



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-00891

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: MINUTES OF 'PACT' MEETINGS - CARRYDUFF, CASTLEREAGH & DUNDONALD

Request and Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested and has provided the following:

Question 1

I request copies of all minutes and documents in relation to both consultation locally in respect of Neighbourhood Policing within the area, and copies of minutes and documents of a number of preliminary meetings aimed at establishing a PACT structure (**Partners and Communities Together**) in each of the 3 neighbourhood areas.

Question 2

Please supply me with full details of your now finalised geographic sectors, neighbourhood and beat areas including the number of personnel to be attached to each area.

Answer

Please refer to the attached minutes of the Community Police Liaison Committee PDF documents **0000002096 – 2098**, PACT 60 document **02123pdf**. Also included is PDF document **0000002122** in relation to resource levels and PACT information and a map outlining the geographic sectors. A form of consultation did take place with various community groups but these were on an informal basis and no minutes or details of those in attendance were recorded. Information in relation to persons names have been exempted under section 40(2) Personal Information and section 38(1)(a)(b) Health & Safety.

Details of the three neighbourhood teams along with other PACT documents can be accessed via the PSNI web site provided for your information.

<http://www.psnipolice.uk/> and search for PACT 60.

<http://www.psnipolice.uk/index/c-district/castlereagh.htm>

Section 17 of the FOIA requires the PSNI when refusing to provide information because the information is exempt, to provide you, the applicant, with a notice that

- a) States that fact
- b) Specifies the exemption in question and
- c) States why the exemption applies.

Section 38 Health and Safety - it discloses names of CPLC members
Section 40(2) Personal Information - it discloses names.

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and neither a Harm nor Public Interest Test is necessary.

The information you have requested includes personal data of which you are not the subject and the information falls within paragraphs (a) to (d) of the definition of 'data' in Section 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998 and disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene data protection principles. The data protection rights of a third party would be breached by disclosure, therefore Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and a Public Interest Test is not necessary.

All requests made under FOIA are applicant blind. A request must be treated as such and a public authority will always view any disclosure as into the public domain. Thus the PSNI must be satisfied that any release of information will be potentially available to the general public. It is therefore on this basis that the following is very relevant.

The first element of this exemption is engaged if the information requested constitutes personal data and is made by the data subject. The information will be covered by section 40(1) and the request will be dealt with under section 7 of the Data Protection Act 1998, rights of access.

The second element of this exemption is engaged if the personal data is about someone other than the applicant. Where someone makes an application for information other than the data subject, disclosure of that information will often constitute a breach of the Data Protection Act covered by section 40(2).

Personal Data is regulated under the principles of the Data Protection Act 1998 and when information contains personal data about a third party it can only be refused if disclosure would breach any of the data protection principles.

Any disclosure under FOIA is a public disclosure and release of the identity of an individual would breach principles 1 & 2 of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Section 38 is a Prejudiced-based, Qualified exemptions, therefore the Public Authority has a responsibility to evidence the harm and the Public Interest Test. Please refer to the Harm and Public Interest Tests outlined below.

HARM TEST

By releasing the names of individuals who are members of, or contributed to CPLC meetings in relation to policing issues, there is potential for persons to be wrongly identified as being employed by the Service, which could ultimately endanger the physical or mental health of an individual and / or their families. Releasing names would identify members of the public who, whilst trying to contribute to the policing of their communities and to the Police Service of Northern Ireland in general, would leave them vulnerable to attack by certain elements in the community. This danger not only relates to the particular individual, but also to his / her family. It is obvious that there are certain elements within the community who specifically seek out information that would identify individuals involved in the policing issue with the view to stopping their participation in partnerships between the PSNI and their communities. Releasing such information identifying CPLC members or participants in the debate also has a detrimental effect on future potential CPLC members / contributors, as individuals would perhaps decide not to join the committee, other partnerships or indeed just participate in the policing issue, as they would feel their security would at some future stage, be compromised by the release of identifying data. Policing is a partnership and to lose the contribution from the community it serves would invariably have a detrimental effect in policing as a whole.

