



POLICE
SCOTLAND

Aberdeenshire

Local Policing Plan 2013-2014

Aberdeenshire
COUNCIL 

Aberdeenshire

Local Policing Plan 2013-2014

Police Scotland - B Division Headquarters

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- 4. Punjabi** ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੋਵੇ - ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਤੁਹਾਡੀਆਂ ਲੋੜਾਂ ਬਾਰੇ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਵਟਾਂਦਰਾ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।
- 5. Hindi** 'यदि आप यह जानकारी किसी वैकल्पिक प्रारूप अथवा भाषा में प्राप्त करना चाहते हैं – कृपया अपनी आवश्यकताओं के बारे में विचार करने के लिए हमसे संपर्क करें'।
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- 7. Arabic** إذا كنت تود الحصول على هذه المعلومات بشكل آخر أو بلغة أخرى فالرجاء الاتصال بنا لمناقشة احتياجاتك.
- 8. Kurdish** ئەگەر تۆم زانیاریەت بە شێوە یان زمانی تر دەویت، ئەوا تکایە پەڕوهندیمان پێوە بکە بۆ ئەوەی کە گفتووگۆ سەبارەت پێویستیەکانت بکەین.
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- 12. Chinese simplified** 如果您希望以其他的格式或语言获得这些信息，请联系我们以讨论您的需求。
- 13. Chinese traditional** 如果您希望以其他的格式或語言獲得這些資訊，請聯繫我們以討論您的需求。
- 14. Gaelic** Ma tha sibh ag iarraidh an fhiosrachaidh seo ann an riochd no cànan eile, nach cuir sibh fios thugainn gus ur cuid fheumalachdan a dheasbad.

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1. Introduction

This interim plan sets out the local policing priorities and objectives for Aberdeenshire for 2013-2014 and is a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

It is produced as part of a planning process which takes account of the Scottish Government's overarching vision for public services, the strategic police priorities set by Scottish Ministers, the Scottish Police Authority's Strategic Policing Plan, the Chief Constable's Policing Plan and engagement with the local communities of Aberdeenshire.

The interim Local Policing Plan for Aberdeenshire represents a critical part of the delivery process for the new service, demonstrating our commitment to local policing within the national planning framework and enabling us to respond effectively to the concerns of local communities as well as meet and tackle nationwide demands.

This plan will be supported by the 19 Aberdeenshire Multi-Member Ward Plans that have identified and will respond directly to local needs.

2. Foreword by:

Chief Constable Stephen House

This Plan is the first under the new Policing arrangements for Scotland. Local Policing will be the focus of the Police Service of Scotland and will deliver real improvements to the way services are delivered to local communities. Reform offers us the opportunity to improve accountability and increase scrutiny. This plan sets out our continuing commitment to 'Keeping People Safe'. It establishes the issues we believe are important to communities across Scotland. By delivering a local policing service that drives improvements against our priorities we can make a real difference in the quality of life for people in Scotland.

Vic Emery, Chair of the Scottish Police Authority

When it comes to local police services, one size doesn't fit all. Different communities across Scotland want access to the best expertise and services in policing - but they quite rightly expect police services to meet their area's needs and priorities. Your Local Police Plan is a key part of making sure this happens, and keeping this local focus at the heart of community policing.

These plans are linked to national priorities, but are based on local issues and what people say matters to them. They are also a very public commitment by Police Scotland on what it will deliver to make our communities safer. The Scottish Police Authority will be working with Police Scotland, partners and communities to ensure we all receive the best policing possible.

Leader of Council Councillor Jim Gifford

Welcome to the first Aberdeenshire Local Policing Plan which determines the priorities and outcomes for policing in Aberdeenshire. These have been identified to reflect the needs of our communities and ultimately ensure a better quality of life for everyone. The Plan has been created in consultation with communities and elected members across Aberdeenshire and will be supported by individual Multi-Member Ward Plans which will highlight activities at a more local level.

Aberdeenshire Council are committed to working in partnership with the police and we will continue to support all levels of local policing. The community focussed policing model, already in place across Aberdeenshire, has served our communities well. This local focus and accountability will provide a strong foundation upon which to move forward in the new single police service.

