

# Safer Belfast 2009/2011



## **Safer Belfast**

### **Index**

- 3... Introduction to Safer Belfast
- 5... Belfast Community Safety Partnership
- 6... The Safer Belfast Process
- 7... Communities at the heart of a Safer Belfast
- 8... Awareness of Safer Belfast
- 9... Measuring progress towards a Safer Belfast
- 10... The Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/2011
- 11... Our Approach to a Safer Belfast
- 12... Table one – projects funded by Belfast Community Safety Partnership
- 18... Table two – projects/programmes which are jointly delivered by members of Belfast Community Safety Partnership
  
- 23... Table three – other projects/programmes which contribute
- 27... Investment in a Safer Belfast
- 28... Implementation

### **Appendices**

- 30... Safer Belfast Strategic Assessment; executive summary
- 32... Belfast Community Safety Partnership Membership List
- 36... The Safer Belfast Structures
- 37... The Roles of the Safer Belfast Structures
- 38... Community Engagement Principles
- 40... Current “map” of community engagement structures
- 41... Descriptions of success; Safer Belfast Aims

## Introduction to Safer Belfast

*“Our vision is to listen to local issues and bring about a Safer Belfast by working together to **tackle antisocial behaviour; reduce alcohol fuelled violent crime; deal with hate crime; and help Belfast feel safer**”*

Belfast Community Safety Partnership, 2008

Belfast Community Safety Partnership decided to focus on four issues after reviewing statistics and considering community consultations from 2007. The consultations included Belfast City Council’s public consultation and the Safer City Research which was commissioned jointly by Belfast Community Safety Partnership and Belfast District Policing Partnership.

The issues which are the Safer Belfast themes are antisocial behaviour; alcohol fuelled violent crime; fear of crime and hate crime. (Appendix i; the executive summary of the Safer Belfast Strategic Assessment for more detail)

Creating a safer city is clearly a priority issue for the public. As a result of our previous success Belfast Community Safety Partnership has the relationships and the experience to significantly contribute towards developing a Safer Belfast.

The landscape for the public sector is changing and preparation for community planning is challenging us to take a more holistic approach to developing a Safer Belfast.

Therefore we have designed this process to widen participation in the planning and sustainability of our work. We work with over fifty organisations and groups from across the city.

Our commitment to community engagement, as we develop a Safer Belfast will ensure that we continue to grow and support more people to work together.

In central government community safety sits with the Northern Ireland Office, but will likely fall into the new Department of Criminal Justice within the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister on its devolution to The Northern Ireland Assembly at Stormont.

The ministerial review of the future for Community Safety Partnerships and District Policing Partnerships is likely to have an impact during the review of public administration. However in recognition of the need for closer working between both partnerships there has been significant representation from the various structures with Belfast District Policing Partnership through out the Safer Belfast Process.

These changes bring with them more challenges and opportunities, but our process is laying the foundations for a sustainable and effective mechanism which can continue to develop a Safer Belfast.

## **Belfast Community Safety Partnership**

Belfast Community Safety Partnership is a vibrant and ambitious partnership, committed to working together to develop a Safer Belfast; so much so that it decided to attempt a "community planning" approach.

For us, the community planning approach means that Belfast City Council acts as the civic leader, and we work with different agencies and sectors to plan how we deliver services together in a way that compliments each organisations core business.

The partnership gains its political legitimacy through all party group representation from Belfast City Council and is accountable through the Health and Environmental Services Committee. Belfast City Council has been working internally to build the capacity of the council to continue to lead on the development of a Safer Belfast.

Most statutory agencies participate in the community safety partnership with a drive to find practical solutions. The community sector is represented through area partnership boards and along with the representatives from the voluntary sector ensures the community is at the heart of community safety.

The current process has resulted in much wider participation with over fifty organisations working together to develop a Safer Belfast. To capture and maintain this energy and commitment Belfast Community Safety Partnership will review the structures and process around direct representation by revisiting the Partnership Agreement in 2009.

The current membership list is detailed in appendix ii with the structure in appendix iii and roles in appendix iv.

## **The Safer Belfast Process**

This is the "community planning approach" by which partner organisations and stakeholders cooperate to develop a Safer Belfast. The process operates through a number of mechanisms but is designed to be sustainable, relevant and adaptable to allow us to focus on developing a Safer Belfast that people can see and feel. Please see appendix iii for the structures and appendix iv for the roles of these structures.

The Safer Belfast Process has many strands to it including the political legitimacy and strategic leadership provided by the strategic tier and the coordination and delivery of solutions by the operational tier.

The Safer Belfast themes were set and taken forward by interagency, intersectoral city wide thematic groups. The thematic groups assess how we tackle antisocial behaviour, reduce alcohol fuelled violent crime, deal with hate crime and help Belfast feel safer and then develop new interventions and solutions when we need them.

The last community safety plan was inflexible and we were unable to respond to emerging issues. This time we have developed a tasking process; the tasking group has been designed to allow us to react and respond to emerging issues by using the existing resources of partner organisations and by working better together. In addition, a small resource from the NIO indicative allocation has been ring fenced to fund other actions required by the tasking group.

The sustainability and adaptability of this process comes from our investment in a Safer Belfast Analyst to provide relevant and contemporary information about community safety issues; and the development of mature performance management systems to measure and deliver continual improvement.

Safer Belfast encompasses much more than Belfast Community Safety Partnership has taken into consideration before. In addition to the delivery of partnership funded projects it includes the core work of partner organisations.

To succeed as an interagency intersectoral process which is committed to developing a Safer Belfast, it must challenge partners, create better ways of working together and bring added value to current activity; as well as show innovation to meet new and increasing demands.

Safer Belfast is the process by which we can realise our ambition of evidence based, effective collaborative working to help Belfast be safer and feel safer.

