

# inpartnership

The Policing & Community Safety Partnerships Newsletter





## Community Safety Awards 2019

Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) spend their time finding better ways to help deliver good policing and community safety. And this year, for the first time, their work has been recognised at the PCSP Community Safety Awards 2019.

Speaking about the importance of acknowledging the impact PCSPs make across the community, Chair of the Policing Board's Partnership Committee Dolores Kelly MLA said: **"We are delighted to get this chance to recognise and celebrate some of the great work PCSPs have been doing in our communities."**

**The initiatives and projects they take forward are wide ranging and make a real impact on a variety of people. They play a key role in engaging the community with policing and helping to deliver safer communities and it's important that we take time to highlight the impact they have across our communities. Some of the projects have helped change lives and we look forward to continuing to work with PCSPs to deliver new and innovative projects to communities."**

Director of Safer Communities at the Department of Justice Anthony Harbinson said: **"PCSPs create an important link between local communities and the police where partnerships can be formed that respond to local issues and enhance community safety. The PCSP awards provide an opportunity to celebrate the positive work that is ongoing and share examples of good practice that can be built upon in the future."**

And one of the panel of judges, Chief Inspector of Criminal Justice Brendan McGuigan added: **"I was particularly impressed by the high standard, range and volume of entries. These awards showcase the innovative work that is being carried out by PCSPs working together with partners towards a safe community where we respect the law and each other."**

## Award for Innovation

This award recognises outstanding innovation that has improved upon, or extended beyond, current expectations of best practice.



Members of Mid Ulster PCSP with Claire Sugden MLA.

And the winner is...

### Mid Ulster PCSP's Youth Engagement Project: Fatal Road Traffic Collision and Mock Courtroom Trial

It's not always easy to reach out and engage with young people who are involved in anti-social behaviour and low level crime but a Youth Engagement Project

developed by Mid Ulster PCSP and partner agencies has had a real impact on a group of local 16 year olds.

Over a 14 week course, they learned what happens during a fatal road traffic collision, and the real-life consequences of dangerous driving. After experiencing a real-time collision which involved a driver and front seat passenger, as well

as emergency services and a local undertaker, the PSNI and Education Authority took the experience a step further, allowing the participants to watch the driver go to trial for his role in the collision.

Participants acted as defence, prosecution and jury, getting a chance to see how the judicial system works and challenge their perceptions. The young driver was tried, convicted, and sentenced to five years in prison, giving the young people involved a stark warning about anti-social driving. Thankfully the "driver" got off 5 minutes later for good behaviour and being an actor - phew!



Mid Ulster PCSP receiving their award from Claire Sugden MLA.

## The Runners Up

### Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP's Community Cash

Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP, working with the District Council and PSNI, brought Participatory Budgeting to Northern Ireland. This new way of funding community groups offers a practical way to engage more meaningfully with communities and allocate resources in a more open way.

The PCSP wanted to look at ways to distribute funding to more groups in their community, increase awareness of the PCSP and break down barriers to engagement with the PSNI. Groups were invited to deliver a two minute presentation on their project before it went a public vote.

### Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP's Kids Court

1200 pupils and 34 motorists learned about the dangers of speeding from Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP and the PSNI. The project, which was a first for Northern Ireland, introduced a novel approach to address speeding, allowing children to challenge offenders head-on about why they broke the speed limit in front of a school.

The Kids Courts have gone down well in the District, with schools eager to host them again. Speed Indicator Devices have been set up to support the project, and have great support from the community.

**Award for**

**Excellence in Communication**

This award recognises the PCSP which has shown best practice in communicating with the public.



Members and staff of Newry, Mourne & Down PCSP and District Commander Supt Jane Humphries with Northern Ireland Policing Board Independent Member Colm McKenna.


And the winner is...

**Newry, Mourne & Down PCSP's Promotional Video**

Video content is often seen as part and parcel of online advertising, but for many organisations, taking the plunge can be intimidating. But to help build knowledge, awareness and perception of PCSPs, Newry Mourne & Down put themselves in the spotlight.

Footage of the annual planning day, Policing Committee and several PCSP meetings was merged with information from PCSP members and statutory body representatives so viewers could get a good picture of the full breadth of PCSP activities across the District.

In six weeks, the video got over 1100 views on Facebook, making it one of the most popular posts the PCSP has had. The footage has also been used in the recruitment drive for new PCSP Independent Members.

 Watch the winning promo film here



Newry, Mourne & Down PCSP receiving their award from Northern Ireland Policing Board Independent Member Colm McKenna.

**The Runners Up**

**Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP's Facebook Page**

The PCSP Officers behind the Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon page have been embracing digital options with impressive results. Their Facebook likes grew 11% between September 2018 and January 2019, with a total post reach of over 370,000.

This is down to the hard work of staff, who engage the public with their work and that of partner agencies by switching up traditional corporate approaches to posting and embracing a more conversational, friendly tone along with an increase in video content.



Members and staff of Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP receiving their certificate.

**Award for**  
**Confidence in Policing**

This award recognises innovative, inspiring or ground-breaking initiatives implemented by PCSPs to build confidence in policing.



