

Community Outreach

January 2012 to March 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 fourth quarter of 2012 – 13 there was a series of outreach events and activities across the PPS. These included:

- Participation in multi agency events such as meetings with NICTS in respect of compassionate bails, the Crown Solicitor to discuss and progress extradition cases, a DoJ workshop on Faster, Fairer Justice, attendance at NIPB launch of their Annual Report;
- Participation in multi agency working groups such as working with CJOs on the Autism Strategy, the Sexual Assault Referral Centre Project Board and with PSNI and Social Workers in respect of communicating with children and adults with communication impairments;
- Participation in cross border initiatives such as the mutual recognition of penalty points, and discussion with cross border CJO counterparts in respect of Victim and Witness Services;
- Participation in the UK Prosecutor Group discussing POCA issues and participation at events attended by Eurojust and Europol staff and prosecutors from throughout the UK;
- Meetings with local elected representatives including MPs and MLAs, meeting with members of the Judiciary and a meeting with UK MPs in respect of EU issues;
- Meetings with Victims and Witnesses of crime and their families;
- Provision of training to police;
- Provision of work experience to school groups and University Students and assistance to academics from Keele University conducting research into Organised Crime;
- Lecturing to law students at IPLS QUB;
- Provision of training to Women's Aid in respect of sexual offences and training to NSPCC volunteers;
- Work shadowing for representatives from the Chinese Welfare Association, the Polish Association and the Rainbow Project;
- Provision of training to Trading Standards Service in respect of their responsibilities in disclosure;
- Presentation at a conference on domestic violence attended by Women's Aid, NSPCC, Victims, MoD, PSNI and others;

- Presentation at a conference hosted by the NI Council on Ethnic Minorities;

Also during this quarter the PPS held its first staff conference at the Lagan Island Centre in Lisburn. Speakers on the day included Ann Hannan from Marie Curie who thanked us for our participation in the hospice shop challenge and congratulated us on our excellent win. She praised the efforts of all those involved especially given it was the first year entering the challenge. She explained how the money raised would aid the work of Marie Curie in the community. Ann was presented with a donation of £2957.32 raised by staff across the department.

Roisin Smyth from Business in the Community also spoke. She gave a presentation on the BitC initiatives and the work carried out by PPS staff which included redecorating premises used by women's aid and a facility for adults with learning difficulties. She also praised the commitment and the enthusiasm with which all of those involved approached the challenges.

Between Jan 2013 and Mar 2013 a total of 103 outreach activities and events were recorded, involving a total staff contribution of approx 373 hours.

Statistics			
Criminal Justice Organisations	43	Victims/Witness Groups	1
Police	8	Meeting Victims/Witnesses	2
Providing Training	6	Community Groups	5
Voluntary Organisations	2	Schools/University	11
Meeting MLAs/MPs	5	Community Event	0
Judiciary/Solicitors	1	Media	1
Seminars/Conferences	8	Other	7
Minority Groups	3		

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 25 have been recorded as Key Milestone Events.

People & Groups Segment of NI Population	
General Public	26
Local Communities	6
Section 75 Groups	7
Youths (10-17)	4
Children Under 10	1
Voluntary Sector Organisations	8

Principle Services	
Information Event	23
Inter – agency Work	63
Meeting the Community	16