## **Communities at the heart of a Safer Belfast**

Belfast Community Safety Partnership has adopted a range of community engagement principles which guide our engagement from consultation to partnership delivery of services and interventions. Please see appendix v for more detail.

To keep communities at the heart of community safety, each of the thematic groups is responsible for hearing the results of the different mechanisms of community engagement in relation to antisocial behaviour; alcohol fuelled violent crime; hate crime; and feeling safer.

As with all Safer Belfast endeavours, the partnership will utilise the community engagement structures which currently exist like Belfast District Policing Partnership and the Housing Executive's community involvement framework. This will allow us to bring community safety into other agendas across the city.

The Community Safety Partnership's community engagement subgroup has oversight of this work and is currently working through the practicalities of mapping and linking with structures that will achieve this aspiration to keep communities at the heart of a Safer Belfast.

## **Awareness of Safer Belfast**

### **Communication**

Belfast Community Safety Partnership will build and maintain relationships with the public by working with the media, for example with articles in Belfast City Council's City Matters magazine and the Community Telegraph's Safer Belfast series.

In addition we will communicate and engage with the wider voluntary and community sector across the city by publishing quarterly Safer Belfast news sheets and an annual report as well as maintaining our website at [www.belfastcity.gov.uk/saferbelfast](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/saferbelfast)

The Safer Belfast plan contains a number of awareness raising projects and these will be coordinated by the Communication and Information Officer to ensure clear consistent messages are communicated.

### **Marketing/Publicity**

This new approach to developing a Safer Belfast demands clear communication; clear communication requires an appropriate marketing/publicity policy.

We will endeavour to work with marketing teams of partner organisations to develop and agree how we present the body of work that is Safer Belfast and the composite projects.

It is anticipated that this agreed approach is implemented from April 2009, as per the "go live date" for projects.



## Measuring progress towards a Safer Belfast

Belfast Community Safety Partnership has developed a performance management system to measure and deliver continual improvement.

The four thematic groups act as interagency, intersectoral, city wide forums that will measure our progress towards the aims for a Safer Belfast (appendix vii). Having determined what success looks like for each aim; they will regularly determine our status and track our progress over time.

In determining how close we are to achieving the Safer Belfast aims, the thematic groups will have **statistical analysis reports**. These analysis reports will reflect information from partner organisations; however progress can be baldly reflected by comparing 2007 data and 2011 data from recorded police figures and the results of research carried out by Belfast City Council through its public and Safer City research. Using these measures our Safer Belfast targets are to reduce the level of recorded antisocial behaviour by 15% by 2011; to achieve a 5% reduction in alcohol fuelled violent crime by 2011; to have 5% fewer recorded incidents of hate crime by 2011 and for 5% more people to report that they feel safer in their area in 2011 than they did in 2007.

Independent **monitoring/evaluation forms** as well as self assessments from community safety projects will form part of the progress deliberations. We will move towards all Safer Belfast projects completing monitoring forms and utilising core evaluation questions so information from all relevant projects can be included and compared.

Thematic groups will also take into consideration what they are hearing through the **community engagement** processes; the knowledge of their organisations and their **professional judgement**.

The thematic groups will drive continual improvement by utilising the tasking process to respond to emerging issues with existing resources; or as a key stakeholder group they will develop new interventions.

The four reports for the tackle antisocial behaviour reduce alcohol fuelled violent crime; deal with hate crime; and help Belfast feel safer thematic groups will be collated into one Safer Belfast performance management report by the operational tier. This will be presented to the Strategic Tier of Belfast Community Safety Partnership and published electronically on the website.

## **The Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/2011**

Each Safer Belfast Thematic Group went through a process of identifying and prioritising projects which best suited the needs and answered the problem profiles identified by the Safer Belfast Analyst.

These have been reviewed by the Community Safety Partnership's Operational Tier to ensure complementarity and cohesion into one Safer Belfast Plan 2009/2011.

Table one provides more detail about each project that the community safety partnership intends to fund from its allocation from the NIO's Community Safety Unit.

Table two reflects work that is delivered through joint working by members, but is not funded directly by the community safety partnership.

Both of these sections contain "work in progress" which will be populated with information as it becomes available; particularly in relation to financial contributions and in-kind resources from partners. The amount of resources which are detailed in the "title/total" column cover both years of operation; and where no total amount is listed, the project is already included in the work of the organisation.

In the "resources" column the blue bold number is the contribution to the project from the NIO indicative allocation. Where this column reports 'approach' it is our intent to have discussions with the organisation about the project; when it reports 'confirm' there has been an expression of interest by that organisation in supporting the project, but it how much and in what way needs to be confirmed.

The figures indicated as contributions from Belfast City Council are contained in different departmental estimates for 09/10. As the estimating process for 2010/11 will begin in autumn next year, Belfast City Council's contributions have been maintained.

Table three indicates some of the core work of partner organisations and how it contributes to developing a Safer Belfast. The information about projects and programmes in this section are provided directly from partners; as more information becomes available it will be added to this section.

It is clear that this document is fluid and developing. As the discussions and negotiations between members and within member organisations result in confirmed commitments this document will be updated.

Our intention is to launch a public facing Safer Belfast 2009/11 Plan in early 2009.

## **Our Approach to a Safer Belfast**

Each of the thematic groups has developed a programme of projects to be implemented over the two years. The operational tier has done considerable work to ensure the projects are complimentary and deliver one Safer Belfast Plan.

To **tackle antisocial behaviour** we will focus on developing more localised (north, south, east and west basis), community led interventions which are better coordinated.

The plan builds on the interagency forums with structures that engage communities in identifying and delivering prevention as well as working together to respond to antisocial behaviour.