Members and staff of Mid Ulster PCSP with T/ACC Tim Mairs, PSNI.

And the winner is...

**Mid Ulster's Community Resolution Notice Youth Alcohol Engagement Programme**

Underage drinkers in Mid Ulster have been offered a new way to engage with the police by the CRN Youth Alcohol Engagement Programme.

The first programme of its type to be delivered in Northern Ireland, the innovative approach means underage drinkers can avoid prosecution and stay out of the criminal justice system by taking a course so they're educated and not labeled.

Part of the programme provides a safe room at a popular

Cookstown Club for underage drinkers where police officers and club angels look after them and alert their parents. Once the parents have been told, the teenager has the option of going down the legal route or taking part in a programme to educate them all about how the law works and the dangers of abusing alcohol.

In 2017/18, over 170 young people attended the course with their parents, and only 15 of those reoffended. The programme has been so successful in fact that it has been extended to other PCSP areas, and redesigned to apply to other issues like use of illegal fireworks.



Members and staff of Mid Ulster PCSP take to the stage with T/ACC Tim Mairs and MC Barra Best.

**The Runners Up**

**West Belfast DPCSP's Intergenerational Tapestry Project**

There are plenty of ways to break down barriers and one way of doing that in West Belfast was getting two generations together to work on a shared project. Older people had felt intimidated in their homes by local children; and local children weren't really aware of the impact their behaviour was having.

West Belfast DPCSP and PSNI got them together to produce a tapestry project over a couple of months, giving them time and space to talk about common issues and get to understand each other's perspectives; plus produce a fabulous tapestry they all felt proud of.

**Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP's Community Confidence in Policing**

Through a number of grassroots engagement events, Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP have been working with the PSNI, local groups and local businesses to foster stronger links between the community and the police, and build confidence in policing.

They held a series of meetings to give the public and key stakeholders the chance to hear about policing and crime in their area and held 35 engagement events between the community and the PSNI – all of which resulted in a reported increase in confidence in policing.

**Award for**

**Outstanding Impact in Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

This award recognises the delivery of solutions which have improved the lives of individuals or communities.



Members and staff of Belfast PCSP with youth outreach organisations, Policing Board Vice Chair Debbie Watters, T/ACC Tim Mairs and one of the judges Heather Bailly.

**And the winner is...  
Belfast PCSP and East and North Belfast DPCSP's Youth Outreach and Engagement Project**

Reaching out to young people involved in anti-social behaviour is well known for having its challenges so Belfast PCSP and East and North DPCSPs combined their efforts to target key hotspots.

Their aim was to reach young people by pulling together a number of organisations under a lead organiser and pooling resources. It also meant that young people could be engaged by a known face as opposed to an unknown Council official, which was designed to encourage them to respond more positively.

This softer approach to outreach proved popular with young people, and this first engagement meant that other key agencies had the ability to build on their efforts.

A massive 4000 young people across North and East Belfast engaged with the scheme, relieving pressure on the PSNI and the local Council and helping deliver a 26% drop in anti-social behaviour incidents reported to East Belfast PSNI.

**The Runners Up**

**Causeway, Coast & Glens PCSP's ASB Response Network**

A new collaborative approach to tackling anti-social behaviour in the Causeway, Coast & Glens area has resulted in a 19% reduction in anti-social behavior in the district.

The Network brings together 15 local agencies to pool skills and resources and with the support of the PSNI, they are more successful at engaging positively with young people in the area.

**Derry & Strabane PCSP's Community Safety Wardens**

Going strong for ten years, the Community Safety Warden scheme aims to reduce anti-social behaviour and fear of crime, and is focused on areas historically difficult for the PSNI to engage with.

Wardens work at peak times, particularly on weekend nights to report on and help manage anti-social behaviour and low level nuisance. Alongside over 12,000 street patrols, the Community Safety Wardens also provide information talks to community groups, schools, elderly residents and housing associations. The scheme is regarded as an example of best practice, and 9 of the 11 PCSPs across the country have initiated similar schemes in their area.

**Award for**

**Contribution to Embedding a Culture of Lawfulness**

This award recognises innovative projects/initiatives that have contributed to embedding a culture of lawfulness or improving confidence in the rule of law through challenging the coercive control of paramilitaries or organised crime gangs and criminals.



From L-r are the DoJ's Michael McAvoy, Ch/Insp Johnny Hunter, Derry & Strabane PCSP Manager Vanessa Russell, The Playhouse's Max Beer and Elaine Forde and Derry & Strabane PCSP Manager Dermot Harrigan.

**The Runners Up**

**Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon's "Recruited" Pilot Project**

In order to engage young people in areas vulnerable to coercive control by paramilitaries, Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP showcased the Recruited film produced by Derry & Strabane PCSP.

The film was shown at the Craigavon Omniplex to reinforce the devastating impact that comes from the coercive control of paramilitaries. Alongside the film, the PCSP also showed fearless.org (a resource for young people to access non-judgemental information and advice about crime and criminality) adverts. The PSNI and Youth Justice Agency answered their questions and talked them through the realities of getting involved in criminality.

