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HARD LESSONS ON ROAD SAFETY

Hard-hitting message for young drivers during Road Safety Week

Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP hosted over 350 students at a hard-hitting demonstration of a road traffic collision during Road Safety Week.

Working in collaboration with the PSNI Roads Policing Unit, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service and the Ambulance Service, the event was attended by students from St Patrick's Academy, Forthill College, Wallace High, Lisnagarvey High and SERC.

The crashed car scenario was recreated by the emergency services and featured two young people injured in the crash, one of whom was 'arrested' by police at the scene. As a poignant reminder of the consequences of dangerous driving, the event was closed by an undertaker arriving and removing a body bag.



Emergency services at the event in Lisburn to mark Road Safety Week

Find out what Policing Board Chair Anne Connolly and PSNI Ch/Insp Diane Pennington say on the importance of educating young people on road safety at the recent Belfast PCSP sponsored Roadsafe Roadshow.

[click here](#) to watch the video



Part of the demonstration at the Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP event

Pupils schooled in reality of road traffic collisions

As part of its activity for Road Safety Week, Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP also supported a programme of road traffic collision simulations in local schools. Along with the PSNI, NIFRS and the Ambulance Service, members of the PCSP were at Drumragh Integrated College in Omagh and Devenish College in Enniskillen to provide the hard-hitting, real time simulations which demonstrated the possible repercussions of accidents for young drivers and their passengers. Students from St John's Business College, Dromore and Dean Maguirc College, Carrickmore were also in attendance at the events.

Mid Ulster PCSP also held a Roadsafe Roadshow, this one in Dungannon Leisure Centre. The road safety show was delivered to over 900 students aged 17 and 18 from post primary schools in Dungannon and Cookstown. The shocking recreations help young people understand the consequences of being involved in a serious or fatal road traffic collision, stressing the fact that they are most at risk of becoming involved in a collision at the start of their motoring life.

ROAD SAFETY

'Blocking pouches' for mobile phones sends message on road safety

'Blocking pouches' for mobile phones which deter drivers from becoming distracted whilst behind the wheel have been provided to college students in Derry.

The pouches, which ensure that drivers cannot see or hear any phone notifications meaning they can fully concentrate on their driving, were provided by Derry & Strabane PCSP working alongside PSNI and NI Fire and Rescue Service.

The move comes after road safety concerns raised by a number of emergency services in relation to the use of mobile phones while driving. Between April and July 2017 PSNI issued 55 prosecutions or fixed penalty notices for use of a mobile phone while driving within the Council area.

The first of the pouches were provided to pupils from Lisneal College who attended a NIFRS Insight Programme at Crescent Link Fire Station.

Speaking on behalf of Derry & Strabane PCSP, Chair Ald. Drew Thompson said: "It only takes a split second for someone to become distracted by a phone call or text. The use of these pouches will ensure that drivers cannot see or hear any notifications on their phones meaning they can fully concentrate on the road."



Pupils from Lisneal College receive their 'blocking pouches' after attending a NIFRS Insight Programme



Local schoolchildren with their entries

Poster competition draws on school kids' own experiences

Primary school children from the Derry & Strabane Council area have been quick on the draw in designing road safety posters which have been incorporated into a calendar.

The competition, which was organised by Foyle & District Road Safety Committee with support from Derry & Strabane PCSP and PSNI Road Policing, aimed to increase kids' awareness around road safety by encouraging them to think creatively about how to keep themselves and others safe on the roads.

The winning entries were displayed in the Foyleside Shopping Centre as part of Road Safety Week. The 13 winning posters were also used to produce a road safety calendar which will be distributed to local primary schools.

Ald Drew Thompson, Chair of the Derry & Strabane PCSP said, "The Derry & Strabane PCSP is delighted to support this initiative again this year. Road Safety is an extremely important issue, especially for our children and we have already been engaging with a number of our primary schools on this topic."

ANTRIM & NEWTOWNABBEY

Call of duty

Antrim & Newtownabbey PCSP members attended 'A Day in the Life of a PSNI Duty Sergeant' training day, presented by Antrim Neighbourhood Policing Team in Antrim Castle Gardens.

Members received an insight into the challenging and demanding role that police officers experience on a daily basis and were invited to take part in an interactive role play exercise which included incoming calls to the local station. Members were also challenged to allocate their time and resources and mimic the role of a Duty Sergeant. The idea was for PCSP members to get a better understanding of what goes on behind the scenes so they have a good sense of how issues are prioritised.