To **reduce alcohol fuelled violent crime** we will invest in a range of projects which target the inappropriate supply and promote the proper use of alcohol, on strengthening current initiatives and industry standards. Much of the work will be managed through the Get Home Safe Partnership, and the antisocial behaviour structures detailed above.

To **deal with hate crimes** we will work closely with Belfast City Council's Good Relations Team however we will focus on preventing and dealing with hate crimes and their impact, as opposed to their motivations.

When we think of hate crime we often think of those motivated by racism, religion, disability and sexual orientation. However it is important to note that 65% of incidents within the hate crime categorisation are motivated by sectarianism.

This action plan recognises that the work of the other three groups will contribute to **help Belfast feel safer**, but that further activity needs to be delivered with this express purpose in mind.

## Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/11

### Table one – projects funded by Belfast Community Safety Partnership to tackle antisocial behaviour

<b>Title/Total</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Antisocial behaviour structures</b>  <b>£20,000</b>	Engage communities and work together to tackle antisocial behaviour.  Risk Managing community expectations	<b>14 000</b> Antisocial Behaviour Officers and costs (200 000) Interagency ASB Forums Community coordination	<b>BCSP</b> BCC  NIHE/PSNI/ BCC/YJA  Community structures
<b>Youth outreach</b>  <b>£120,000</b>	Provide project/programme cost for outreach youth workers to work with young people.  Risk Not enough outreach youth workers in post	<b>70 000</b> 50 000	<b>BCSP</b> BCC
<b>Small grants</b>  <b>£140,000</b>	Open two rounds of small grants per year to support community groups in developing a Safer Belfast  Risk Repeat service delivery which has been successful vs. expectation for continual development	<b>100 000</b> 40 000	<b>BCSP</b> BCC
<b>Youth inclusion</b>  <b>£70 000</b>	Improve the services provided by the voluntary youth sector by providing training for young leaders and some resource for application of training  Risk Level of youth provision is not adequate or appropriate across the city	<b>50 000</b> approach	<b>BCSP</b> DSD

## Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/11

### Table one – projects funded by Belfast Community Safety Partnership to reduce alcohol fuelled violent crime

Title/Total	Description	Resources	Source
<b>Off Licence work</b>  <b>£20,000</b>	To provide enough materials for the maintenance and development of the code of practice and to provide training for off licence staff "Off Limits"  Risk There is an opportunity to charge for the training	<b>10 000</b> approach	<b>BCSP</b> Health board
<b>Transport project</b>  <b>£20,000</b>	To deliver a taxi based night time transport project.  Risk There may not be enough customer demand to sustain the project once established	<b>20 000</b> Taxis and drivers 20 000	<b>BCSP</b> Taxi companies sponsorship
<b>Joint enforcement</b>  <b>£40,000</b>	Work with local communities to identify and deliver better enforcement of on-street drinking prohibitions. As part of the project communities will be made fully aware of the legislation.  Risk Heavy reliance on volunteer BCC staff. High community expectations	<b>20 000</b> confirm staff	<b>BCSP</b> NIO BCC
<b>Safe Spaces</b>  <b>£60,000</b>	This project reduces the likelihood of alcohol fuelled violence when people leave pubs and clubs.  Risks Spaces where this is possible might be limited	<b>20 000</b> confirm 20 000 approach  approach	<b>BCSP</b> PSNI BCC DSD (EDAW) Peace 3
<b>Vintners work</b>	Support the development of Vintners Forums Provide training for bar staff  Risk There is an opportunity to charge for the training	<b>5 000</b>	<b>BCSP</b>
<b>SoS Satellite Service</b>	Develop the SoS Bus to provide its services in areas across the city  Risk	<b>20 000</b> confirm confirm	<b>BCSP</b> SoS Bus PSNI

	Ensuring compliance with funding terms and conditions has been difficult		
<b>Get Home Safe marketing campaign</b>  <b>£180,000</b>	Marketing campaign  Risk Ensure targeting of campaign	<b>60 000</b> confirm confirm 30 000	<b>BCSP</b> NIO PSNI BCC
<b>Parental awareness campaign</b>  <b>£74,000</b>	Information, education and support for parents to talk to their children about alcohol misuse  Risks There needs to be a significant recruitment drive	<b>20 000</b> 54 000	<b>BCSP</b> EDACT
<b>Belfast Against Night Time Disorder</b>	Civil exclusion scheme that will ban people causing antisocial behaviour from licensed premises  Risk High demand and public expectations	<b>20 000</b> in kind legal costs confirm 10 000	<b>BCSP</b> BCCM  PSNI sponsorship

## Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/11

**Table one – projects funded by Belfast Community Safety Partnership to deal with hate crime**

<b>Title/Total</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Tension monitoring</b>  <b>£100,000</b>	Introduce tension monitoring in Belfast to identify rising tensions likely to lead to hate motivated antisocial behaviour and crimes  Risk Keeping community safety's role focused on hate crime	<b>50 000</b> confirm staff community participation approach	<b>BCSP</b> SBPB BCC Community structures OFMDFM
<b>Awareness/publicity marketing</b>  <b>£70,000</b>	Deliver a zero tolerance campaign and ensure it gets to the right people  Risk Through the Communication and Information Officer. Must link with work by partners	<b>18 000</b> confirm 6 000 approach approach	<b>BCSP</b> PSNI BCC NIHE Peace 3
<b>Intervening with perpetrators</b>  <b>£100,000</b>	Work with existing programmes to target perpetrators of crime and antisocial behaviour caused by hatred  Risks New programmes may need to be developed which are tailored to each kind of hate crime	<b>45 000</b> approach	<b>BCSP</b> Peace 3
<b>Annual Hate Crime Convention</b>  <b>£4,000</b>	Host an annual convention around the topic of hate crime; this provides an opportunity to ensure appropriate participation and programmes  Risk Need to coordinate with wider group of partners	<b>4 000</b> confirm  approach approach	<b>BCSP</b> BCC – good relations PSNI NIHE

## Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/11

**Table one – projects funded by Belfast Community Safety Partnership to help Belfast feel safer**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Information and Communication Officer</b>  <b>£80,000</b>	Maintain the communication  Risks Very high volume of work and must also coordinate the key antisocial behaviour messages campaign and the hate crime publicity campaign	<b>80 000</b>	<b>BCSP</b>
<b>Youth Awards</b>  <b>£50,000</b>	Hold high pr awards to recognise the contributions that young people make to Safer Belfast  Risk Ensuring that our youth partners nominate young people	<b>25 000</b> confirm approach confirm	<b>BCSP</b> DPP HAZ BCCM
<b>Good practice</b>  <b>£50,000</b>	Improve practice in communities by holding good practice learning events around Safer Belfast themes  Risk Coordinating with similar events from other partners to avoid fatigue	<b>20 000</b>	<b>BCSP</b>
<b>Training and information</b>  <b>£60,000</b>	Deliver and develop training programmes to build community capacity to develop a Safer Belfast. Signpost them to the necessary community development resources  Risk The density of the sector	<b>35 000</b>	<b>BCSP</b>
<b>Research</b>  <b>£15,000</b>	Develop ways to research feeling safer in "real time", in relation to activity across the Safer Belfast Plan  Risk Identifying the appropriate agent	<b>15 000</b>	<b>BCSP</b>
<b>Good Morning projects</b>  <b>£800,000</b>	Contribute to the development and delivery of a Good Morning Project for Belfast  Risk Challenge is to maintain the joint working between projects	<b>10 000</b> confirm approach	<b>BCSP</b> DSD BCC



<p><b>Inter-generational project</b></p> <p><b>£50,000</b></p>	<p>Continue to support the intergenerational project which brings together older and younger people</p> <p>Risk We need to incorporate the work around the sustainability of intergenerational work</p>	<p><b>10 000</b> 40 000 confirm  confirm confirm confirm</p>	<p><b>BCSP</b> NIO Beth Johnston F'dation Youth Council Age Concern Atlantic Phil'</p>
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## Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/11

**Table two – projects/programmes which are jointly delivered by members of Belfast Community Safety Partnership to tackle antisocial behaviour**

<b>Title/Total</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Wardens</b>  <b>£1,600,000</b>	Field four teams of community safety wardens across Belfast, with a floating team for a higher level interventions  Risk Expectations from communities and partners	confirm confirm confirm confirm approach confirm confirm	BCC DSD PSNI NIHE NIFRS NIO QUB
<b>Tackling antisocial behaviour at council sites and venues</b>  <b>£600 000</b>	Applying the learning from the Safer Neighbourhood Project, Belfast City Council's Parks and Leisure Department is proactively working in partnership to tackle antisocial behaviour.  Risks Ensuring this work ties into the overall Safer Belfast work	600 000 tbc.	BCC - parks
<b>Parenting and early years interventions</b>	Support and consider the work Belfast Trust is doing to map, understand and support parenting and early years interventions	confirm approach	Belfast Trust DSD
<b>Alley gates</b>  <b>£1,000,000</b>	Erect gates at alley ways to prevent antisocial behaviour  Risk Need to coordinate the proposed regional alley gate scheme to deliver added value for Belfast	500 000 tbc approach confirm	BCC DSD NIO
<b>Citizenship education</b>	Partners work together to ensure that all schools have access to and take up citizenship education  Risks Participation in education is voluntary	In kind In kind	PSNI – CASE NIFRS
<b>Environmental Projects</b>	Support the development of environmental improvements that will help reduce environmental antisocial behaviour  Risk Need to better understand the existing structures e.g. the interagency graffiti	Via small grants	BCC – cleansing

	group		
<b>Key antisocial behaviour messages campaign</b>	Ensure that there is coordinated communication in relation to antisocial behaviour  Risk Through the Communication and Information Officer; must be easy for the public to understand and use	24 000	BCC
<b>£24,000</b>			
<b>Tailored individual programmes for problem people</b>	Coordinate the use of individually tailored programmes for people involved in repeat/serious antisocial behaviour  Risk Too difficult to coordinate the commissioning of these programmes, resulting in less resources invested in them	confirm confirm 20 000 approach approach	NIHE Belfast Trust BCC PSNI DSD
Integrated services for Children and Young People			Belfast Health Action Zone
Greater Shankill Community Safety Network			Greater Shankill Community Safety Network
West Belfast Community Safety Forum			Ni Housing Executive

## Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/11

**Table two – projects/programmes which are jointly delivered by members of Belfast Community Safety Partnership reduce alcohol fuelled violent crime**

<b>Title/Total</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Licensed Premises group</b>	Joint inspections LPG meetings and follow up actions	Building control, health and safety, legal and Safer City staff Licensing Officers	BCC    PSNI

## **Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/11**

**Table two – projects/programmes which are jointly delivered by members of Belfast Community Safety Partnership deal with hate crime**

<b>Title/Total</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Media engagement</b>	Develop relationships and contacts within the media that will allow a meaningful response and support sensitive reporting of hate crime  Risk Working with the media	Corporate communication team	BCC
Hate Incident Practical Action Initiative (HIPA)			N.I. Housing Executive

## Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/11

**Table two – projects/programmes which are jointly delivered by members of Belfast Community Safety Partnership help Belfast feel safer**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Sign posting</b>	Develop a method of communication and information that allows us to signpost individuals and organisations to services supplied by other partners e.g. victim support, women's aid, niacro, engage with age etc.  Risk Reliant on partners providing the information and maintaining it appropriately	Staff time	<b>BCSP</b> Partner orgs
<b>Neighbourhood Watch</b>  <b>£60,000</b>	To develop new neighbourhood watch schemes across the city and sustain existing schemes. Development officer in post until June 2010.  Risk Loose the development officer Freeze on investment from Community Safety Partnership and DPP	8 000 Salary for development officer Match and overheads 2 000 5 000	NIO/PSNI/NIPB PSNI  BCC PSNI BCC
<b>CCTV</b>	To bring partners together to consider future development of a Community Safety CCTV System in Belfast  Risk Needs a high level strategic driver and considerable investment	approach	BCC PSNI DSD NIO
Safety of Seniors			Belfast City Council

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## Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/2011

### Table three – other projects/programmes which contribute to tackling antisocial behaviour

This table has been populated with information provided by partners in response to the community safety questionnaire.