I am encouraged by the content of this plan and the commitment of the Local Police Teams and wider police service, to continue with local consultation and engagement as they define these and future priorities. Only by working together, will we ensure that our communities continue to be safe places in which to work and live and where people can enjoy the best quality of life.

Local Police Commander Chief Superintendent Mark McLaren

The management of Policing in Scotland will change on 1 April 2013 with transition from 8 regional Forces into one single police service for Scotland.

The purpose of this document is to identify a set of policing priorities, particular to Aberdeenshire, which seek to achieve our overarching mission of 'keeping people safe'.

These priorities have been identified by listening to what people tell us they want us to focus upon within their particular area and it is perhaps no surprise that issues such as antisocial behaviour, road casualty reduction and the harm caused by drugs continue to be recurring themes.

We have also identified other elements of our priorities which are perhaps less 'visible' to our communities. These include domestic abuse, national security and organised criminality, which detailed analysis equally tells us are 'priority areas'.

As we look forward towards maximising the opportunities provided by a new structure for policing in Scotland, we also recognise the strong legacy upon which we build.

Recorded numbers of crimes and offences within Aberdeenshire are at an 8 year low with Scottish Government figures showing that, for example, the area recorded the second lowest number of serious assaults per 10,000 population in Scotland.

Indeed, in 'Viewpoint', the 29th Aberdeenshire Citizens Panel survey, (published February 2013), 98% of survey respondents reported that they felt that Aberdeenshire was a safe place to live.

Working with partners and the community themselves, we aim to keep it that way.

3. Priorities and Objectives:

Acquisitive Crime

Acquisitive Crime, which includes issues such as housebreaking and other thefts, is not an issue which features highly during community feedback

Indeed Aberdeenshire has generally low crime rates compared with other areas of Scotland. That said, recent analysis of associated data has revealed an emerging trend of increases in domestic housebreaking which suggest a requirement for increased prioritisation in these areas.

For example, we have already responded to a developing trend of young, often underage drivers, stealing high performance vehicles and whilst we have been successful in dealing with this, we will remain focused on ensuring a downward trend of such activity.

We will undertake intelligence gathering, analysis on criminals, deploy specific police patrols and increase visibility to minimise opportunities for thefts to occur.

We will continue to utilise crime reduction measures to their maximum effect and make use of the media both proactively and reactively to positively impact on reducing these crimes and detecting offenders.

The outcome we seek to achieve is 'to reduce instances of Acquisitive Crime', particularly housebreaking. Acquisitive Crime is encapsulated in National Outcomes 5, 7, 8, 9 and 11 and we will support these outcomes through the following:

Objectives:

- Reduce instances of housebreaking
- Reduce instances of theft from vehicles

Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder

Antisocial behaviour, violence and disorder, as in other areas of Scotland, is closely associated with the consumption of alcohol and calls to the police in Aberdeenshire tend to fall under the broad categories of public nuisance, disturbance, noise and drinking in public.

In Aberdeenshire, instances of antisocial behaviour are at a 7 year low, but in response to community concerns, we will continue to analyse information and intelligence to proactively target and manage perpetrators of violence, disorder and other antisocial behaviour to ensure a better quality of life for all.

Moreover, we are dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling antisocial behaviour including annoyance, vandalism, disturbance and alcohol fuelled violence.

We will also continue to work closely with the Local Authority and other partner agencies to exploit opportunities to prevent crime and manage offenders and deal with unacceptable behaviour.

We remain committed to working with Aberdeenshire Community Safety Partnership and our shared antisocial behaviour tasking group who provide a strategic and tactical overview of antisocial behaviour within Aberdeenshire.

Continued working with Licensing Standards Officers on joint visits to licensed premises will ensure a targeted and intelligence led approach to licensing legislation and compliance. In addition, whilst we will maximise opportunities to detect and deter instances of under-age drinking within our communities, we will work with others to maximise the opportunities to redirect young people from alcohol through diversion and support.

