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Find out more about PCSPs:

## Screenwriter 'Recruited' for film on paramilitarism

Funding from Derry & Strabane PCSP has enabled the creation of a hard-hitting film which addresses the issue of paramilitary recruitment.

Written by the award-winning author and screenwriter, Colin Bateman, and produced by The Playhouse.

'Recruited' was created following a reported increase in paramilitary activity in both Derry and Belfast. The launch screening at The Playhouse was in December, attended by young people from across the City, was followed by an open and frank discussion with the audience about the issue of paramilitarism.

To watch the film [click here](#)

Please note, it contains strong language and scenes that some people may find upsetting.



(l-r) Panel members Paul Smyth, screenwriter Colin Bateman, Claire Sugden, MLA and PSNI Sergeant Terry McKenna discuss the issues after the screening of 'Recruited'.

## PCSP speaks the language of road safety



PCSP Officer Vanessa Russell and PCSP Independent Member, Patsy McGonagle providing high visibility reflectors and road safety information leaflets to pupils at Gaelscoil Uí Dhochartaigh. This was part of the wider PCSP awareness campaign to encourage motorists to drive more considerably around schools and to encourage pupils to 'be safe and be seen' when going to and coming from school.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Did you know there are 764 Neighbourhood Watch Schemes across Northern Ireland involving 45,400 households? And the numbers continue to grow.

A partnership between local communities, PCSPs and the PSNI, Neighbourhood Watch aims to help people protect themselves and their property and reduce the fear of crime.

Here's an update on what they have been doing recently...



Pictured at the event are (l-r): Cllr Mark Baxter, Annette Blaney, Eamon McNeil, Thomas Larkham, Sgt Billy Stewart, Doreen McNally, C/Insp Davy Moore, Patricia Gibson, Amanda Mulholland, Cathy Donnelly and Cllr Freda Donnelly

### Side by side at celebration

130 Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators from Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon recently got together with the PCSP and PSNI to mark their efforts in keeping the area safe. The event was an important opportunity to compare best practice and get an update from the Area Commander on current policing issues. There are currently 169 accredited schemes in the area with more in progress.

Speaking about the success of the event and enthusiasm of the volunteers, PCSP Chair Cllr Maire Cairns said: **"This event was a fantastic success and was a wonderful opportunity for Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators to get together and share experiences and ideas regarding their schemes.**

**"By working together, neighbours and communities do a great job of tackling crime-related problems and we look forward to seeing even more schemes being set up throughout the Borough."**

For more information on Neighbourhood Watch in the Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon area, contact Annette Blaney, PCSP Project Coordinator on 028 3831 3607 or email [Annette.Blaney@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk](mailto:Annette.Blaney@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk)

## Looking at the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch

The benefits of Neighbourhood Watch schemes were discussed at a conference attended by members of the Causeway Coast & Glens PCSP.

PCSP members were joined at the event by members of the PSNI and local scheme co-ordinators.

In the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area, there are currently 53 schemes covering approximately 2600 households. They create effective communication between residents and police, with local co-ordinators acting as a primary point of contact.

PCSP Vice Chair Ashleen Schenning said: **"Neighbourhood Watch is an important initiative that delivers greater vigilance in communities and helps residents to protect themselves, their homes and their properties. It is of huge benefit to our elderly neighbours and may reduce their fear of crime while increasing community spirit. It is open to everyone and is simple to join and I would encourage you to spread the word and hopefully inspire further schemes throughout the Borough."**



Picture from (l-r) are: Sgt David Armour, PCSP Vice Chair Ashleen Schenning, Ch/Insp Ian Magee, Judith Lavery, Crime Prevention Officer, PCSP Manager Jonny Donaghy and Supt Jeremy Lindsay.

## ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE & CRAIGAVON

### Sell-out audiences swept away by ‘The Current’

A thought-provoking play examining anti-social behaviour and underage drinking was watched by nearly 900 people, including young people, parents and community groups.

