NAME OF ORGANISATION	FUNDING AWARDED
Large Grants	PSTNI / Keyhole Surgery Locksmiths	£29,000.00
	Ards and North Down Street Pastors	£14,850.00
	Safezone	£13,150.00
	Youth for Christ Nomad	£14,000.00
Small Grants	Kilcooley Primary School	£3,300.00
	Donaghadee Youth for Christ	£9,600.00
	Portavogie Rangers FC	£2,250.00
	Kilcooley Women's Centre	£4,737.37
	Ards and North Down Street Pastors - Hollywood	£6,575.00
	The LINC	£2,700.00
	New Driver Safety Ambassador	£2,242.00
	YFC Mentoring	£4,510.00
	PSNI - ASB Challenge	£2,500.00
Partner Delivery	Keeping Adults Safe Training	£595.00
	PSNI Glastry Youth / Westwind's joint project	£480.00
	PSNI - Trampolining Initiative	£700.00
	PSNI Road Safety Skills Day	£1,500.00
	PSNI SID	£2,395.00
	PSNI - Fishing Initiative	£1,000.00
	PSNI - Westwind's project	£600.00
	PSNI - Community Events	£1,500.00
	PSNI - Pony tails project	£1500.00
	PSNI – Red belt judo challenge	£1500.00
	PSNI / Liking Generations EngAge Project	£5795.00
	PSNI ASB diversionary	£2500.00
	PSNI Glen Estate project	£1,375.00
	PSNI "Read all about It" anti-hate project	£4,840.00
	North Down & Ards Road Safety Committee	£1,500.00
Projects delivered by the PCSP	Beesafe	£10,000.00
	Road Safety Roadshow	£ 6,000.00
	Rural Crime / Trailer Marking	£ 6,000.00
	RAPID drugs bin	£2,000.00
	Hate Crime	£3,000.00
	Safe Place / DV Project	£3,000.00
	Think before you buy – drug programme	£2,040.00
	Community Safety Wardens	£20,000.00
	SEDVP	£3,000.00
	Women's Aid – One Stop Shop	£17,000.00
	Greyabbey CPLC	£400.00
	Ballygowan PACT	£400.00
	Elim PCSP Fun Day	£5951.00

6. Strategic Priority 1 - To successfully deliver the functions of Ards and North Down PCSP

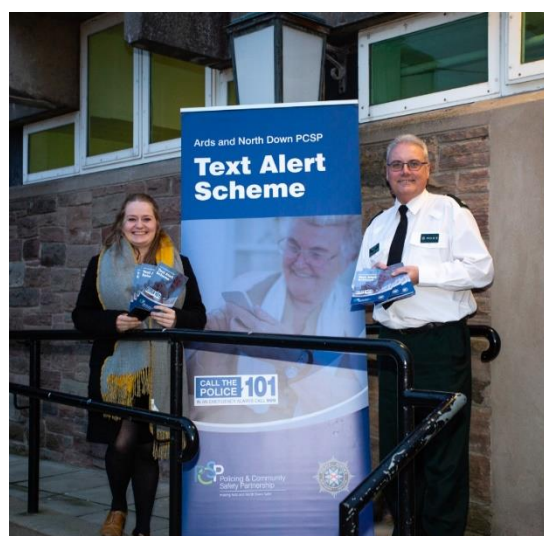
PCSP members engaged with the local community and implemented the 2018-2019 Action Plan. They received training on OBA- Outcomes Based Accountability to help shape the 2019 / 2022 Strategy and Action Plan.

6.1 In carrying out this work PCSP Members;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held six private PCSP meetings.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended two training sessions and three planning meetings supporting the development of the 2019-2022 strategy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended four community safety sub-group meetings.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of promotional strategy; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Media 30+ press releases published. ○ Cinema advertising-Think before you buy anti-drugs campaign ○ Bus shelter advertising- Think before you buy anti-drugs campaign. ○ Web based information.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ten public events attended including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PCSP fun day, three consultation events. ○ NHW event on Scams. ○ Two Banjaxed plays dealing with paramilitary control. ○ domestic violence training. ○ opening of Street Pastors safe place alongside local MP, MLA's Councillors and the Mayor. ○ Road Safe roadshow. ○ Road safety quiz. ○ Bike Safe.

6.2 Overview of Performance

In summary 75% of members attended PCSP private meetings and 51% of the public meetings/ PCSP events. In doing so they engaged with over 2700 members of the public at 8 events over the year. When surveyed 100% of PCSP members attending meetings felt supported in their role and 100% of attendees at events stated they received relevant advice and increased awareness of the PCSP.