PCSP members and PSNI officers attending the training day in October

Mock youth conference gives real sense of issues

A mock youth conference was held in Antrim Civic Centre in November to mark Restorative Justice Week. The event, organised by the Youth Justice Agency in partnership with Antrim & Newtownabbey PCSP, provided a valuable insight into the benefits of youth conferencing using an interactive event to give those in attendance a real sense of how youth conferencing works.

The process helps young offenders realise the consequences of their actions and provides the opportunity to make amends for their behaviour. Youth conferencing also provides an opportunity for the victim to confront the offender and can help victims find a sense of closure.



PCSP representatives and Youth Justice Agency staff at the youth conferencing event

PCSP sets out its stall on home safety and online security

Antrim & Newtownabbey PCSP held a public meeting in November to discuss home safety, scams and online security and give the public the chance to interact with a range of agencies and charities. Guest speakers included Christie Hunter from the Commission for Older People Northern Ireland, PSNI Crime Prevention Officer Stuart Gibson and Health and Wellbeing Officer, Kelly Forsythe. The meeting allowed members of the public the opportunity to engage with a wide variety of agencies and charities by visiting the variety of stalls around the room. Feedback from the day was very positive with attendees saying that their knowledge and understanding on the themes discussed had increased.



Antrim & Newtownabbey PCSP Chair Cllr Neil Kelly welcomes everyone to the public meeting

‘Blackout’ shines a light on young people in criminal justice system

A play which recounts the true story of a young man charged with attempted murder has been staged at three schools in the Mid & East Antrim region supported by the local PCSP.

Throughout the month of November, the Lyric Theatre production of Blackout toured more than 25 schools across Northern Ireland including Carrickfergus Grammar School, Larne High School and Cullybackey College.

Performed to over 3000 young people, Blackout tells the story of James, a young man who wakes up in a prison cell with no idea of why he is there. As he recalls the events of his life, he reaches a point where he realises his future lies in his own hands. Staged in conjunction with the Department of Justice NI, Lyric Theatre and Hydebank Wood College, the play involves young people from Hydebank who have personal experience of the court service and criminal justice system.

Chair of Mid & East Antrim PCSP Cllr Brian Collins said, “We have had excellent feedback so far from everyone who has seen the play including comments about how it makes young people think harder about the effects of drugs and alcohol and perceptions of young people and crime.”



Dr Stephen Reid, Principal Larne High School, Philip Crawford, Lyric Theatre, Mary Watson Mid & East Antrim PCSP Vice Chair and Steven McCourt, Head of DOJ Community Safety Unit at the performance of Blackout

Practical lessons in staying safe brings pupils under the RADAR

Pupils from St Colum’s Primary School in Portstewart and Carnalridge Primary School in Portrush have enjoyed a practical lesson in staying safe during a visit to the Risk Avoidance Danger Awareness Resource (RADAR) centre in Belfast.

The initiative, organised by Causeway Coast & Glens PCSP, will allow over 1700 pupils from schools across the region to visit the centre in December.

The RADAR facility is Northern Ireland’s first and only fully interactive safety and life skills education centre. It allows young people to explore dangerous situations in a risk-free setting and has been designed to inspire, engage and inform them on how best to keep themselves safe.

PCSP Chairman Cllr Tony McCaul said, “**The project has had a fantastic level of engagement and is an excellent example of collaboration between the PCSP and local schools.**”

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



A transport themed part of the visit to the RADAR facility in Belfast organised by Causeway Coast & Glens PCSP

Over 60s in tune with 'keep safe and well' message

Sing songs and stage play were just some of the fun activities employed by Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP to entertain and inform older residents of the Borough at a 'Keep Safe Keep Well' event recently.

The information day, organised and funded by the local PCSP, saw 140 older people from Armagh join a host of groups for a day of entertainment and advice which encouraged them to look after their personal safety and wellbeing.

A series of presentations delivered by Action on Elder Abuse NI, Southern Health and Social Care Trust, PSNI, Rural Transport, Call Blocking Initiative and ABC Seniors Network was interspersed with an Open Mic slot where members of the audience entertained the crowd, and the Armagh Theatre Group, who performed a number of different sketches to highlight potential scams.

Máire Cairns, Chair of Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP, said older people needed help and advice to enable them to keep well and live independent lives.

"It is important to remember that older people are less likely to be victims of crime but crimes against older people should not be ignored," she said. "The purpose of the event was to let our guests know how to help keep themselves safe and healthy."

Information stands on key service areas were also on display, providing a wide range of information on issues that affect older people.