The Current, hosted by Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP had sell-out performances at Newbridge Integrated College, Banbridge, Southern Regional College campuses and Portadown Town Hall.

Written by Portadown local, Pamela Cassells, the production tackled a range of hard-hitting issues around anti-social behaviour and underage drinking. With an entire cast made up of young people, the story encourages the others to drink. The teenagers then start to learn the reality and the lasting impact of their behaviour.

PCSP Chair Cllr Máire Cairns, commented: **“We were delighted to host ‘The Current’ as it provides a very realistic and thought-provoking interpretation of issues, which we as a PCSP are tackling on a frequent basis with our partners in the PSNI and other community, voluntary and statutory agencies.”**

For further information on support available for drink and alcohol addiction:

[click here](#)



The cast of The Current pictured alongside Lynette Cooke, PCSP Project Coordinator, PSNI Sgt. Billy Stewart, writer and director Pamela Cassells and Chair of PCSP Cllr Máire Cairns

### Intergenerational workshops address age old problem

ABC PCSP have been helping to close the generation gap by building trust, confidence and respect between older and younger residents in the area.

Programmes held in Lurgan and Portadown, examined how young and old people view each other with an aim to building on their relationships. As the first part of the programme Year 8 and 9 students from St Ronan’s College worked along with their grandparents for six weeks, cooking and learning a range of recipes from each generation. This was facilitated by the Home Economics Department at the school with everyone involved learning a lot about each other.

At the same time, 16 people from Edgarstown Residents Association in Portadown also completed a six week Intergenerational programme which consisted of weekly sessions including pottery, a media workshop, a Christmas craft workshop and a dance class delivered by the Council’s sports development department.

PCSP Chair, Máire Cairns commented: **“This initiative provided a rare opportunity for engagement between older and younger generations, building trust and confidence between these two age groups. The work highlighted the excellent work undertaken by all, providing reassurance and peace of mind for those in our community who need it most.”**



Edgarstown IG - Members of Pride Of Edgarstown group and Edgarstown Drop In Group from Portadown along with PCSP Manager Alison Clenaghan

**FRONT COVER CAPTION:**  
St Ronan’s IG  
Front row - Year 8 and 9 students  
Middle row: grandparents  
Back row: PCSP Project Co-ordinator Aisling Gillespie, PCSP Cllr Máire Cairns and teaching staff from St Ronan’s College



Back row: Supt Jane Humphries, Cllr John Coyle, Chair of Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP, Kelly Gilliland, PHA, Walter Myles, DOJ, Sgt Scott Fallis, D/Supt Bobby Singleton  
Front row: Sandra Armstrong, PCSP, Peter McLaughlin, ASCERT

## Quick results from RAPID bins

The success of Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP's RAPID bins scheme, which encourages the safe disposal of legal and illegal drugs, has led to plans for more bins to be installed across the area.

Almost 2000 items have already been collected from the bins in Omagh, Irvinestown and Enniskillen and it's likely that more will be introduced in the next few months. The PCSP has worked in partnership with the PHA, PSNI, Western Connection Service, Fermanagh and Omagh Drug and Alcohol forums and the Western DACT RAPID subgroup to deliver the scheme.

The PCSP is now encouraging residents to 'spring clean' their medicine drawers and deposit any prescription or illegal drugs in the bins for safe disposal.

Omagh PCSP Chair, Cllr John Coyle said: **"Should anyone possess, or come across, unwanted or unused drugs, I would encourage them to place them in the most convenient RAPID bin so they are permanently and securely removing them from potential misuse. The harmful consequences of drugs, even prescription drugs, falling into the wrong hands cannot be emphasised enough. I have no doubt the RAPID bins will help make the community safer for us all."**

## Cage soccer tackles anti-social behaviour

A portable soccer cage aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour has scored with community groups across the Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP area.