7. Strategic Priority 2: To improve community safety by tackling crime and anti social behaviour.

7.1 Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) – Sub Theme

Table 3 – Projects Supported

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Street Pastors project. Over 50 volunteers were operational in teams of three patrolling every weekend throughout the Borough and additional street pastors were recruited and trained. They supported four cultural events engaging with 150+ at each event. The project prevented 26 assaults, dealt with 39 disturbances and called emergency services on 16 incidents. It is noted that 818 Individuals thanked the patrols for their help and 100% of those surveyed on the street were happy with the service received.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe Zone conducted 117 patrols engaging with 1040 individuals and preventing two suicides and assisting in two assault cases.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizen Me – the “Youth for Christ” youth project held three teenage sessions per week (140 sessions overall) with 79.5% of the 71 young people attending reporting changed behaviour.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anti-Social Behaviour / PSNI Pony Tails project - The PSNI project engaged with 500 pupils in 3 schools delivering a drug initiative and ran a four-week project in the local equestrian centre involving 40 participants. resulting in Improvements in engagement with the PSNI.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COPE II – Kilcooley Women’s culture project delivered three programmes in three locations delivering 96 hours training to 85 participants.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trampolining Initiative – This PSNI youth engagement project held six sessions with 81 attending and reporting a better understanding of anti-social behaviour.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portavogie Rangers youth football project delivered to 100 young people diverting them from ASB and encouraging a better understanding of how anti-social behaviour effects the community. Six young adults also attained their Level 1 IFA coaching accreditation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSNI ASB engagement with Glen estate, six sessions were held with 20 participants and participants are now 75% more likely to engage with police.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSNI ASB diversionary project was delivered in eight villages in the peninsula over a 10-week period with 145 participants. 90% of which reported they would be more likely to engage with police.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSNI fishing project involved fishing sessions with individuals at risk.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSNI – The red belt challenge. A judo project over five weeks engaging with 14 young people in a challenging area of the Borough. Families were also involved and 100% of those participating stating they would be more likely to engage with police. Both British and Irish Judo Associations were supportive of this project on social media.

- Kilcooley Primary School project engaged with over 200 pupils and the sessions were delivered by a professional trainer.

7.2 ASB – Overview of Performance - A Sample of the Results from the Projects Show:

- The Street Pastors project shows public satisfaction ratings of 100% and PSNI statistics show a 14% decrease in ASB. Police figures show less reported ASB during street warden patrols.
- PSNI ASB projects, Trampoline project, Fishing project and Portavogie Rangers project show high satisfaction ratings and fewer ASB incidents when the projects are running.
- 100% of attendees reported feeling safer as a result of the COPE II project
- Place to Sow and Grow II shows behavioural change in the pupils taking part.

7.3 Youth diversion and engagement - Sub theme

To help divert and engage young people away from potential ASB the PCSP funded a NOMAD Cage Football programme. It worked in the identified hotspot areas and ran 46 cage football sessions with 600+ attending. At the PCSP fun day session over 300 young people participated. A survey of those attending all the sessions showed 69% stating that the sessions had helped them to change their behaviour and attitudes towards anti-social behaviour.

The PCSP also ran a P7 Bee Safe events at Ards Blaire Mayne leisure centre with 1855 pupils attending from 46 local primary schools. 100% of those attending reported a change in attitudes to risks and an understanding of agencies involved in criminal justice.



Photo – Our PCSP ran a public consultation to help shape its three-year strategy, January 2019

7.4 Drugs and alcohol ASB – Sub theme

The PCSP supported street wardens' services and provided a community RAPID drug bin for the disposal of prescription medication. They also funded a borough wide drugs education programme.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safezone / Street Pastors. Safezone and Street Pastor's patrol in a number of our local towns every weekend. There are 40 Safezone volunteers and 71 Street Pastors patrolling and engaging with 500+ people per week with increases at specific events such as Easter Holidays and the Annual Portaferry Gala.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RAPID drug bins; three Rapid bins were installed and are now operational with RAPID PR delivered through the PCSP Facebook page and through the local press.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Think before you Buy II – The anti-drug campaign involved adverts shown at cinemas and posters on ad shells. The programme was highlighted in the cinema, local media and on social media.



Photo – Young drivers challenged, February 2019

Results from the above projects show;

- 100% of those surveyed stated Street Pastors made a difference in the areas they patrolled
- Two of the Rapid bins are now emptied regularly, and an amount of prescription drugs have been destroyed. Further publicity on The RAPID Initiative will ensure wider awareness.
- Awareness of the “Think before you Buy” campaign has increased through social media.