<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Project/programme title</b>
Belfast City Council	Night Time Noise Service
Victim Support	Supporting People affected by Crime
NI Housing Executive	Neighbourhood Warden Service
NI Housing Executive	Neighbourhood Officer Service
NI Housing Executive	Housing Executive Mediation Service
NI Housing Executive	Mediation and Community Support Programme (MACS)
Belfast Health Action Zone	Parent Support Project

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## **Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/2011**

### **Table three – other projects/programmes which contribute to reducing alcohol fuelled violent crime**

This table has been populated with information provided by partners in response to the community safety questionnaire.

<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Project/programme title</b>
Victim Support	Supporting people affected by Crime



## **Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/2011**

### **Table three – other projects/programmes which contribute to dealing with hate crime**

This table has been populated with information provided by partners in response to the community safety questionnaire.

<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Project/programme title</b>
Eastern Drugs and Alcohol Co-ordination Team	Eastern Drugs and Alcohol Co-ordination Team
Chinese Welfare Association	Community Safety Chinese Project
Victim Support	Supporting People affected by Crime

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## **Safer Belfast Action Plan 2009/2011**

### **Table three – other projects/programmes which contribute to helping Belfast feel safer**

This table has been populated with information provided by partners in response to the community safety questionnaire.

<b>Lead Partner</b>	<b>Project/programme title</b>
Belfast YMCA	Youth Programmes
Victim Support	Supporting People affected by Crime
Belfast City Council Community Services	Belfast City Council Community Services

## **Investment in a Safer Belfast**

Significant resources are invested into developing a Safer Belfast.

### **Tackle antisocial behaviour**

Indicative allocation (NIO) spend for 09/11 is £234 000

Other funding confirmed: £610 000 (£500,000 of which is subject to economic appraisal)

For this part of the plan to be delivered an estimated further £2 130 000 is required; this includes the cost of Alleygates and Community Safety Wardens

### **Reduce alcohol fuelled violent crime**

Indicative allocation (NIO) for 09/11 is £195,000

Other funding confirmed: £104 000

For this part of the plan to be delivered an estimated further £95 000 is required

### **Deal with hate crime**

Indicative allocation (NIO) for 09/11 is £117 000

Other funding confirmed: £6 000

For this part of the plan to be delivered an estimated further £151 000 is required

### **Help people feel safer**

Indicative allocation (NIO) for 09/11 is £195,000

Other funding confirmed: £15 000

For this part of the plan to be delivered an estimated further £201 000 is required

The remaining indicative allocation (NIO) will be controlled by the Safer Belfast Tasking Group; bringing a small amount of added resource to achieve the four Safer Belfast priorities across the City. This will be matched in-kind by existing resources from the member organisations.

## **Implementation**

Following agreement at the strategic tier meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2008, the community safety team and the thematic groups will work up specific project plans which detail match funding and confirmed roles for partners.

It is the responsibility of partners to take the aspects of the plan that relate to their organisation through the appropriate channels for formal approval. This should include confirmed contributions from partners as well as confirmation of their level of participation in the safer Belfast process and structures.

The strategic tier will sign off the plan on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2008 and this will be submitted to the NIO by the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Procurement calls need to be issued for all projects by mid January 2009 to prepare for the "go live" date of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009.

## **Appendices**

- I. Safer Belfast Strategic Assessment; executive summary
- II. Belfast Community Safety Partnership Membership List
- III. The Safer Belfast Structures
- IV. The Roles of the Safer Belfast Structures
- V. Community Engagement Principles
- VI. Current “map” of structures to facilitate community engagement
- VII. Descriptions of success; Safer Belfast Aims

## **I. Safer Belfast Strategic Assessment; executive summary**

### **Tackle Antisocial Behaviour**

- Antisocial Behaviour is a significant problem for Belfast.
- PSNI dealt with over 23,000 antisocial behaviour incidents between 01/08/2007 and 31/07/2008 in Belfast<sup>1</sup>.
- Belfast City Council dealt with over 8,000 antisocial behaviour incidents between 01/08/2007 and 31/07/2008.
- Antisocial Behaviour negatively impacts on feelings of safety.
- On average, there was one antisocial behaviour incident reported to PSNI per 11.5 people living in Belfast (based on 2001 Census<sup>2</sup>).
- A comparison of 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 PSNI figures for antisocial behaviour shows a 4.5% increase<sup>3</sup>.
- The main causes of antisocial behaviour in Belfast, as identified by the Thematic Group, are alcohol, youths and a lack of cohesive approach to tackle it.

### **Reduce Alcohol Fuelled Violent Crime**

- Two thirds of alcohol-related assaults were within or in the vicinity of licensed premises based on PSNI information<sup>4</sup>.
- Alcohol fuelled violence creates a negative image of the city centre.
- Alcohol fuelled violence is a particular problem at weekends.
- The main causes of alcohol fuelled violence in Belfast have been identified by the Thematic Group as excessive alcohol consumption, certain licensed premises, closing times and the lack of public transport which results in a large number of people gathered in the city centre at the same time.