A series of football coaching sessions have been delivered by the PCSP working alongside Council leisure staff, using the cage to develop individual skills, special tricks, exhibition football and goal scoring techniques.

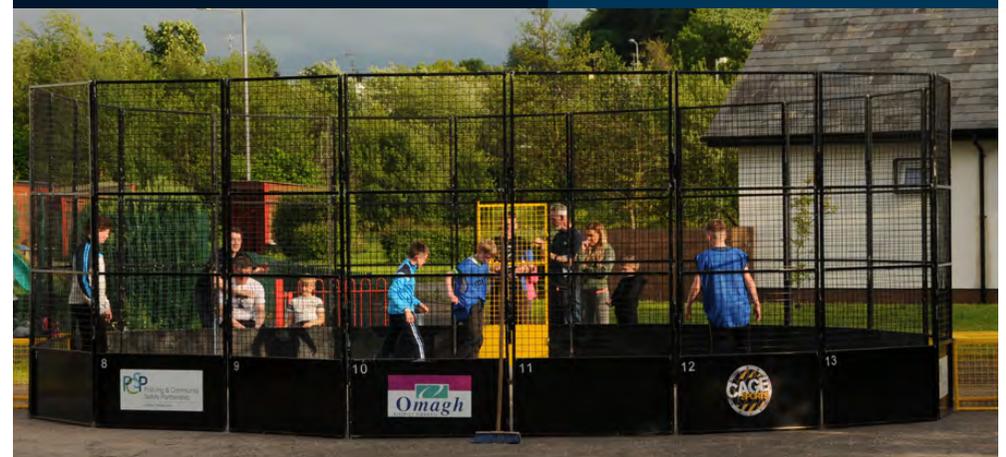


Cage soccer at CKS Community Centre

The soccer cage is available to community-based organisations across the region for free. It can be used in areas that are experiencing anti-social behaviour to combat issues in a fun, safe and inclusive atmosphere.

The cage is transported, erected and staffed by Fermanagh and Omagh Community Safety Wardens with community coaches available to provide free coaching.

For more information or to make a booking please contact PCSP Officer Greg McMullan at [greg.mcmullan@fermanaghomagh.com](mailto:greg.mcmullan@fermanaghomagh.com) or 0300 303 1777



Cage soccer session at Mullaghmore & Castlevue Community Association

FRONT COVER CAPTION:  
Cage soccer at Mullaghmore & Castlevue Community Association

## Meet an Independent PCSP member



Úna McCartney

**Vice Chair**  
**Derry & Strabane PCSP**

**Youth Worker**

**How long have you been a PCSP Independent Member and why did you want to get involved?**

I have been a member of the Derry & Strabane PCSP for seven years. As a Youth Worker it is important to be involved in community safety and be aware of what is going on in the local community.

**Why is your experience/background relevant to the PCSP?**

As a Senior Youth Worker in the Triax Neighbourhood Renewal Area I have been involved in a number of community initiatives aimed at making the community safer for people living there. I have experience in working in partnership with a number of organisations and promoting a joint approach to problem solving. I helped set up the Youth Sub-group which feeds into the Triax Community Safety Forum

**What have been the highlights and challenges of being a PCSP Independent Member?**

My role in the PCSP allows me to engage with a number of statutory agencies on issues that directly affect the young people I work with.

Being a member of the PCSP has also enabled me to provide support and advice to voluntary organisations in my community especially in relation to upcoming funding opportunities.

**What's been the time commitment for you?**

As well as attending the monthly meetings I have also represented the PCSP on a number of occasions at events and initiatives. This is the second time I have held the position of vice chair of the PCSP.