**And the winner is...**

**Derry & Strabane PCSP's short film "Recruited"**

Between March 2018 and February 2019, 16 paramilitary style shootings took place in Northern Ireland. 56% of these took place in the Derry City & Strabane District area. There is evidence that residents, especially those within the Moor District Electoral Area, are being coercively controlled by paramilitary groups who are recruiting young people to act as enforcers in the area.

Derry & Strabane PCSP worked with local theatre The Playhouse to produce a short film, "Recruited", which deals with the realities of young people becoming involved with paramilitaries and organised crime gangs.

The film has been used widely by youth groups, PCSPs, government departments, the PSNI, Youth Justice Agency, the Probation Board and the Policing Board to open up conversations about the coercive control exerted by paramilitaries on our communities. It was also shortlisted in the Belfast Film Festival's Short Film Competition,

and shown by Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP at a local Omniplex as part of a schools event.

As part of the promotion of the film, The Playhouse worked with NIO to launch an online campaign which meant the film was seen by 15,000 young people in the eight areas of Northern Ireland with the highest threat of paramilitary violence.



Members and staff of Derry & Strabane PCSP with with DoJ's Michael McAvoy, Ch/Insp Johnny Hunter PSNI and Community Safety Wardens.

**Award for**

**Excellence in Community Engagement**

This award recognises excellence in community engagement that contributes towards building a safer community.



Members and staff of Mid Ulster PCSP with Northern Ireland Policing Board Vice Chair Debbie Watters.

And the winner is...

**Mid Ulster's Positive Relationships**

1300 young people have been educated about domestic and sexual abuse in all its forms in a joint project between Mid Ulster PCSP, the PSNI and Women's Aid.

Offered to all post-primary schools across the Mid Ulster Council area, the programme was targeted at Year 10 pupils, and aimed to increase awareness of domestic violence, with the emphasis that men and women can be both victim and perpetrator.

Topics included respect, consent, historical norms, coercive control, abusive relationships, revenge porn and cyber bullying.

95% of those asked agreed that they could better identify

positive and unhealthy relationship, with 86% feeling more capable of identifying the early signs of an abusive relationship.



Mid Ulster PCSP receiving their award from Northern Ireland Policing Board Vice Chair Debbie Watters.

**The Runners Up**

**Lisburn & Castlereagh's Food for Thought**

In order to bridge the gap between the existing population of Lisburn & Castlereagh and people who have relocated to the area from other countries, the PCSP and the PSNI organised an event based around sharing cultures – and some delicious food.

The event was designed to help people who have come here from other countries to meet their local community, enhance and foster relationships between residents and provide points of contact for local police in the aftermath of a hate crime incident against a Syrian family in June 2018. As part of the event, people talked about their experience of moving to Lisburn & Castlereagh, what helped them settle in, and how the PCSP, police and local community could help new residents settle into the area.

**Newry, Mourne & Down's Neighbourhood Watch Network**

There are 175 active Neighbourhood Watch schemes within Newry, Mourne & Down, and to help support the ever-expanding scheme, the PCSP has developed a Neighbourhood Watch Network that allows scheme coordinators to share good practice and engage about valuable services across Northern Ireland.

The Network facilitates regular contact between PSNI Neighbourhood Teams and Watch coordinators, and has generated over 700 direct contacts with the wider network.



**Award for**

**Excellence in Collaboration**

This award recognises innovative partnerships and collaborations that have delivered joined up solutions and which have delivered real impacts in the areas of community safety or confidence in policing.



Members of Causeway, Coast & Glens PCSP with Peter May, Permanent Secretary Department of Justice.

**The Runners Up**

**Derry & Strabane PCSP's Multi-Agency Support Hub**

In order to support the most vulnerable people in their community, Derry & Strabane PCSP worked alongside PSNI, WHSCT, NIHE and the Education Authority to create a safe space where people in need could get support.

The hubs formalise collaborative working among agencies, allowing them to better serve vulnerable people. The Hub meets monthly, and has helped over 118 people in 2019 alone, delivering almost 500 PSNI actions and almost 1000 partner actions. Figures show 17.5% reduction in incidents over a 12 month period, and the Hub has expanded to include agencies like the Ambulance Service, Fire and Rescue, the Probation Board and various mental health and child safeguarding groups.

**And the winner is...**

**Causeway, Coast & Glens PCSP's Don't Worry Be #Appy**

Causeway, Coast & Glens PCSP have worked alongside the NSPCC, North and West Health and Social Care Trusts and the Education Authority to create a digital resilience conference targeting year 8 pupils across the Council area.

The aim of the conference is to educate young people on how to stay safe, well and healthy online while acknowledging how important the digital world is to their lives and their futures.

The conference included talks from online safety expert Wayne Denner and local vlogger IzonHow, who highlighted both the positives and the pitfalls of life online. In partnership with the NSPCC, O2 Gurus also talked pupils through security settings on their devices, and ChildLine bloggers were on hand to answer any questions and sign post support.

Over 1000 children attended the event, and left with support packs with a load information on how to keep themselves safe online.



Members of Causeway, Coast & Glens PCSP receiving their award from Peter May, Permanent Secretary Department of Justice.



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



PCSPs work with a number of designated partners.