### **Deal with Hate Crime**

- Sectarian crimes accounted for around two thirds of all reported hate crime to PSNI<sup>5</sup>. Sectarian hate crimes are a particular problem at interface areas.
- There was one racist incident reported for every 10 people from non-white ethnic groups, based on the 2001 Census<sup>6</sup>.
- Hate Crime affects a small percentage of the population but it targets the most vulnerable.
- Dealing with all types of Hate Crime will assist in supporting a peaceful society and help make people feel safe.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.psni.police.uk/monthly\\_asb\\_statistics\\_\\_final\\_2007-08\\_.pdf](http://www.psni.police.uk/monthly_asb_statistics__final_2007-08_.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/>

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.psni.police.uk/monthly\\_asb\\_statistics\\_\\_final\\_2007-08\\_.pdf](http://www.psni.police.uk/monthly_asb_statistics__final_2007-08_.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> This information has been sourced from operational police databases and is subject to amendment or update.

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.psni.police.uk/3.\\_hate\\_incidents\\_and\\_crimes-4.pdf](http://www.psni.police.uk/3._hate_incidents_and_crimes-4.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.nisra.gov.uk/>

- The main causes of hate crime in Belfast have been identified, by the Thematic Group, as lack of understanding/intolerance, changing population and vulnerable groups.

### **Help Belfast Feel Safer**

- According to the Ipsos MORI Safer City Consultation in Belfast<sup>7</sup>, around 75% of Belfast residents feel safe in their local area.
- The Belfast City Council Residents' Survey 2007<sup>8</sup> found that 96% of respondents felt safe in their local area during the day however this dropped to 63% at night-time.
- The DPP Survey found that almost two thirds of respondents feel safe in their local community<sup>9</sup>.
- 23% of residents said that they feel less safe than 3 years ago according to the Safer City Consultation in Belfast.
- 42% of residents do not go into the city centre at night because they do not feel safe there, according to the Safer City Consultation in Belfast.
- The 2007 Belfast City Council Residents' Survey found that 82% of respondents feel safe in the city centre during the day however this drops to 29% at night. More than two fifths of respondents feel unsafe in the city centre at night.
- Visible policing, activities for teenagers and a reduced level of crime were the main areas which required improvement, according to the Safer City Consultation in Belfast.

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<sup>7</sup> Ipsos MORI Safer City Consultation in Belfast is available on request from the Community Safety Team, Belfast City Council, Cecil Ward Building, 4 – 10 Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8BP.

<sup>8</sup> See <http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/citymatters/pdf/spring08.pdf> for further information.

<sup>9</sup> This figure has been calculated using the DPP Survey results for East, North, South and West Belfast and is an indication. <http://www.districtpolicing.com/>

## II. Belfast Community Safety Partnership Membership List

	<b>Strategic Tier</b>	<b>Operational Tier</b>	<b>Tackle antisocial behaviour</b>	<b>Reduce alcohol fuelled violent crime</b>	<b>Deal with hate crime</b>	<b>Help Belfast feel safer</b>
<b>Belfast City Councillors</b>						
Alliance Party: Cllr. Naomi Long	*					
Democratic Unionist Party: Cllr. Robin Newton	*					
Progressive Unionist Party: Cllr. John Kyle	*					
Social Democratic Labour Party: Cllr Pat Convery	*					
Sinn Fein: Cllr. Conor Maskey	*					
Ulster Unionist Party: Cllr. Jim Rodgers	*					

