Actions Arising From SCP Planning Day held on 1st February 2019

1. SCP to meet with Senior Management team and Party Group Leaders to emphasise the strategic importance of the Partnership and GR work and to highlight any work is in partnership with all levels of the Council. There is a unique opportunity to have external people in the room – how can the partnership facilitate some of the conversations, give the issues a helpful airing and move them forward.

2. In addition, The SCP has cross party support and membership - needs to be reflected in availability and attendance.

3. When the new GR strategy is agreed after the consultation, there should be a cross party foreword inserted as in the case of the BA which visibly demonstrates the support for good relations and ownership of the Strategy. Senior staff also need to be visible and present.

4. To promote the good work that the SCP has undertaken. Example given of the tale of 2 cities in the summer and how narratives that promote the positive work I the city should be more dominant. The work of the PSNI around social media was recognised as a model of good practice to dispel myths and encourage people to engage.

Actions to ensure work of the SCP is effective

1. While reports which were brought to the SCP had recommendations, members were encouraged to challenge and/or come up with alternative options. The point of the SCP was to test the thinking around good relations work and to ensure that it had a robust enough standing when going to the SP and R Committee.

2. Lack of engagement – it was pointed out that speakers who came to the SCP or were directed to the SCP through Council did not necessarily have a specific ask. The SCP should be more proactive in asking for speakers which were linked to work the SCP had prioritised.

3. It was suggested that "presentation days" could be held outside of the normal business to allow more time for discussion on matters of business in the SCP meetings.

4. Members advised that the formality of the meeting room inhibited discussion and they appreciated the opportunity to work in a more informal environment. They referred to holding previous meetings in outside venues and thought that while it was difficult to secure rooms large enough that this should still be explored on occasion.

5. The opportunity of the area working model was discussed and it was agreed that the contacts for the Area neighbourhood Managers would be circulated to the SCP. SCP members agreed they were a key link as as well as the Area working Groups and there could be solutions found to cross cutting issues through the GRU..

6. It was also felt that the opportunity to link with the Belfast PCSP could be explored on issues of mutual concern.