**In your view, what have been the top 3 achievements of the PCSP to date?**

1. Support for Local Community Safety Forums
2. Community Safety Warden Scheme
3. Provision of PCSP Small Project Support to local groups



**In your view, what are the top 3 challenges for the PCSP to address in your Council area?**

1. Confidence in policing
2. Engaging with local communities
3. Year on year funding as it limits the opportunity to track impacts and outcomes

**How are these challenges being addressed?**

The Local Community Safety Forums have helped redress some of these issues as it allows local communities direct access to their local policing team. This means that a lot of issues are addressed at a local level, keeping ownership where it belongs, in the local areas. The local forums also bring together a wide range of statutory agencies.

**What particular project or area of work would you recommend as good practice to other PCSPs and why?**

The Community Safety Warden Scheme is an excellent initiative which is run out across a number of Neighbourhood Renewal Areas. The Wardens deal with a range of issues including:

- Anti-social behaviour
- Fear of crime
- Safety/security issues

**In your view, what's the benefit of the PCSP to the local communities in your Council area?**

One of the major successes of the PCSP is the ability to fund projects at a grass roots level which can have a maximum effect on local communities. A wide range of groups have been encouraged to apply for funding and deliver programmes which directly meet the needs of local communities.

## infocus

an indepth look at the work of our PCSPs

## Derry & Strabane PCSP



### Who is your Chair?

Alderman Drew Thompson

### What area is covered by the PCSP?

Derry City and Strabane District Council Area

### Who are your members?

**Elected Members:** Ald. D Thompson (Chair) DUP; Cllr J Boyle SDLP; Cllr K Carlin SF; Cllr P Fleming SF; Cllr H Hastings SDLP; Ald D Hussey UUP; Ald T Kerrigan DUP; Cllr E McGinley SF; Cllr R McHugh SF; Cllr B Tierney SDLP

**Independent Members:** Úna McCartney (Vice Chair), Patsy McGonagle, Linda Watson, Noel McCartney, William Sayers, Margaret McLaughlin, Martin Connolly, Elaine Forde, Anna Murray

**Designated Members:** S Quigley (EA), T Millar (WHSCT), E Doherty (HE), C Heaney (YJA), J O'Kane (PBNI), G McCalmont (PSNI), David Nicholl (NIFRS)

### What are the current and emerging issues?

Internet safety and cyber crime is becoming an increasing issue in relation to the safety of our people and their property. This crime type is often more difficult to detect and, as they may occur across multiple jurisdictions, prosecutions are often difficult to obtain.

The negative impact of drug and alcohol misuse across the age spectrum often results from wider societal issues and impacts directly on crime and risk-taking behaviour.

The Derry & Strabane PCSP have been working with our partners to raise awareness of these issues and has provided valuable resources and direction to our communities on how best to address these concerns.

## infocus

an indepth look at the work of our PCSPs

## Derry & Strabane PCSP



### What impacts have been achieved?

- Contribution to reduction in overall crime in the Council area from 2014 to 2017. From a baseline of 844 recorded crimes in April 2014 to 693 recorded crimes in October 2017.
- Contribution to reduction in burglaries from 63 recorded in April 2014 to 32 in October 2017.
- Over £200,000 of Small Project Support delivered to community partners during 2017/18.
- Over 1100 referrals dealt with by the Community Safety Wardens between April and December 2017 of which over 650 (60%) were received from residents.
- Over 10,750 'hotspot' patrols delivered by the Community Safety Wardens between April and December 2017.
- 325 homes fitted with additional home safety equipment

### What delivery themes have been progressed?

Through the Derry & Strabane PCSP Action Plan for 2017/18 we have been able to provide over £200,000 of Small Project Support assistance to our community partners who have delivered local initiatives to address local issues. Projects have tackled the impact of anti-social behaviour, promoted safe road usage, raised awareness of the negative impact of hate crime and domestic and sexual violence, enhanced our youth engagement and increased knowledge on cyber crime and internet safety. Our Community Safety Warden team continue to work with our statutory and community partners to provide reassurance to our elderly and vulnerable residents by reducing fear of crime in our communities. They provide targeted 'hotspot' patrols especially at weekend nights and

engage with our young people and residents to contribute to safer spaces for all.

