

Community Outreach

April 2013 to June 2013

The PPS Community Outreach Strategy for 2012-2014 published in July 2012 includes a number of key milestones which the Service will seek to achieve over those three years in order to deliver the objectives of the strategy.

During the first quarter of 2013 – 14 there was a series of outreach events and activities across the PPS. These included:

- Participation in multi agency events such as meetings with NICTS and PSNI to prepare and plan for the G8 Summit, the launch of the 5 year strategy for Victims and Witnesses, the Restorative Justice Forum and the Domestic Violence Partnership;
- Participation in multi agency working groups such as working with CJOs on the Hate Crime Strategy, participation in the Victim & Witness Steering Group, participation in a joint working group initiative for the prosecution of benefit fraud and regular meetings with Crown Solicitor's Office in respect of extradition cases;
- Participation in the launch of the Peace Monitoring Report which PPS contributed to in respect of Hate Crime;
- Participation in seminars and conferences such as the Cross Border Child Protection Conference and an event in respect of restorative justice hosted by the Quaker Society;
- Presentations by the Director at a conference on Dealing with The Past; and at a conference on the subject of Prosecutions/Convictions and Public Interest;
- Participation at events attended by Eurojust and Europol staff and prosecutors from throughout the UK;
- Meetings with local elected representatives including MPs and MLAs, and accommodating visits by MLAs to PPS events;
- Meetings with Victims and Witnesses of crime and their families;
- Provision of training to police in respect of disclosure and the work of High Court & International Section;
- Provision of work experience to school and University Students;
- Presentation at a seminar on sexual offences attended by Women's Aid and other voluntary sector organisations;
- Participating in a Business in the Community Challenge by volunteering to carry out gardening work at the Children's Hospice.

This quarter also included the launch of phase 2 of the Victim and Witness Care Unit. Briefings have been provided to members of the Justice Committee and representatives from

the voluntary sector and victim and witness services. The unit is now responsible for victims and witnesses involved in cases proceeding through Belfast Crown Court.

Between April 2013 and June 2013 a total of 91 outreach activities and events were recorded, involving a total staff contribution of approx 368 hours.

Statistics			
Criminal Justice Organisations	21	Victims/Witness Groups	1
Police	16	Meeting Victims/Witnesses	6
Providing Training	7	Community Groups	1
Voluntary Organisations	3	Schools/University	3
Meeting MLAs/MPs	4	Community Event	4
Judiciary/Solicitors	1	Media	3
Seminars/Conferences	11	Other	10
Minority Groups	0		

Those activities have been recorded as falling within the following groups and services as described in the outreach strategy. Of the activities recorded during this quarter 19 have been recorded as Key Milestone Events.

People & Groups Segment of NI Population	
General Public	24
Local Communities	6
Section 75 Groups	5
Youths (10-17)	2
Children Under 10	2
Voluntary Sector Organisations	7

Principle Services	
Information Event	32
Inter – agency Work	44
Meeting the Community	15