

The Policing & Community Safety Partnerships Newsletter



making our community safer

April/May 2022 | Issue 11







Scam Champions returns!









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Sure Start Health Fair

Ards & North Down PCSP have been supporting the Sure Start health fair, held at Carnegie Library in Bangor. The fair covered mental and physical health and wellbeing, as well as hosting local organisations including the PCSP, who staffed a shared information stand with the local PSNI Crime Prevention Officer, issuing promotional materials and advice.



Ards & North Down PCSP Officer Jane Shields at the event

Community Engagement Meetings

When in-person meetings came to a halt during the pandemic, Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP reacted swiftly, hosting their essential community engagement meetings virtually to ensure people remained connected with the work of the PCSP and local Neighbourhood Policing Team.

After noticing these online meetings were often better attended than in-person events, they decided to make the switch to offering online engagement events even after lockdown restrictions lifted.

The PCSP host four meetings per quarter, spread across the entire area, organising dates and times and promoting across social media. This promotion is supported by PSNI, who attend meetings to present





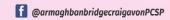


Neighbourhood Policing information and answer questions from members of the public.

The PCSP have also found that while attendance numbers are up overall following the switch to virtual, they're also seeing people who would have never previously considered attending a community engagement event are happy to log on and join in!



TO GIVE AN UPDATE ON POLICING IN YOUR AREA AND TO ANSWER
ANY QUESTIONS MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY HAVE.











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Poster Competition



19 PARTICIPANTS





Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP are regulars at the Brownlow Youth Providers Forum, which includes reps from all local youth organisations, PSNI, Youth Justice Agency, Southern Health and Social Care Trust, Council Community Reps and Resident Associations. The meetings are a useful way to get an overview of all the issues experienced by young people in the area. In order to raise awareness of dangers and consequences of drugs and alcohol, the Forum agreed to run a poster competition within the local youth clubs.

The competition was open to 13-18 year olds, with the winner promised a £50 voucher and every entrant receiving free cinema tickets. The poster competition was themed around the dangers, consequences and impact drugs and alcohol can have on a person, their family and friends, and the wider community.





Swamped

'Swamped', a play commissioned by Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP and performed by the Pamela Cassells School of Performance, centres on the issues facing young people today, reminding viewers that ultimately there is always hope and they are not alone.

The play was first commissioned in 2019 and following very positive feedback and post pandemic re-opening, the PCSP decided to continue the roll out across five different schools in the area, allowing Year 11s to learn more and open



dialogue about the most common issues facing their age group. Over 500 students have watched the play, which deals with issues like suicide, mental health, social media, drugs and alcohol.





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Scam Champions returns!

The ScamwiseNI Partnership has launched a programme for people in Northern Ireland with learning difficulties to stay safe from scams.

The Scamwise Champion scheme was originally developed with youth organisations, however the Partnership has now worked with the Orchardville Society to adapt the programme for people with learning difficulties.

To find out more about the Scamwise Champion course, including to access the Easy Read version, you can contact the Consumer Council on 0800 121 6022 or by emailing **contact@consumercouncil.org.uk**

Superintendent Gerard Pollock, Chair of the ScamwiseNI Partnership, said: "Following on from the success of the Scamwise Champion scheme with youth organisations and adult learners, we are delighted to include a new audience thanks to working in partnership with Orchardville Society. Scams continue to evolve and scammers are constantly changing their methods, so it is important that everyone in Northern Ireland has the opportunity to learn how to spot, avoid and report a scam.

"The Scamwise Champion scheme is a wonderful opportunity for people in Northern Ireland to learn about the different types of scams and how to avoid them. We were conscious that members of the community may have been excluded from the programme. However, thanks to the help of staff and service users of the Orchardville Society, we have developed the programme and are delighted that it is now more inclusive and can help more people avoid becoming a victim of a scam."



Supt Gerard Pollock (PSNI), Noyona Chundur (the Consumer Council), Laura Jamison (Orchardville Society) and Gemma O'Keefe officially launch the Scamwise Champion – Easy Read programme at the Orchardville Society, Bangor.



Domestic Abuse Event

In February this year, a new offence under the Domestic Abuse and Civil Proceedings Act (Northern Ireland) 2021 came into force, criminalising patterns of non-physical abusive behaviour as well as physical abuse.

The new offence covers behaviour that is controlling and coercive, or that amounts to psychological, emotional or financial abuse of a partner, including digital and sexual abuse, regardless of gender.

As part of awareness raising around the new offence and domestic abuse as a whole, then Justice Minister Naomi Long attended an event hosted by Men's Action Network entitled "Why are you doing this to me?"

Naomi Long said: "The new domestic abuse offence marks a milestone, and a real step change, for all those that are affected and who may be suffering in silence. The offence closes a gap in the law and ensures that protection is not limited to physically violent behaviour. It also ensures that as wide a range of behaviours as possible can be captured and covers behaviour that is controlling or coercive or that amounts to psychological, emotional or financial abuse of another person.

"Through the new offence I want to ensure that all victims of domestic abuse feel confident enough, and have enough belief in the criminal justice system, to report these heinous crimes. Nobody should feel that they are the hidden or forgotten victims of domestic abuse."

Further information on local support organisations can be found at www.nidirect.gov.uk/still-abuse, and those affected by domestic abuse, regardless of gender or sexual orientation, can also contact the 24 Hour Domestic and Sexual Abuse helpline on 0808 802 1414.





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Causeway, Coast & Glens PCSP Consultation

CLOSES19 MAY

Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP has launched a consultation aimed at disabled people and their carers.

The PCSP wants to know:

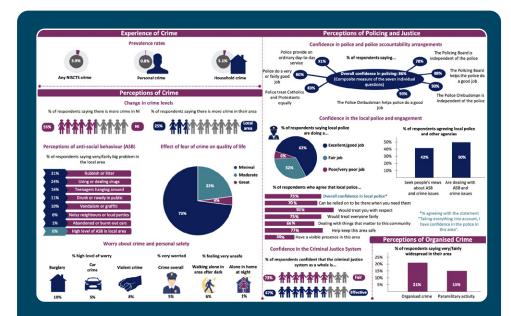
- What makes people with disabilities feel safe or unsafe in their community?
- How we can help people with disabilities to feel safe in your community or at home?
- How we can provide accessible information and services to help you feel safe?

Those with physical, learning, hidden, sensory and mental health disabilities are invited to take part, alongside people who support or care for someone with a disability.

Questionnaires have been developed with the support of a range of organisations, including Northern Health and Social Care Trust, Western Health and Social Care Trust, Rossmar School, Sandelford School, Mencap, Disability Action, Leonard Cheshire and Victim Support.



Pupils from Rossmar School join the launch of Causeway, Coast & Glens PCSP's consultation for disabled people and their carers along with representatives from the PCSP, Mencap NI and Disability Action.



Safe Community Survey Results

The results of the 2020/21 Northern Ireland Safe Community Telephone Survey have been published by Department of Justice. The Survey is a representative, continuous personal interview survey gaining the experiences and perceptions of crime from adults living throughout Northern Ireland.

An official statistics publication, the bulleting focuses on:

- Experience of crime
- Perceptions of crime
- Perceptions of policing and justice
- Perceptions of organised crime

Responses to the Survey were generally positive, with just 10% of respondents with a high level of worry about burglary and 8% very worried about becoming a victim of violent crime. Overall, public confidence in the police and policing accountability was at 86%, with 62% of people feeling local police are doing a good job.







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CONSULTATIONS

Consultation on Measures to Strengthen the Response to Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Consultation on Review of Urgent and Emergency Care Services in Northern Ireland

Consultation on Minimum Unit Pricing of Alcohol in NI

PUBLICATIONS



Policing plan 2020-2025 / Annual Performance Plan 2022/23

A Review of the PSNI's use of Spit and Bite Guards by the NI Policing Board's Human Rights Advisor

Chief Constables Report to the Northern Ireland Policing Board

Supporting Change - A strategy for women and girls in or at risk of contact with the justice system

Abusive Behaviour in an intimate or family relationship – Domestic Abuse Offence - Statutory Guidance

OCTF Annual Report and Threat Assessment 2020/21

Department of Justice Draft Budget 2022-25 Consequences Document

Strategic Framework for Youth Justice

Adult Restorative Justice Strategy for NI

Statement of responsibilities of Local Government Auditor and Local Government Bodies – Issued by the Local Government Auditor 2021

Grant Fraud Risks







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Have you got a project that needs funding?

CLOSING 12 MAY

The Police Property Fund Small Grants Scheme 2nd Call opens on the 17th of February for eligible projects grants of between £1000 and £10,000.

What is the Fund?

The Police Property Fund is made up of assets recovered by the PSNI a result of criminal investigations, and administered by the Board in line with the Police (Property) Regulations NI 1997.

Is my project eligible?

Applications for funding will need to demonstrate that the project:

- Engages with local police;
- Contributes to building community safety and/or confidence in the police in your area; and
- Is aligned to a charitable purpose

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

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





PCSPs work with a number of designated partners.