Members of the audience at the Keep Safe Keep Well event

Walk-in structure gets to the 'art' of modern slavery

An art structure designed to get people talking about modern slavery has been on display in Ballymena with the support of Mid & East Antrim PCSP.

The walk-in 'GIFT box' is a unique project launched by Stop The Traffik and the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Trafficking (UN.GIFT). It aims to raise awareness of modern slavery by highlighting the promises made to trafficking victims, offers which may look inviting on the outside but which offer a different reality.

The Chair of MEA PCSP Cllr Brian Collins said the GIFT box was a unique way to raise awareness about modern slavery and human trafficking and gather knowledge on the issue.

If you are suspicious that human trafficking is going on in your area you can report it anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or the PSNI on 999. You can also contact the Modern Slavery Helpline on 0800 0121 700.



Melissa Campbell Volunteer Stop The Traffik, Jane McNeill Dept of Justice, Cllr Reuben Glover MEA PCSP, Constables McLaughlin and Kennedy, Mayor Cllr Paul Reid, Sgt Helen Hargy, Jackie Patton MEA Council, Anita and Geoff Wilson Stop The Traffik, Billy Johnston PCSP

Be online secure and don't gift fraudsters

The Christmas shopping season is the busiest online shopping time of the year and as such is the busiest time for online fraudsters. Fraudsters take advantage of the fact that you're very busy, looking for a bargain, and that this is the season of goodwill.

The ScamwiseNI partnership has come up with expert, easy-to-follow safety tips to help protect consumers from getting caught out by seasonal scams. These include being on the lookout for realistic looking phishing emails, posts that advertise offers that are too good to be true, fraudulent shopping websites and fake goods.

Shoppers are urged to: make sure the shopping website they're on is authentic and the payment page secure; never pay for anything by transferring money directly to people or companies you don't know; watch out for unexpected emails, texts or posts urging you to click on a link as these should be treated with caution.

For more top tips for safe Christmas shopping and protecting yourself from scams go to www.getsafeonline.org/christmas2017/ or www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/scamwiseni #xmasshopsafe

If you think you've been a victim of online fraud, report it to Action Fraud, the UK's national fraud and cybercrime reporting centre on 0300 123 20 40 or at www.actionfraud.police.uk

ARE YOU DREAMING OF
Black Friday
OR A
White Xmas?

Read our top tips for buying safely online at www.getsafeonline.org/christmas2017 #xmasshopsafe

Logos for GET SAFE ONLINE, scamwiseNI, and various partner organizations like Tesco, HSBC, and Action Fraud.

Visibility concerns brought to light

Concerns over the visibility of walkers, runners and cyclists during the dark winter nights saw representatives from Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP attend a number of events recently to promote road safety.

Members of the PCSP participated in a 5k road race around the streets of Enniskillen at the end of October. PCSP officers handed out hi-viz beanies to runners in the Enniskillen Spooktacular which saw PCSP Chairman Cllr John Coyle and PCSP Officer Greg Mc Mullan taking part having made sure to don their hi-viz gear.

PCSP officers also attended Park Runs in Omagh and Enniskillen to distribute more high visibility apparel to runners and walkers.



Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP Vice Chair Monica Coyle along with Parkrun Volunteers at the Omagh Park Run

Front cover caption:
Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP Chair Cllr John Coyle and PCSP Officer Greg McMullan after the run in Enniskillen

Successful Neighbourhood Watch event provides crime prevention advice to residents

Christmas crime prevention and anti-social behaviour were just some of the issues discussed at a Neighbourhood Watch Community event organised by Mid & East Antrim PCSP on 23 November in Larne Town Hall.

Residents heard from a variety of speakers including a Resident Magistrate on anti-social behaviour and street crime; Start 360 on the problems with prescription and street drugs; the local Police Crime Prevention Officer on a Christmas crime prevention initiative; and the Mid & East Antrim Policing and Community Safety Partnership on the work of the PCSP.

The well-attended event offered local people the opportunity to speak to Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators and PCSP members from their own areas and gain useful crime prevention advice for their homes and businesses in the run up to Christmas.



