



<b>Subject:</b>	Belfast City Council – Probation Board for N Ireland ( PBNI) partnership working (graffiti removal)
<b>Date:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> March 2017
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Jim Ferguson, Operations Manager (Street Cleansing and Transport)

<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	To seek permission from committee to implement a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Probation Board of Northern Ireland (PBNI) to implement their Graffiti Removal Initiative.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approve the attached MOU and to give permission for its implementation.</li></ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	Cleansing Services have had a number of meetings with the PBNI with a view to setting up a Graffiti Removal Initiative, similar to a partnership arrangement between Dublin Council and the probation service there called the “Graffiti Bus”. Cleansing Services and the PBNI are keen to develop further links and partnership arrangements with each other in the future.
3.2	Graffiti is widespread throughout Belfast and Belfast City Council currently removes offensive, sectarian, racist and political graffiti, following a signed disclaimer from the tenant/owner of the property. The council has limited resources to remove ‘tagging’ and nuisance graffiti. This partnership working will be geared towards the removal of this non contentious type of graffiti. Belfast City Council staff will continue to remove the 4 types of

	graffiti previously mentioned.
3.3	The PBNI have sourced a suitable vehicle and a power washing machine. They will provide a member of their staff as a driver/supervisor and 4 – 5 young offenders to make up the team. BCC assisted with vehicle and power wash specifications, and BCC staff will train the PBNI staff member on the methods of safe graffiti removal, vehicle and equipment familiarisation, train the trainer competencies etc. BCC Cleansing Services Customer Contact Centre staff will record all non-contentious graffiti removal requests for the PBNI graffiti removal team and BCC Cleansing Services supervision staff will allocate the calls and ensure that all parts of the city have a fair and equal share of this service.
3.4	Permission is required from committee to implement the Memorandum of Understanding between BCC and PBNI, the MOU has been vetted by BCC Legal Services.
	<u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u>
3.5	BCC Cleansing Services will contribute by supplying some of the removal solution, paint, brushes and other supplies, from within existing financial budgets.
	<u>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications</u>
3.6	There are no equality or good relations implications in this report
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 - Draft MOU