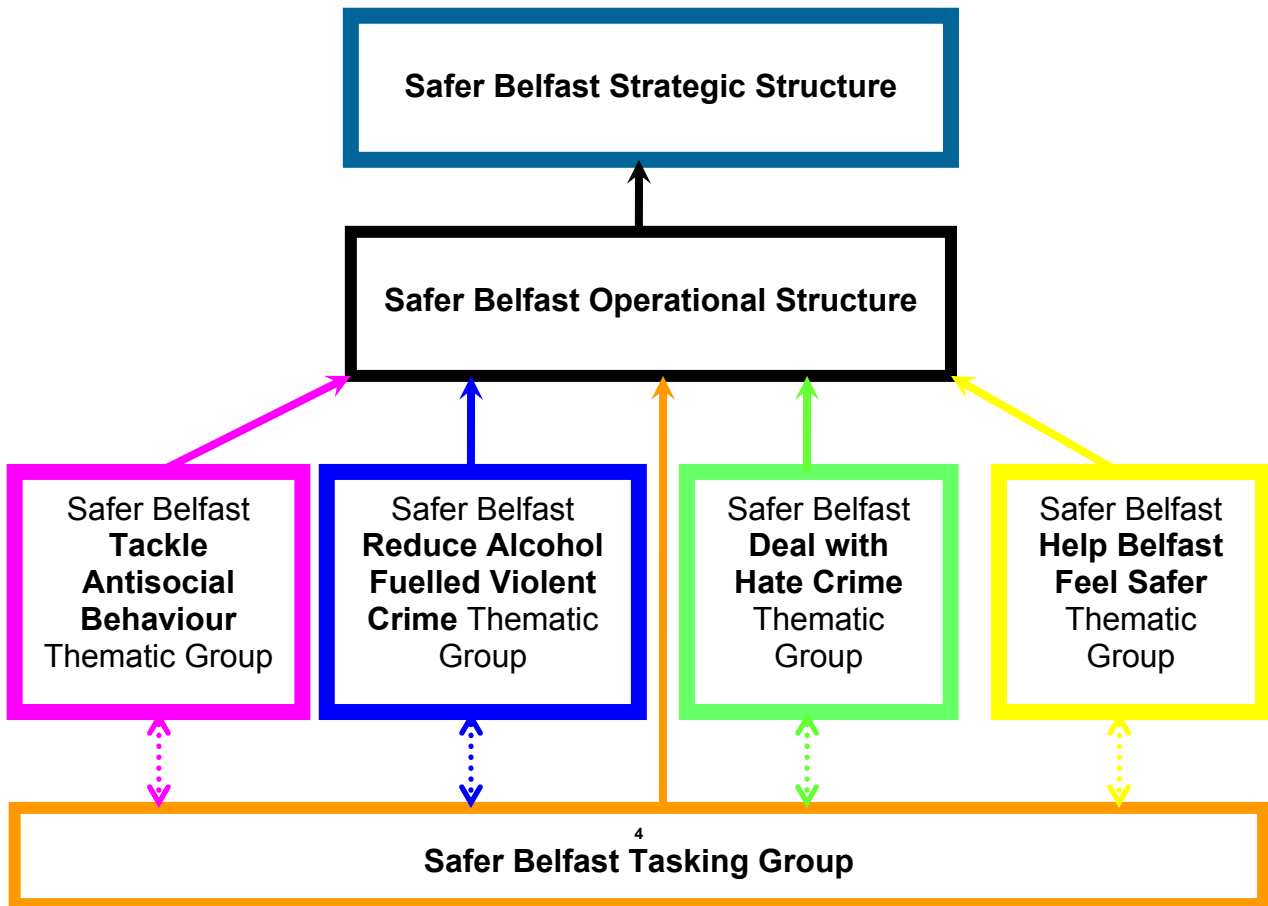


<b>Statutory Sector</b>						
Belfast City Council (BCC)	*	*	*	*	*	*
Belfast District Policing Partnership (DPP)	*	*	*			*
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (Belfast Trust)	*	*	*	*	*	
Belfast Regeneration Office (BRO)	*	*	*	*		*
Eastern Drug & Alcohol Coordination Team (EDACT)		*		*		
Eastern Health and Social Services Board (EHSSB)	*					
Health Action Zone (HAZ)	*	*	*			
Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS)	*	*	*	*		*
Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE)	*	*	*	*	*	*
Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI)	*	*	*	*	*	*
Probation Board of Northern Ireland (PBNI)	*	*		*	*	*

Youth Justice Agency (YJA)	*	*	*	*		*
<b>Community Sector</b>						
Belfast Area Partnership Boards (BAPS)	*	*	*			*
East Belfast Area Partnership Board		*	*			
North Belfast Area Partnership Board		*	*			
Shankill Area Partnership Board		*				
South Belfast Area Partnership Board		*	*			
West Belfast Area Partnership Board		*	*			
<b>Voluntary Sector</b>						
Engage with Age		*				*

Institute for Conflict Research		*				
Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (NIACRO)	*		*		*	
Victim Support	*	*	*	*	*	*
Women’s Aid		*		*		
<b>Business Sector</b>						
Belfast City Centre Management	*	*		*		*
Business in the Community	*					
Translink	*	*		*		

### III. The Safer Belfast Structures:



## **IV. The Roles of the Safer Belfast Structures**

### **Strategic Tier**

- Provide leadership and bring political legitimacy to the Safer Belfast Process
- Lobby, advocate and influence other structures and processes to develop a Safer Belfast
- Be responsible for achieving a Safer Belfast
- Embed a genuine commitment to a Safer Belfast within their organisation
- Connect the Safer Belfast Process to community planning, the review of public administration, local government and the NI Assembly at Stormont

### **Operational Tier**

- Ensure the delivery of a Safer Belfast
- Coordinate the work of the thematic and tasking groups
- Ensure that community engagement is embedded across the Safer Belfast Process
- Escalate issues to and to take direction from the strategic tier

### **Safer Belfast Thematic Groups**

- Become the interagency, intersectoral, city wide forum
- Measure progress towards the aims for a Safer Belfast
- Develop new Safer Belfast projects
- Engage communities by listening and working together
- Escalate issues to and to take direction from the operational tier

### **Safer Belfast Tasking Group**

- Hear Safer Belfast Tactical Assessments and tweak existing resources to respond to emerging safer Belfast issues
- Highlight to thematic groups where there is a need that cannot be met within existing resource

## **V Community Engagement Principles**

### **Clarity of Purpose**

We will clearly outline why the engagement is occurring, and its context, in order to plan and resource an effective process clarifying who should be involved, why, how and for what end result

### **Involvement and Inclusiveness**

We will identify and involve the people and organisations who have an interest in the focus of engagement, in order to address issues that impact most on local communities. We are committed to making appropriate use of available engagement methods, and involving not just the "usual suspects"

### **Communication**

We believe that community engagement is primarily about communication, the two-way process of providing accurate and timely information and demonstrating that feedback is being heard.

### **Support for Participation**

We will identify and overcome any barriers to involvement and actively develop the skills, knowledge and confidence of all the participants.

### **Planning**

We will gather evidence of the needs and available resources and use this evidence to agree the purpose, scope and timescale of the engagement and actions to be taken

### **Flexibility and Responsiveness**

We believe that engagement plans have to be flexible during the course of a process; timetables may change, comments may require change, different communities will respond to different techniques, and the political environment may change

### **Working with others**

We will work effectively with all those who are key stakeholders in the process. We will reach out to socially excluded communities and groups, such as people with disabilities, ethnic minorities and young people

### **Monitoring and evaluation – Outcome orientated**

We will monitor and evaluate whether the engagement achieves its purposes, engaging with communities in ways that lead to meaningful and tangible outcomes in terms of significant improvements to services and people's quality of life

### **Openness and commitment to change**

We believe that where existing practice is shown to be poor, all agencies should be open to changing their practice in order to improve service delivery

### **Commitment by Government**

We believe that community engagement works best when a process has the support, backing and engagement of Government Departments