Sgt Helen Hargy, Andrew Millar Start 360, Mary Watson PCSP Vice Chair, District Judge Mr Peter King, Stuart Gibson Crime Prevention Officer PSNI, Insp Michael Simpson and Insp Martin Ruddy



Policing Board Director of Partnerships, Adrian McNamee spoke at the recent Neighbourhood Watch meeting in Newry, Mourne and Down. Pictured are (l-r): PCSP Chair Harry Harvey, Michael McEvoy DOJ, Ch/Insp Joe McMinn, PCSP Vice Chair Grace McQuiston, Policing Board Director of Partnerships Adrian McNamee and PCSP Manager Siobhan Fearon



Local business representatives joined Derry & Strabane PCSP Manager Dermot Harrigan, PSNI Inspector Johnny Hunter, Sergeant Tony Moore and Crime Prevention Officer Mandy Monteith at the latest in a series of business crime prevention breakfasts, this latest held in Da Vinci's hotel, Derry



Frontline staff from Derry & Strabane PCSP's Community Safety Warden Team have completed a tailored training programme on drug and alcohol awareness. The training was delivered by HURT (Have Your Tomorrows) to better inform wardens of what to do when they encounter someone under the influence of alcohol or other substances, signs to look for and who to contact. Pictured are Derry & Strabane PCSP Community Safety Wardens attending the drug and alcohol awareness training



Mid & East Antrim PCSP has funded a road safety calendar and poster competition as part of its first engagement with a rural school. Moorfields PS hosted the PSNI at the school as part of the engagement which involved a road safety talk for both parents and pupils. A group of the children will also attend the Risk Avoidance and Danger Awareness Resource (RADAR) centre in New Year with the PSNI as part of the project. Pictured are pupils from the school



Derry & Strabane PCSP is supporting Clooney Estate Residents Association with a pre-teen project providing additional tuition support to pupils preparing for the transition from primary to post-primary school. The project, which is being supported under the Small Project Support Programme, addresses educational performance, anxiety, transition to secondary level education, positive relationships and family life. Pictured with P7 pupils from Ebrington PS are Alderman Drew Thompson, Chair of Derry & Strabane PCSP and Louise Kitson, PCSP Project Coordinator

Recreational drug use fuelling serious crime in communities

The PSNI have launched an anti-drugs campaign in partnership with An Garda Síochána highlighting the role of recreational drug use in intimidation and serious violence.

'Think Before You Buy' highlights the fact that occasional drug use does not just fuel the drug trade but funds serious organised crime overall.

Insp Jonny Francey, who adopted the campaign for the PSNI after a secondment to An Garda Síochána last year, said he hoped that people buying drugs on a casual basis will realise they are contributing to violence and intimidation in their own communities.

He said: "We want people to consider when they hand over their money to a drug dealer where that money goes and what it's used for, that it's not being invested for the good of the community. Money from a casual transaction at the weekend could be used towards buying a gun used in a paramilitary style attack, against someone who has a drug debt or a getaway car used in a crime. Someone with a drugs debt may carry out a burglary or a robbery in a bid to get the money they need to pay a debt to the very same dealers the casual user is handing their money to."

[click here](#) to watch the video



NI Policing Board Chair Anne Connolly at the launch of the cross-border anti-drugs campaign with members of Ards & North Down PCSP, the PSNI and An Garda Síochána

Bin there, done that: relaunch of RAPID bins project to PCSPs

A community-led initiative which allows for the safe and anonymous disposal of both prescription and illegal drugs has been reintroduced to local PCSPs.

The RAPID (Remove All Prescription and Illegal Drugs) bins initiative was introduced in 2016 to allow prescription and illegal drugs to be taken out of circulation and to raise awareness of the risk and harm to individuals, families and communities of misusing drugs.

Supported regionally by the PSNI and Public Health Agency, and locally by Drug and Alcohol Coordination Teams (DACTs) and PCSPs, the relaunch event at the end of November explained revised procedures associated with the scheme along with key guidance on how the programme operates.

Led by the Public Health Agency (PHA) the PSNI and the Department of Justice the PSNI also took the opportunity to update PCSP members on wider initiatives to tackle drugs across Northern Ireland at the event in Dungannon.

Local DACT Connections Service and PCSPs have worked closely with community partners and local businesses to identify suitable locations for the RAPID bins. The bin is located in a place designed to offer as much anonymity as possible to the person making the deposit. Police routinely collect and record information on the drugs deposited in the bins however no personal information is required or sought.

PSNI statistics on the type and quantities of drugs collated and destroyed via the RAPID initiative are available by visiting www.drugsandalcoholni.info/RAPID or by contacting your local DACT Connections Service or PCSP.



PSNI Det Supt Bobby Singleton, Kelly Gilliland from PHA and Walter Myles from Department of Justice at the relaunch event

What's happening in your PCSP?

PCSPs hold a variety of meetings and events each month.

For details on what is coming up in your local PCSP [click here](#)

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



PCSPs work with a number of designated partners.



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