Public Interest Test

Factors Favouring Disclosure

The PSNI cannot establish any factors that would favour disclosure.

Factors Favouring Non Disclosure

Efficient and Effective Conduct of the service

The role of the CPLC and PSNI in that particular area could be compromised by the disclosure of the information as current or future CPLC members / contributors would feel that their details may be released into the public domain at anytime, thus, causing them concerns over their safety. This could lead to current members resigning, or prevent persons from wanting to participate with the PSNI, as they would feel that their details could or would be released thus jeopardising their safety and well being.

Public Safety

Disclosure of the personal data of CPLC members / contributors would not be in the interest of public safety. The members / contributors and general public could suffer physical and / or mental harm by being innocently caught in any incident carried out by elements of the community intent on causing harm to anyone who assists the PSNI in being an effective and professional police service.

Human Rights - The Public Interest cannot be served if disclosure breaches the obligations placed on an authority under the European Convention on Human Rights, particularly, Article 2 - The right to life and Article 8 - The right to respect for private and family life. This principle applies to a wide range of individuals ranging from the individual, his / her family, and the wider community. It also has a bearing on Protocol 1 Article 1 Protection of Property where everyone is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of his possessions.

Balancing Test

After considering all factors in relation to this request, it falls on the PSNI to conduct a balancing test on the issues. In this case, the factors favouring non-disclosure in relation to the releasing of names of CPLC members / contributors far outweigh those favouring disclosure at this time. As a release under the Freedom of Information Act is a release into the public domain and not to an individual, releasing identities of CPLC members/contributors and operational strengths could endanger officers and the public alike, especially in light of the recent attacks on the security services. The PSNI has decided not to disclose the information as it has a duty to protect CPLC members and the general public.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this letter.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psni.police.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

PACT 60 SECOND BRIEFING

What is PACT?

PACT stands for partners and communities together. The PACT process is designed to focus on small geographic areas known as neighbourhoods. PACT is a **neighbourhood focussed** and **neighbourhood owned** approach which allows local people to identify to police and partners those issues which impact upon the quality of life on their doorstep.

The PACT Meetings & PACT Panel

The PACT Process includes PACT meetings and PACT panels. They are public meetings – open to everyone living or spending time in that particular neighbourhood. After the public PACT meeting, a PACT panel should allocate tasks and actions arising out of the identified priorities. Ideally a member of the public should chair the PACT meeting and PACT panel.

How should a PACT meeting work?

- The purpose and format of the meeting should be explained to attendees by the meeting Chair who sits on the PACT Panel
- Any issues arising from other consultation mechanisms (such as consultation postcards) should first be raised by a spokesperson on the PACT Panel – these issues should also be placed on the flip charts.
- Attendees voice their issues.
- They should be asked to provide as much detail as possible around the specific location(s) of the incidents
- Specific details enable it to be determined whether residents are referring to the same or different issues whilst it also ensures that the 'true' level of issues is ascertained. As each issue is raised, they are listed on flip charts, which are placed around the room.
- As issues are raised, Panel members SHOULD NOT attempt to respond by way of explanation or justification. Should an attendee raise an issue, which amounts to a complaint, it should be explained to the attendee that this will be dealt with after the meeting (this should be handled as per the normal Complaints Process).

- Be aware of responsibilities under the Data Protection Act and never discuss matters relating to individuals in the open meeting.
- All attendees should be offered the opportunity to have a say – the Chair should ensure that a minority of attendees do not dominate the session.
- At the end of the meeting, attendees should all be given ONE post-it note for them to place on the flip chart against the issue, which they want to be tackled first.
- Once all attendees have 'voted' with their post-it note, this marks the close of the meeting.
- A summary of the result of the 'voting' should be provided to the audience by the Chair based on a visible assessment of numbers of post-it notes against issues.
- It should be explained to attendees that the PACT Panel process will follow on from the public meeting. All decisions relating to action on priority issues (up to a maximum of three) will be made jointly by the PACT Panel members.
- Explain that progress towards addressing the priority issues will be reported back at the next PACT Meeting.