7.5 Domestic Violence – Sub theme

To help address domestic violence issues the PCSP supported the following projects:

Safe Place II - Two Safe Place Awareness raising sessions was held in Newtownards. The sessions were advertised in the press, on Facebook and the Council website. All those who completed the training were provided with a Safe Place starter pack. On completion of the training each of the premises represented were eligible to become a Safe Place and advertise their premises as a Safe Place.

One Stop Shop – twelve two-hour sessions were delivered with 54 women receiving advice and help from specialist agencies dealing with domestic violence safety, financial advice and legal advice.

Results from the above projects show 100% of attendees at the one stop shop felt the visit made them feel safer in their homes and have more confidence in the criminal and civil justice systems. The Safe Place project also recorded 100% satisfaction from the individuals and organisations that received the training.

7.6 Hate Crime - Sub theme

To tackle the problem of Hate Crime the PCSP worked in partnership with the Good Relations (GR) section of Council promote a “No Hate Here” public awareness in partnership campaign. Following a racist incident in Newtownards we assisted in a community confidence event with the local mosque involving over 200 participants and including MP’s, MLA’s, The Mayor, Councillors and the Chief Constable. We also helped support the eight “Grandfest” GR diversity events.

This has resulted in an increase in reporting of hate crime to the PSNI and an increase in participants who feel more confident to report a crime to the police in the future.

7.7 Burglary and fear of crime - sub theme

To tackle burglary and fear of crime the PCSP supported;

- There were 31 Neighbourhood Watch schemes in the AND area and two Neighbourhood Watch meetings which were held with 60 attending.
- Delivering an Ards and North Down secure scheme across the borough to 147 individuals’ properties

Surveys taken from those involved in all of the above projects show that 100% satisfaction with Neighbourhood Watch events and 100% of those receiving secure scheme equipment were satisfied with the scheme and felt safer.

7.8 Rural Crime - Sub theme

The PCSP held one trailer and one bike marking event throughout the Borough. Surveys from those attending show 100% of users felt it was worthwhile to get items marked. There were 69 trailers were marked on one day, a record for the Borough.

7.9 Road safety – Sub Theme

The PCSP sub theme of Road Safety saw a Speed Indicator Device (SID) deployed 18 times and some SID awareness sessions involving mini SID were held in local schools. There were reports of a decrease in speeding in the areas where SID was deployed in the month following deployment.



Photo - Road Safe Road Show at St Columbanus College, Bangor, November 2018

The PCSP also supported the Road Safe Road Show where 600 pupils from two schools were made aware of the need to change driving behaviours so to avoid fatalities and stay safe on the roads.

8. Strategic Priority 3 – To support community confidence in policing

The PCSP Policing Committee sought to increase community confidence in policing through monitoring policing performance, facilitating community engagement with police, supporting the anti-social behaviour forum and advocating for a culture of lawfulness.

PCSP also supported the DOJ campaign tackling paramilitarism through the “Banjaxed” plays and the support for the “Ending the Harm” programme.

The PCSP committee held quarterly monitoring sub-group meetings involving a NISRA statistician to help PCSP members monitor police performance. The PCSP

also held quarterly policing committee meetings examining the performance of the PSNI against the Local Policing Plan.

The PCSP advocated a culture of lawfulness through the work of the Drugs and Alcohol Awareness Sub-Group. Alongside this we consulted with the community measuring community confidence in policing, reporting of crime and the community's confidence in the PCSP to monitor local policing.

How much did the Policing Committee do?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four Policing Committee meetings were held and four Monitoring sub-group were held.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One themed public meeting on – The policing priorities PSNI should focus on.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five meetings of drugs sub-group held including three planning meetings.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ten ASB forums supported.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven Community Policing Forums held including Greyabbey Police and People and Community Together Partnership.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) meetings held in Newtownards and Ballywalter.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have rolled out the “Think Before You Buy” campaign in the local cinemas on ad shells and through social media.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PCSP has also facilitated the provision of three RAPID drug bins to take prescription drugs off the street and provide literature to educate the public and keep them safe

9.0 Overview of Performance

It was noted that 55% of members attended quarterly Policing Committee meetings and a themed public meeting. At four public awareness events in Bangor and Newtownards, over 2700 members of the public were engaged and made aware of the work of the Policing Committee.

Surveys show 100% of PCSP members attending the Policing Committee felt supported in their role and reported that their knowledge about local policing had increased. The public attending the events also recorded 100% increased knowledge about local policing and the PCSP Policing Committee.



Photo – Launch of the PCSP’s RAPID bin in Newtownards, October 2018

10. AND PCSP Contact Details

Alan McCay, PCSP Officer
Ards and North Down Policing and Community Safety Partnership
Ards and North Down Borough Council
2 Church Street
NEWTOWNARDS
BT23 4AP

Tel: 028 9182 4070
E-mail: pcsp@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk