

POSITIVE IMPACT

‘They have made an excellent contribution to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour’

AT the beginning of Criminal Justice Week (30th March to 3rd April) local MP Jeffrey Donaldson has congratulated ‘Safer Lisburn’ Community Safety Partnership for their impact on crime prevention.



The Mayor, Cllr Ronnie Crawford, with Reuben Steenson and Danielle Agnew, winners of the schools' art competition.

“I would like to congratulate the Lisburn Community Safety Partnership (CSP) on the excellent contribution they have made to helping reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the Lisburn Council area” he said.

“The CSP have helped to co-ordinate a partnership arrangement between the Police, local community groups and other agencies to adopt a problem solving approach to issues that arise in local areas.

“I have seen for myself the positive impact that such a problem solving approach can have on issues like anti-social behaviour and the benefit that this has brought for local communities”.

Mr Donaldson has also noted the breadth of the partnership's efforts in safeguarding the lives and property of vulnerable people who fear crime...

“I have been impressed by the assistance that the CSP have been able to provide to a large number of vulnerable people living in the Lisburn area who have been offered practical assistance in helping to make their homes more secure.

“In conjunction with the police and DPP, the CSP have also undertaken important work in relation to the coordination of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in Lisburn and this is proving to be beneficial in helping to reduce the level of crime in local areas”.

Uniquely ‘Safer Lisburn’ CSP also runs workshops (‘Engage with Me’) to help organisations problem solve issues concerning engagement with young people at risk of crime and anti-social behaviour.

The CSP conducts other approaches incl. outdoor learning activities (with YMCA), an ‘Outreach Bus’

Project (with Outreach NI) that focus on local areas and aim to run a ‘Health and Physical Wellbeing’ initiative in the near future.

“It is important that the CSP in partnership, with the Police and the District Policing Partnership and other key agencies and community groups, are able to continue this work in the future so that further progress can be made in reducing crime and making Lisburn a safer place for everyone” said Mr Donaldson.

The Mayor Cllr Ronnie Crawford [Chair of ‘Safer Lisburn’] acknowledges all the partner Organisations and ‘Safer Lisburn’ Team, the people of Lisburn and NIO Community Safety Unit (funders) who have helped make Lisburn a safer place for all.



Jeffrey Donaldson

Vision and interest helping to make a difference in people's lives

SAFER Lisburn (Community Safety Partnership) is achieving many successes and Manager Laurence Kerr attributes it to people having a vision and active interest in reducing crime.

The partnership has witnessed growing interest eg. the Police, Council, District Policing Partnership (DPP), Housing Executive, Education and Library Board, Youth Justice Agency, Health and Social Care Trust, YMCA, Schools and Community Groups working together to problem solve issues.

Now, a wide range of organisations are coming together to help build neighbourhood capacity to respond to crime and anti-social behaviour.

Key to this process is how the partnership works through Neighbourhood Action Groups and engages with young people at risk of offending through diversion, intervention

and learning programs. It also runs ongoing public information and communications campaigns such as, personal safety and general crime prevention.

Hundreds of young people and adults have participated in initiatives such as ‘Summer Splash’ diversion scheme [for example, with ‘Colin Neighbourhood Partnership’, ‘Streetreach’ and others], ‘Adventure Learning’ activities [with YMCA and PSNI], ‘You Can Change Their World’ Art Competition [Safer Lisburn Schools Initiative] and Personal Safety Awareness Sessions [with PSNI] and awareness based film work, ‘Creating A Safer Lisburn’ and more...

Working with the police, who are a lead partner, ‘Safer Lisburn’ has been highlighting the need for members of the public to be aware of bogus callers and burglars and to ensure protection of possessions in their vehicles and in their homes.

Mobile LCD Information Trailers have been displaying community safety messages at roadsides and other prominent locations [with DPP and PSNI] while fixed screens have been displaying messaging inside public places including ‘Translink Bus and Train Centres, Lisburn Health Centre and Dairyfarm Centre ‘Safer Lisburn Programme’.

Additionally, information campaigns on Theft from Vehicles, Retailers Against Crime, Quad Safety, Stay Safe Stay Secure, Garden Crime, Mobile Phones/Laptop and Burglary have been taken to schools, businesses, shopping malls and community groups throughout the past year with the PSNI. Plans are also underway to extend these campaigns to local hospitals and licensed premises.

Crime Prevention Officer Willie Johnston with Jacqueline Crockett Safer Lisburn Communication Manager.



Ballymacash Youth Team Football Coaches with Inspector Stephen Burns PSNI and Laurence Kerr Safer Lisburn Manager

Relationship with Safer Lisburn ‘critical’ says police chief

CHIEF Inspector David Moore, PSNI Lisburn Commander, considers “Safer Lisburn as one of the critical partnerships with which Lisburn Police co-operate”.

He continues: “We have enjoyed a professional and highly dedicated relationship for many years. The CSP brings key skills, valuable resources and important leadership to Community Safety in the city.

“Their work is carefully targeted to the points of greatest need and they have had particular successes in their work with young people and with vulnerable groups.

“They function with ease at strategic and operational levels, helping to develop the future and delivering front line services.

“I would like to pay tribute to Laurence Kerr, Stephen McCracken and Jacqueline Crockett for their daily efforts and future plans.

“Lisburn Police look forward to continuing this joint work and building on our successes.

“The city has seen reductions in almost all major crime types in the past year. Assaults have been reduced by 16%, criminal damage by 10% and domestic burglary by 16%.

“Although these reductions are welcome we will not become complacent and never underestimate the trauma which every one of the offences causes when they occur.

“As we continue to experience the effects of the economic downturn there will be pressures on many crime types, and partnerships such as Safer Lisburn will become more critical than ever.



Lisburn PSNI commander Chief Inspector David Moore.

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