

## CPG on Govanhill

**Monday 26 November**

**Samaritan House, 79 Coplaw Street, Glasgow, G42 7JG**

### Agenda

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Annie Wells MSP	The Scottish Parliament
Anas Sarwar MSP	The Scottish Parliament
Martin Lundie	Community Safety Glasgow
Inspector Alex Hutton	Police Scotland
Keith Crawley	Crosshill and Govanhill Community Council
Cheryl McCormick	Crosshill and Govanhill Community Council
Marion Nisbet	Crosshill and Govanhill Community Council
Damien Torrence	Crosshill and Govanhill Community Council
Grant McManus	Crosshill and Govanhill Community Council
Sophie Castle	The Scottish Parliament

### **Meeting 6 | Crime**

1. Welcome and apologies
  - a. Apologies from Patrick Harvie MSP
2. Minutes from previous meeting
  - a. Agreed
3. Introductory remarks from co-convenor
  - a. Welcome by Annie Wells MSP
  - b. Need to recap and circulate outstanding action points.
4. Presentation 1 – Martin Lundie, Community Safety Glasgow
  - a. Discussion of CCTV cameras in Govanhill:
    - 01 April 18- 31 Oct 18
      - 394 incidents recorded, of which 145 passed to Police Scotland;
      - 12 intelligence reports gathered from the cameras;
      - Of 145, police Scotland attended 44 of those and 32 acted upon.
    - Marion Nisbet raised her concerns over the effectiveness of the cameras.
  - b. Discussion of Community Enforcement Officers:
    - Martin Lundie stated that Community Enforcement Officers had spent 932 hours in the ward for the same period.
    - Main role is to provide visible reassurance in the area
    - Marion Nisbet raised concerns that the onus currently seems to be on issuing fines for lower level offences such as litter, rather than fly-tipping;
    - Keith Crawley reminded everyone present that the focus of the meeting was crime, rather than the environment.
  - c. Discussion of CSG merger back into GCC:
    - Community Safety Glasgow will be merging back into Glasgow City Council c. February 2019, under the umbrella of 'Neighbourhoods and Sustainability';

- Martin Lundie expressed his hope that this would create a single point of contact within the council for all Govanhill-related issues;
  - He also hoped that a new vacancy would be created in the process: a caseworker based in an accessible place in the community 2-3 days a week whose job would be to co-ordinate enquiries within the council on behalf of residents;
  - This idea was well received by those at the meeting;
  - It was suggested and agreed that Martin would return in February to provide an update;
  - Anas Sarwar suggested that a letter be written to the new department at Glasgow City Council as a way of introduction;
  - Martin Lundie indicated the new Director would be George Gillespie.
- d. Discussion of One Stop Shop and Govanhill Hub
- Marion Nisbet raised her concerns over the opening hours of the One Stop Shop on Allison Street. She believed that it was mainly manned by volunteers;
  - Annie Wells agreed to write to Govanhill Community Development Trust to enquire about hours.
5. Presentation 2 – Inspector Alex Hutton
- a. Inspector Hutton gave an overview of his role within Police Scotland, which is to review crime types and deploy resources accordingly in the Glasgow South East/ Southside Central area.
- b. He stated that Govanhill presented the most challenges in the South West area.
- c. Inspector Hutton spoke in defence of the CCTV cameras stating that the benefits are felt retrospectively rather than acting as a deterrent.
- d. Inspector Hutton provided current statistics for crime figures in Govanhill (percentage changes based on a comparison of 01/04/17 and 31/10/18)
- Serious Assault - 13% reduction
  - Common Assault - 21% reduction
  - Robbery - 9% increase (from 11 to 12)
  - Carrying offensive weapons - 0%(no change I number)
  - Breaking into motor vehicles - 63% increase (from 8 to 13)
  - Theft by housebreaking - 17% reduction
  - Vandalism - 12% increase
  - Breach of the peace - 24% reduction
  - Misuse of drug offences - 51% reduction
  - Drinking alcohol in public - 73% reduction
- e. Inspector Hutton discussed issues with child sexual exploitation in Govanhill:
- As yet, 5 males and 1 female have been reported but he was not able to disclose the number of victims;
  - If it goes to trial, details will be released by Police Scotland’s media team.
- f. Inspector Hutton
- A Police Scotland team has been working on Human trafficking
    - In Feb 17 –a three-year-long, probe into alleged human trafficking culminated in the arrest of 5 males and 2 females.
  - Housebreaking:
    - Around one housebreaking occurs each day in Govanhill;

- These are carried out predominantly by career criminals who chance their luck until caught;
- Police Scotland deployed a special in October 18 to carry out speculative patrols.
- Questions to Inspector Hutton:
  - Annie Wells asked if reporting for child sexual exploitation is up and if residents can report anonymously:
    - a. Inspector Hutton stated that residents can always report concerns anonymously and they have a duty to investigate as they would in any circumstance.
  - Marion Nisbet asked if there were less officers on the streets:
    - a. Inspector Hutton assured her that Govanhill will always be prioritised when it comes to officer resource. He stated that he would take away with him the need to coordinate officers in Govanhill so the same people are being deployed each time and a relationship with the local community can be built.
  - Anas Sarwar asked if the mobile policing unit is still used in Govanhill:
    - a. Inspector Hutton stated that this is used as a last resort measure only because he believes it sends out the message Govanhill would be a 'no go area'. He believes the situation has improved in Govanhill so use of the mobile unit has not been necessary.
  - Anas Sarwar stated his concern that women are too scared to walk down the street and asked what could be done to remedy this:
    - a. Inspector Hutton stated that problems can arise from social media pages which spread false information on sexual assault offences that have taken place in the area. He stated that he was working with local groups that may share such posts on their pages.

6. Actions to be taken

<b>Lead</b>	<b>AP</b>
<b>Sophie Castle</b>	Recap and circulate APS from previous meetings.
<b>Annie Wells MSP</b>	Letter to new 'Neighbourhoods and Sustainability' Director at Glasgow City Council, George Gillespie, as way of introduction.
<b>Sophie Castle</b>	Circulate information on Scottish Government consultation on fireworks with minutes.
<b>Annie Wells MSP</b>	Letter to the Govanhill Community Development Trust (Gordon Smith) regarding the One Stop Shop on Allison Street, to enquire about opening hours and how the shop is manned.

<b>Anas Sarwar MSP</b>	Letter to be written to the Chief Constable to enquire about policing hours in Govanhill.
<b>Sophie Castle</b>	Set up meeting with Annie, Anas, Cheryl and Keith to discuss action moving forward.
<b>Sophie Castle</b>	Set up a meeting in early March.

7. Discussion on topic of next meeting
  - a. Local services
    - Education;
    - Health and social care;
    - The impact of increased housing in the area;
  - b. Cheryl McCormick indicated she would like to cover integration at the meeting after.
8. Date and time of next meeting
  - a. Sophie Castle to set up the next meeting date in early March 2019.
9. AOB