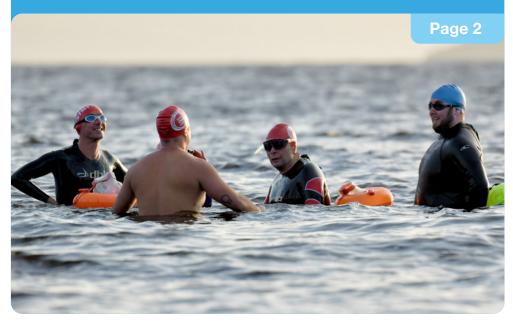
The Policing & Community Safety Partnerships Newsletter



September/October 2021 | Issue 8

Open Swimming Safety!



Jet Ski Marking



Revisiting road safety



From ASB to ART







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"I am delighted with the success of the coaching sessions and collaborative working from the different organisations who have made this happen. It cannot be said often enough how important it is to use our waterways safely and responsibly and this course gives participants the knowledge and skills to do that." Cllr Keith Elliot, PCSP Chair

Open Swimming Safety!

Following a successful open water swimming safety workshop, Fermanagh & **Omagh PCSP have organised two classes** to help open water swimmers get the most out of their experiences while staying safe.

24 people at both beginner and advanced levels received specialised coaching from Swim Ulster coaches through the classes, which took place thanks to partnership between the PCSP, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council, Swim Ulster and the RNLI.

The sessions opened with a safety briefing and overview, then participants took to the water for an intensive coaching session covering techniques to make them safer, more confident swimmers, with bespoke coaching based on experience level.

The swimmers were even joined by world record holder Jordan Leckey, who recently set the bar for the fastest swim time between Northern Ireland and Scotland!



PARTICIPANTS



Trailer Marking

Ards & North Down PCSP have been on the road with their annual trailer marking event, visiting Bangor alongside the PSNI Crime Prevention team. Part of the PCSP's rural crime initiative, 13 trailers were marked on the day with those who took part leaving feeling more secure about their property's safety.



PSNI Crime Prevention team members marking a trailer

Street Smart, Road Safe

Road Safe NI have teamed up with 10 PCSPs to help ensure that every Year 5 child will receive a copy of their 'Street Smart. **Road Safe' book** when they go back to school in September.









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Keeping Track

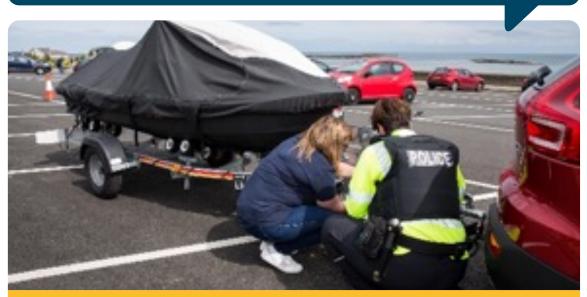


Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP have been tackling fear of crime in their District by providing discounted tracker devices for rural residents.

Many people in rural communities have expressed concern to the PCSP and PSNI about levels of policing in their areas. The project, in partnership with PSNI and the Rural Crime Partnership, allows farmers and other rural residents to place trackers on trailers and other expensive and essential equipment to deter would-be thieves.



(L-R) Pauline Nelmes, Track Kit Ltd, Alaister Dobbin Farm Watch Member, Cllr Michelle Guy Chair Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP, Sergeant Conor Geoghegan Lisburn Rural NPT & Shelley Grimes PSNI Crime Prevention Officer. "I am pleased that the PCSP, working with other agencies, can help keep people and property safe at the same time working with environmental agencies to advise and protect the unique marine wildlife of Strangford lough and the Down Coast." Cllr David Chambers, PCSP Chair



PCSP and PSNI marking a jet ski trailer

Jet Ski Marking

In response to concerns brought by PCSP members and other agencies about jet skis in Strangford Lough and along the Down coast, Ards & North Down PCSP have worked with PSNI, DAERA, Strangford Lough and the leCale Partnership to organise a jet ski marking event.

As well as marking jet skis to help prevent theft, the PCSP and partners took the opportunity at the event to educate owners on how to keep their property safe, as well as keeping themselves, swimmers, and wildlife safe by following new guidelines issued by Strangford Lough and leCale. While PSNI and the PCSP marked jet skis, partner agencies Strangford Lough and DEARA ran information stands, with those in attendance learning more about the safest way to launch from the beach and slipway, and how to stay safe and keep swimmers, beachgoers, and local wildlife safe while operating their crafts.

Alongside copies of safety guidelines, attendees also received waterproof pouches to keep their phones safe!





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making our community safer

"Improving Road Safety is a priority for Emergency Services and the Ards & North Down Policing and Community Safety Partnership. We continue to work in partnership to make our roads safer for all motorists in the Borough".

Cllr David Chambers, PCSP Chair

Revisiting road safety

Over the last 5 years in Ards and North Down District, 24 people have died, 255 people have been seriously injured, and 2,750 people have experienced minor injuries due to road traffic collisions.

In response to these sobering figures, Ards & North Down PCSP have supported a campaign run by multiple public bodies across the district to help make the roads safer.

The campaign appeared across print and online media, including the PCSP's Facebook page, highlighting the key figures, including the fact that principal causation for both injuries and deaths was simply inattention - and appealed to road users to work together to improve driving behaviours and make the roads safer.



(L-R) Claire Hallowell, NI Ambulance Service; District Commander Supt Brian Kee QPM, PSNI; David Chambers, PCSP Chair; Station Commander Keith Wilkson, NIFRS.

Driving after lockdown

Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP have been helping older drivers rebuild their confidence on the road after lockdown.

The project, a collaboration between the PCSP, local community groups, ABC Road Safety Committee, was aimed at older people who hadn't been driving as much due to lockdown. Attendees were free to discuss any issues they were currently having, such as confusion on roundabouts and feeling like traffic was generally travelling faster.

All of the attendees left feeling better informed on how to deal with road safety, and have submitted surveys designed to help the ABC Road Safety Committee monitor how people's driving has changed since lockdown.



Happy attendees ready to get back on the road!





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making our community safer

Helping mental health

Probation Board records suggest that upwards of 60% of individuals subject to statutory supervision have mental health difficulties, including a history of various traumatic experiences, adverse childhood experiences, attachment issues and/or personality disorder(s).

Due to the complexities and comorbidity of such issues, service users often find themselves excluded from mainstream services. PBNI directly employ both Clinical and Forensic Psychologists who are embedded within local field teams. Probation staff are also able to consult with Psychology staff in relation to cases on a regular basis.

Originally a consultation and assessment led service, this has developed over the years to enable individualised therapeutic work to be carried out. This includes. but is not limited to; those subject to Life Licence, individuals assessed as Category 3 under PPANI (Public Protection Arrangements for Northern Ireland), those who receive an **Enhanced Combination** Order (ECO) or who are involved with the Aspire project, for young men at risk of becoming involved further in criminal behaviour.

PBNI Psychologists also work at the interface between Health Services and Criminal Justice and at a strategic level, contributing to policy and practice. PBNI Psychologists are linked to each of the Forensic Mental Health and Forensic Learning Disability Teams in the different Trust areas, and together, provide a service for the highest risk offenders who are diagnosed as having either a major mental illness or a learning disability. PBNI Psychologists develop and facilitate training packages for PBNI staff as well as external stakeholders. They are also involved in the creation, facilitation and evaluation of offending behaviour programmes to target the criminogenic needs of those under statutory supervision.



"Every knife posted into a surrender bin is potentially a life saved. Knives can ruin the lives of individuals, families and entire communities. If you have a knife or any weapon, or know somebody who does, I strongly recommend that it be disposed of in one of the new bins." Cllr Keith Elliot, PCSP Chair

Knife bins

Following concerns being raised by members of the public due to the number of knives in the community, Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP have worked with PSNI and the District Council to install a number of knife bins at recycling points throughout the District.

The bins are totally secured and allow those who may want to move away from illegal activities to anonymously dispose of dangerous weapons that may cause injury or loss of life. The bins are emptied regularly by PSNI, who report back to the PCSP on the number of knives and blades recovered.



PCSP Chair Cllr Keith Elliot with a knife bin.





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PSNI launch Operation Encompass

60 schools in County Down have become part of a pilot project between PSNI, Safeguarding Board Northern Ireland and Education Authority to help protect children who have experienced or been exposed to domestic abuse.

Before each school day, PSNI will inform schools if any pupils have been affrected by an incidence of violence in the home in the previous 24 hours due to new domestic abuse laws being introduced across NI. Operation Encompass aims to help affected children get immediate emotional support in school, somewhere children often see as a safe place.

Encompass has been active in England since 2011, and in 2020 alone over 143,000 calls were made to schools.

Following the trial in County Down, Operation Encompass will be rolled out across Northern Ireland.



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making our community safer



Make SID smile

Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon PCSP have continued rolling out their Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) to areas of concern identified by partners and members of the public.

> Working with Department for Infrastructure, **PSNI Roads Policing, Neighbourhood** Police Team, communities, and colleagues in the Council, the PCSP has played a pivotal role in bringing 11 semipermanent and 4 portable SIDs to the district.

The devices will be used to monitor traffic speeds in hotspot areas, allowing the PCSP and PSNI to better understand issues throughout the district. Within the first week of deployment, one device recorded an astonishing 80MPH pass in a 30MPH zone at 4pm on a Friday afternoon.

The PCSP are encouraging drivers to make SID smile - it's easy, just stay within the speed limit, and you'll see their smiley face!

Joan Loughran (and daughter) and Martin McArdle from Middletown Community Association with PCSP Project Coordinator Billy Stewart.

From ASB to ART

Magheralin Community Association contacted Armagh, Banbridge & **Craigavon PCSP about anti-social** behaviour near the Clarendon Park area of the village - regeneration of the area had already begun, changing it from a bonfire site to a community green area that will eventually have a five-a-side pitch, but a wall at the side of the park was being frequently vandalised and had become overgrown.