PACT Panels

- The PACT Panel's role is key to prioritising issues raised through the PACT meetings and other community engagement activities, delivering action against these and feeding back to the community on the results of this action.
- A PACT Panel is a group of representatives from a variety of agencies who attend the PACT meetings. The Panel meet after the public PACT meeting – the panel meetings should take place within the same week of the public meeting but, ideally, immediately afterwards
- The purpose of the PACT Panel is to agree a realistic and achievable course of action to address the priority issues identified by the community within an agreed timescale. This can include joint action or be organisation specific.

- The PACT Panel can agree a maximum of three priorities after each meeting.
- All communities have different needs and the composition of the panel may vary from area to area, it is anticipated that the core members of any PACT Panel will consist of some or all of the following:
 - Local Police Officer
 - PCSO
 - Geographic Sergeant
 - Local council representatives
 - Elected councillors
 - NIPB/DPP/CPLC members
 - Local residents and other community representatives
 - Residents' association members
 - Faith group representatives
 - Representatives from education
 - Health Authority representatives
 - Local business representatives
 - Statutory representatives from DOE, DRD etc
- It is recommended that a **local** Neighbourhood Policing Team representative attends every meeting – this could be the neighbourhood officer or the local PCSO – **the emphasis should be on the local neighbourhood officer taking the lead rather than the responsibility resting with supervisors.**
- The PACT Panel must respect the confidentiality of what is discussed, particularly in relation to individuals. To achieve this, a confidentiality declaration should be read out at the start of each PACT Panel meeting.

The PACT structure provides a useful guide as to how community engagement could look at neighbourhood level and should be seen as a minimum expected standard of engagement.

Not relevant to Request

C DISTRICT		OFFICER / RANK		PACT INFORMATION Measured 6.1.1 of Policing Plan
AREA	NEIGHBOURHOOD			
CASTLEREAGH Insp x 2 Sgt x 3	Castlereagh	Con x 3 POPT x 9 FTR x 2		Ist PACT Meeting planned for early March when consultation has been furthered and the CAN has been progressed
	Dundonald	Con x 3 POPT x 17 FTR x 0		Ist PACT Meeting planned for early March when consultation has been furthered and the CAN has been progressed
	Carryduff	Con x 3 POPT x 5 FTR x 0		Ist PACT Meeting planned for early March when consultation has been furthered and the CAN has been progressed

MEETING OF DUNDONALD CPLC
At Ballyhornan Centre,
On Tuesday 13th January 2009

PRESENT:

 (Chairperson)







s.F38(1)(a)

s.F38(1)(b)

s.F40(2)

Insp D. Martin
Sgt L. McNally

MATTERS ARISING

- s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)
- 1.1 Chairperson  raised concerns that the December CPLC was cancelled without prior consultation.
- He stated he had sent a letter to Chief Inspector D. Bones who had reported back to him that this was due to a break down in communications. Inspector Martin then expressed apologies on behalf of those involved, of this mix-up.
- s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)
- 1.2  then updated members of the current situation in relation to Robbs Road, Dundonald. He stated he had received a letter from Roads Services who stated that the area didn't warrant a crossing due to the pedestrian and vehicle ratio. They stated there was 'no identifiable need'. That a survey had been carried out near the service entry and the needs for a crossing were not met.
- s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)
-  stated he would bring this matter up at next council meeting. Inspector Martin stated he would ask the Beat officer for the area to link in with Roads Services.
-  stated he believed the survey referred to by Roads services had been conducted in 2007.
- s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)
- 1.3  then stated that Community Safety Partnership had been looking for new members and that he had applied, but no feedback had been received to date.  stated he would look into this on his behalf.
- 1.4 An update of the Dundonald Youth project was then given. Inspector Martin has met with the youths a few times and consulted with them over future

- s.F38(1)(a) projects. They had discussed making a crime prevention poster on either drugs
s.F38(1)(b) or knives. There has been good interest in this, to date. The youths are
s.F40(2) primarily 14-18yrs and he intends to meet up with [REDACTED] to take this
future project forward.
[REDACTED] queried funding issues and stated that the youths needed to get
involved more with CPLC's, perhaps 13-17yrs primarily. Inspector Martin stated
that £1600 had been secured for Carryduff and Dundonald projects.
- s.F38(1)(a) [REDACTED] suggested that CPLC members have more personal contact with
s.F38(1)(b) youths to break down barriers
s.F40(2) [REDACTED] stated kids need more than just youth clubs especially when they
reach a certain age.
- 1.5 [REDACTED] queried the benefits of a quad park and if this would be a legitimate
idea.
Inspector Martin stated there had been one in Ballynahinch but it requires land,
insurance, parents who can act as marshals, trailers to transport etc.
- s.F38(1)(a) [REDACTED] asked if the NIHE could assist with this
s.F38(1)(b) [REDACTED] stated that there would be liability issues but perhaps renting land
s.F40(2) could be a solution.
- Inspector Martin stated that there would be a future law on the power of seizure
of such vehicles.
- s.F38(1)(a) [REDACTED] emphasised this was a positive move and a preventative tool
s.F38(1)(b) which gave out a clear message.
s.F40(2) [REDACTED] stated he would look into placing an advert in the
Newtownards Chronicle to assess support for this park
Inspector Martin would discuss with his team to see if any land could be
identified in their respective beat areas.
[REDACTED] to see sports development office at Council re this issue.
- s.F38(1)(a) 1.6 [REDACTED] then gave an update on the joint CPLC, who had attended
s.F38(1)(b) and which speakers were present. e.g. hate crime officer, school liaison, roads
s.F40(2) policing and an update of Police current initiatives had also been given.
1.7 Inspector Martin then gave an update on crime figures, ASBO's are down, an
operation for burglaries was successful and 2 persons were arrested.
- s.F38(1)(a) [REDACTED] queried the impact of the arrests and was informed that the
s.F38(1)(b) overall number had reduced since these arrests.
s.F40(2) The group was informed that [REDACTED] had a public meeting on this subject
[REDACTED] emphasized the impact on the victim.
- 1.8 Update on neighbourhood policing given and informed that the team was at full
strength including one motorbike officer.
- 1.9 Inspector Martin then gave an overview of PACT and the reasons behind
s.F38(1)(a) setting these meetings up. The recent changes in the Neighbourhood Policing
s.F38(1)(b) plan. The benefits of having other agencies present and that information on the
s.F40(2) first meeting would be circulated.
- 2.1 **New Business:**
[REDACTED] then queried a recent suicide case and subsequent police
actions. The reasons behind this were then given but agreed this should be
done in a professional and sensitive manner.

s.F38(1)(a) 2.2.
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

██████████ queried if any work could be done to see what the figures are for suicides. Inspector Martin stated that often these are closed as sudden deaths and not further broken down but that he would try to get these figures for last six months and clarify if there was a special closing code for this type of incident. Discussion was then given to a suicide booklet, which it is hoped Con D Sholdis would be able to collect for distribution to response crews.

s.F38(1)(a) 2.3
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

██████████ wished it added to the minutes that a friend of his had recently suffered the bereavement of his daughter and that the family had expressed their gratitude on how the Police officers attending had dealt with the incident in such a sensitive and professional manner. Enquiries to be done to identify officers involved.

s.F38(1)(a) 2.4
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

██████████ brought the meeting to a close and
The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 10th March 2009

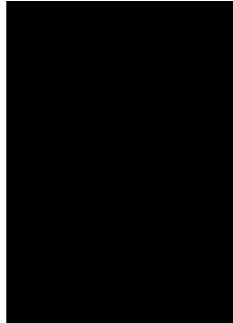
s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

Meeting of Castlereagh CPLC
At Cregagh Community Centre, Belfast 29/01/09

Present – PSNI; Inspector John McClurg, Sgt Louise McNally, Constables Craig Turner, Johnny Dunne, Brian Haddock.

Meeting chaired by Con J. Dunne.

Also present;



s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

Apologies



Con. Mark Wilson



s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

1.1 Introductions and Welcome from Con. Turner.

1.2 Review of minutes from meeting of 17/09/08 including

Previous issues

1.3 [Redacted] had liaised with [Redacted] who had requested a yellow box at Glencraig junction; he had no success in getting this. Inspector McClurg has spoken to [Redacted] of DRD – who stated that the situation would be reviewed periodically. Inspector McClurg will request a personal meeting with [Redacted] and local residents in the future.

s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

1.4

Notification of changes within the neighbourhood policing and community safety team: Brian Haddock is moving to traffic and Sgt McNally will be going on maternity leave soon also. A Vacancy bulletin has been advertised for the posts of Constables and for the new Neighbourhood Sgt. Any new personnel will attend the next CPLC meeting

New issues

1.5

There was then a discussion re setting up youth projects as had occurred in the Carryduff area, it was emphasised that this was not police led but CPLC organised and agreed that youth workers from the area should be contacted to create a similar initiative for this area.

2.1

Meeting adjourned and next date to be confirmed but scheduled for April

**Sgt Louise McNally
Castlereagh
Community safety**

Carryduff Community & Police
Liaison Committee
Tuesday 10th February 2009
At Loughmoss Leisure Centre

Present

s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

Apologies

s.F38(1)
s.F38(1)
s.F40(2)

s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

██████████ welcomed all to the meeting

1.1 ██████████ reiterated the requirement for someone to fill the position as chair of the committee after short discussion ██████████ agreed to take on the role and this was supported & welcomed by those present.

s.F38(1)(a) s.F38(1)(b) s.F40(2)

1.2 Owing to a poor turn-out from members at the last meeting no business had been discussed therefore no minutes had been prepared

New Business

s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

2. ██████████ advised that as a follow on to last years summer youth events the CSP had met in January to recommend funding for events to be held over the next two summer periods at a cost of £8000 per annum. ██████████ also requested a meeting with youth leaders & police next month (date TBC).

s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

3.

Crime Update

s.F38(1)(a)
s.F38(1)(b)
s.F40(2)

██████████ gave a short overview of crime in the Carryduff area

3.1 Since the beginning of the New Year. There had been one serious assault on the 1st of January that resulted in 4 X arrests, two of those detained persons were charged with various offences against the person. One detection for theft of fuel led to the apprehension of a person unlawfully at large who was subsequently returned to prison. There were a total of seven burglaries, one attempted burglary and three arrests for drink driving offences.

s.F38(1)(a)

s.F38(1)(b)

s.F40(2)

Any Other Business

4 [REDACTED] raised the issue of parking of motor vehicles in The Crescent and at Killynure Primary School. [REDACTED] agreed to contact RPU to establish what steps police could take in partnership with other agencies to alleviate the problems.

4.1 [REDACTED] enquired that in light of the serious financial concerns regarding the Police budget and the announcement of station closures what was the position regarding Carryduff police station, Roy Lawther responded stating that 16 police stations had already fulfilled public consultation and were in line for closure but Carryduff Station was not one of those listed although the future of the Station was being looked at by the District Commander, Mr Shields.

s.F38(1)(a)

s.F38(1)(b)

s.F40(2)

s.F38(1)(a)

s.F38(1)(b)

s.F40(2)

General discussion took place on PACT (partners & communities together) and [REDACTED] gave those persons present documentation relating to PACT although most of those present (Cllrs) were already aware of the concept though not very supportive of it.

s.F38(1)(a)

s.F38(1)(b)

s.F40(2)

[REDACTED] asked if anyone present could advise on the current situation regarding the siting of a funeral directors at the round a bout. [REDACTED] reported that the enforcement officer from the planning dept was looking into a possible breach of planning in relation to the business.

s.F38(1)(a)

s.F38(1)(b)

s.F40(2)

There being no other business those present congratulated the Chair [REDACTED] for his manner in conducting business.

**The next meeting to be Tuesday 05th MAY 2009 at 7.30pm
Venue to be confirmed.**