## **VI. Current “map” of community engagement structures**

*This page is being constructed*

### **East**

East Belfast Area Partnership Board  
East Belfast Community Development Association  
East Belfast District Policing Partnership Sub-group  
Inner East Forum

### **West**

West Belfast Area Partnership Board  
CRJI  
Falls Community Council  
St. Mary’s College, Student Union  
Upper Springfield Safer Neighbourhoods Project  
West Belfast Community Safety Forum/Community Confidence Forum  
West Belfast District Policing Partnership Sub-group

### **North**

North Belfast Area Partnership Board  
Ardoyne Association  
CARR – Cavehill and Antrim Road Regeneration  
Community Empowerment Partnerships  
Intercomm  
North Belfast District Policing Partnership Sub-group

### **Shankill**

Shankill Area Partnership Board  
Alternatives  
FASA – Forum Against Substance Abuse and Suicide  
Shankill Community Safety Network

### **South**

South Belfast Area Partnership Board  
Belfast Holyland Regeneration Trust  
City Centre Management – City Safe Group  
Greater Village Regeneration Trust  
Holylands PACT – Partners and Communities Together  
Lower Ormeau Residents Action group  
QUB, BMC, UU Student Unions  
Sandy Row Community Forum  
South Belfast District Policing Partnership Sub-group  
Stranmillis Residents Association



## **VII Descriptions of success; Safer Belfast Aims**

### **Tackle antisocial behaviour**

Antisocial behaviour prevented and dealt with through early intervention, communication and community led programmes

*We want to support the creation of a Belfast where communities, residents and visitors are free from the fear of anti social behaviour. Young people will have desirable alternatives to anti social behaviour and be part of the process of identifying these. There will be a reduction in areas that are affected by anti social behaviour.*

Confident communities with skills and awareness to identify tackle and reduce antisocial behaviour using a collaborative approach

*Communities and individuals in Belfast will be aware of the role of the various agencies and partners who are working to reduce anti social behaviour. Leadership will be given around the issue of anti social behaviour by those with responsibility, and communities will be supported when they wish to address the issue.*

Positive prompt responses for victims and the vulnerable

*In Belfast victims of anti social behaviour and those at risk of anti social behaviour will feel more confident because services respond more quickly and people have greater awareness of the support available. Individuals who have been victims of anti social behaviour will be made aware of action taken to address their issues.*

Informed balanced and proportionate partnership responses to antisocial behaviour

*In Belfast there will be clear partnership processes in place to tackle anti social behaviour. These processes will allow us to take a graduated, flexible and easy to understand approach to dealing with the problems of the people of Belfast. People in Belfast will have a better understanding of how the criminal justice and local government systems work when responding to anti social behaviour.*

## **Reduce alcohol fuelled violent crime**

Belfast is a safer place to live, to visit, work and socialise in

*A sensible, sociable drinking culture where people are visiting Belfast and agencies are effectively working together. Licensing trade signed up and adhering to a comprehensive code of practice.*

Progress towards a Zero tolerance approach to alcohol fuelled violent crime

*Agencies effectively working together in enforcement, communicating actions, with a decreased number of alcohol fuelled violent crime.*

Appropriate victim support

*Victims supported, referred, reassured, signposted and accessing accessible services and agencies as appropriate.*

Intervention mechanisms and treatment pathways

*Communities, agencies and businesses working proactively and reactively together, delivering localised strategies, whilst referring and supporting people in the prevention and suitable and adequate treatment of alcohol abuse.*

## **Deal with hate crime**

Zero tolerance approach by everyone to hate crime:

*Belfast will embrace all sections of our community so that everyone can enjoy living and working in our city equally. Communities and individuals in Belfast will be confident and able to challenge hate crime and inappropriate behaviour when it occurs. Interventions will be implemented that will deter young people from developing the attitudes that lead to hate crime.*

Communities that are confident educated and have an awareness of hate crime

*All communities and individuals in Belfast will be more aware and tolerant of the various cultures and races that form our city. Belfast will host events that will support integration and learning across cultures, groups and communities. People will be made aware of good practice and supported in adopting it. All communities and individuals will be better able and more confident to report incidents of hate crime.*

Joined up strategic approach to prevent and tackle hate crime

*There will be a partnership based strategy to deal with hate crime in Belfast that reflects the needs of all relevant stakeholders. Reporting hate crime will be made easier for all those affected by it and we will encourage everyone to use the available mechanisms. We will work towards a better understanding of hate crime within agencies and the development of clear working arrangements between partners by using service level agreements and appointing single points of contact where possible.*

Good relationships with the media

*In Belfast we shall work closely with the media to ensure that a balanced approach is taken when reporting incidents of hate crime and addressing issues within communities affected by hate crime. We will work in partnership with groups that represent various mediums and those representing groups affected by hate crime, to develop joint responses in relation to hate crime. There will be champions within various sectors who will support us in tackling hate crime.*

## **Help Belfast feel safer**

Belfast perceived to be a safe place to live, work or visit

*Belfast is a vibrant community, of all ages, with increased visitor footfall, sustainable communities, visibility of people, more frequent and accessible transport systems with an overall feel good factor.*

Confident communities with good communication, education and awareness to help people feel safe

*Belfast communities are accessing and engaging with services and organisations, across communities and sectors, with strong neighbour relations and a strong sense of pride.*

A city centre which is attractive to all

*A bright (24hr) vibrant, clean city with accessible services promoted for all.*

Accessible transport methods that enable people to feel safe

*A strong, frequent and accessible public and private transport system with an increased number of people visiting and moving around Belfast*

Clean neighbourhoods which are accessible and encourage pride and respect

*Clean neighbourhoods and environments, which are accessible to all with pride and respect.*