To help continue to regeneration, the PCSP took the lead on a

cross-community project to revitalise the wall and give young people ownership over the area in order to reduce anti-social behaviour. Working with Mageralin Community Association, the PCSP appointed an artist and worked with the young people involved to develop their ideas into art.

The project created a great opportunity to engage young people with the Community Association for the first time and talk to them about the village, its history, and a range of other issues.

PARTICIPANTS

100% SATISFACTION





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PBNI launches Restorative Justice Practice Framework

PBNI has launched a new 'Restorative Justice Practice Framework', which sets out PBNI's ambition to be the leading organisation for the delivery of restorative practices for adults at all stages of the criminal justice system.

Assistant Director Aideen McLaughlin who leads on restorative justice explained: "Through the framework, PBNI aims to ensure that all staff keep the victim at the heart of its practice.

Ultimately the objective is to have all operational staff throughout the organisation delivering restorative practices where it is appropriate to do so. That will ensure that restorative practice is at the heart of our work. PBNI is committed to progressing its restorative work to help put victims at the heart of the criminal justice process and ensure their views are heard. This framework will help us achieve that."

PBNI is also developing new systems to record the number of restorative interventions being delivered and the outcomes for both victims and those who have offended, allowing them to measure and evidence the impact and difference that restorative practice makes to people's lives. PBNI will also further develop their working relationships and partnerships with community organisations such as NI Alternatives and Community Restorative Justice Ireland to expand delivery of restorative practices within communities.

Community service is one of the areas of PBNI's work where restorative practice is most visible, enabling those who have caused harm to put something back into their community and make reparation for their actions. As well as community service, in cases where the direct victim of crime does not wish to be involved, there are plans to develop victim panels, where an offender will have an opportunity to meet with a nominated individual who will represent the views of the victim and speak with authority about how they have been affected and what would be required to put things right.

PBNI are continually seeking new opportunities for community service and if you have any ideas for work that needs undertaken in local communities please contact us at **www.pbni.org** and complete a community service nomination form.

The Probation Victim Information Scheme is available to any person (or agreed representative) who has been the direct victim of a criminal offence for which the offender received a Probation Supervised Sentence. To contact the Victims Unit Tel: 0300 123 3269, email: **victiminfo@probation-ni.gov.uk** or visit **www.pbni.org.uk** for more information.

Restorative Conversations when things go wrong

- What happened?
- What were you thinking about at the time?
- What have your thoughts been since?
- Who has been affected by what you did?
- In what way have they been affected?
- What do you think needs to happen next?

www.iirp.org/uk

www.pbni.org.uk

Strategy Launch

Health Minister Robin Swann has announced the launch of NI's new alcohol and drug strategy.

The new 10 year Substance Use Strategy aims to prevent and reduce the harm related to substance use, and was developed in partnership with a range of key stakeholders including service users and their families.



Annual Assessment

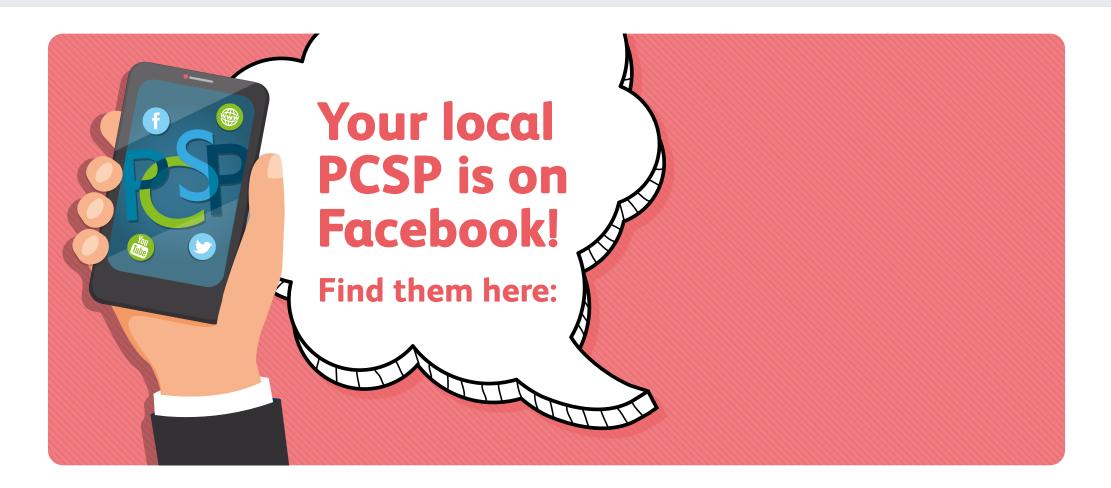
The Northern Ireland Policing Board has published its Annual Assessment of Police Service Northern Ireland (PSNI) performance against the Measures set out in the Annual Performance Plan 2020/21.





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