Derry & Strabane PCSP has been at the forefront in piloting innovative initiatives to tackle crime and protect our residents. We initiated the concept of the Concern Hub to deliver bespoke support to the most vulnerable in our community. We have supported Community Safety Forums in our neighbourhoods that allow residents' issues and concerns to be addressed at a local level by the most appropriate agency. We have supported initiatives to tackle organised crime and paramilitarism and PSNI piloted the body worn camera project before it was rolled out across the entire service area.

## infocus

an indepth look at the work of our PCSPs

### What are the priorities for the PCSP going forward?

- Deliver on the priorities in the PCSP Action Plan for 2018/19.
- Continue engagement with our community to identify priorities for the NI and Local Policing Plan.
- Ensure that the community safety priorities included in Derry City and Strabane District Council's Strategic Growth Plan are delivered by the Derry & Strabane PCSP.
- Build on the existing partnership engagement work with both statutory and community partners to enhance the safety of our community.
- Continue to monitor police performance by applauding good performance and challenging poor performance in an effort to increase community confidence in policing.
- Increase engagement with our young people so they can become better citizens.

## Derry & Strabane PCSP

### What projects are planned to deal with these?

Derry & Strabane PCSP will:

- build on the success of the Community Safety Warden Scheme and enhance our local engagement through Community Safety Forums/ Teams, Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and thematic delivery groups.
- take on board the concerns and aspirations of our residents in relation to policing and community safety as articulated through the Local and Strategic Growth Plans.
- allocate a small project support budget across the District to enable our communities to deliver solutions to issues which concern them most.
- monitor PSNI performance through Policing Committee Meetings and monitor the impact of our projects on behaviour and attitudes.



## Realities of road traffic accidents set out in roadshow

**A road safety roadshow which sets out the realities of a crash scene in very stark terms has been shown to around 400 young people in the Ards and North Down area.**

The latest roadshow, which is supported by Ards & North Down PCSP, was shown to pupils of St Columbanus School who are just starting to drive.

Interspersed with hard hitting road safety adverts, the students heard from a succession of emergency service personnel who talked about their real experience of attending crash scenes and what the experience looks and feels like. The painful duties and conversations they have with relatives of crash victims were recounted by a fireman, a paramedic, a police officer and a surgeon before a relative talked about the shock and ongoing struggle of losing a loved one. A surviving victim of a car crash, now in a wheelchair, also talked to the young people about the day their life changed forever.

Students also watched a mock crash scene showing what the emergency services might face in such a scenario.

## Initiative re-launched in bid to stop bogus callers

Bogus callers can be a real threat to many people, particularly those alone in their homes during the day. Because they sometimes say they are from a reputable company and aren't, it can cause confusion about who to trust. PCSPs do a lot of work with vulnerable people to help them keep safe in their homes and protect themselves from bogus callers. A way of allaying fears and stopping such scammers is the Quick Check 101 initiative recently re-launched by the PSNI and Utility Regulator - so if someone doubts a caller is who s/he says they are, they can call 101 to check.

The collaboration also includes all of Northern Ireland's energy and water network companies and is supported by the Commissioner for Older People.

Supt Simon Walls said the Quick Check scheme provides reassurance to the public about callers and explained: **"Your call will be answered by a trained police call handler who will take the details of the company which the caller claims to be working for. The call handler will then contact the utility supplier to determine whether the caller is genuine."**

I would encourage members of the public to follow our advice when dealing with unexpected visitors to their home."

To get more information on Quick Check [click here](#)



Superintendent Simon Walls, Jenny Pyper, Chief Executive, Utility Regulator and Eddie Lynch, Commissioner for Older People for Northern Ireland pictured at the re-launch of the Quick Check Scheme

## 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.



Follow us on social media and find out more about PCSPs.

[www.pcsp.org](http://www.pcsp.org)