We will continue to target violence within our communities and build upon reductions during 2011/12.

The outcome we seek to achieve is 'to make Aberdeenshire a safer place'. Violence, disorder and antisocial behaviour are encapsulated in the National Outcomes 5, 7, 8, 9 and 11 and we will support these outcomes through the following:

Objectives:

- Increase the detection rate for Serious Assault
- Increase the detection rate for Robbery
- Decrease the number of complaints regarding disorder

National Security

The threat of terrorism within the United Kingdom has increased our awareness and developed our capacity to link with our communities, in line with the Government's "Contest" strategy, which follows four work streams -

- **Pursue:** to stop terrorist attacks
- **Prevent:** to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism
- **Protect:** to strengthen our protection against terrorist attack
- **Prepare:** where an attack cannot be stopped, to mitigate its impact

Our close links to the oil and gas industry has allowed us to engage with businesses and their staff in relation to protecting and preventing potential incidents. We liaise and work collaboratively to raise awareness in relation to intelligence gathering and security.

We will continue to expand the "Act Now" package in our communities promoting a greater level of awareness and understanding of terrorism and how intelligence can be gathered. We work to raise awareness with those partners who interact with the most vulnerable members of our community, to help ensure these individuals do not become susceptible to radicalisation.

We will maintain our close and effective links with the Ministry of Defence Police, the oil and gas industry and ports along our coastline and develop partnerships further in all areas of National Security.

The outcome we seek to achieve is 'to counter the threat from terrorism and domestic extremism'. National Security is encapsulated in National Outcomes 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13 and 15 and we will support these outcomes through pursuit of the following:

Objectives:

- Increase community intelligence in support of the 'Contest' strategy
- Deliver briefings to community groups and partner agencies in support of the 'Prevent' strand

Public Protection

The number of people who are victims of physical, sexual or emotional abuse and neglect is a major concern for policing. Domestic abuse in particular blights the lives of individuals as well as their families. Our priority is therefore to tackle domestic abuse by proactively targetting dangerous offenders while protecting and supporting victims.

To keep people safe, we will continue to focus on a victim centered approach to public protection with the aim of preventing crime through early and effective intervention and ensuring the sharing of relevant information with partnership agencies.

Preventing rape and other serious sexual offences is of utmost importance. A Divisional Rape Investigation Unit will be established in order to maximise all investigative opportunities and implement a multi-agency approach to prevention and victim support. A review process for all sexual crimes and the utilisation of Sexual Offence Liaison Officers has already enhanced the quality of investigations. Dedicated officers will continue to proactively manage Registered Sex Offenders residing within Aberdeenshire.

We will also continue to work closely with partner agencies to prevent harm by sharing relevant information, utilising a recently streamlined audit process which has been developed and implemented to ensure only appropriate referrals are made to the Children and Adult Protection Networks.

We support the implementation of the Vulnerable Persons Database, which will assist in effectively sharing information in relation to children and adults who are deemed to be at risk, as well as other vulnerable persons.

Domestic violence and other domestic abuse will continue to be prioritised. The creation of a dedicated Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit will focus on detecting and managing offenders and will compliment our existing commitment to supporting victims of domestic abuse through our liaison officer network.

The outcome we seek to achieve is 'to keep people safe'. Public Protection is encapsulated in National Outcomes 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 16 and we will support these outcomes through the following:

Objectives:

- Establish a Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit
- Establish a Divisional Rape Investigation Unit
- Increase the detection rate for crimes of a sexual nature
- Increase the detection rate for domestic abuse
- Increase the detection rate for Rape

Road Safety and Road Crime

Antisocial driving, whilst at a lower level in comparison to previous years, remains an issue for many of Aberdeenshire's communities. This reduction in offences may well be due to a variety of factors such as educational and enforcement activities as well as economic factors such as the cost of fuel.

Our priority is to keep people safe on, and target criminals using, the roads.

Aberdeenshire's large expanse of rural roads and their use by a large and diverse vehicle group, reinforces the need for road safety to remain a priority. We will take every opportunity to positively influence driver behaviour in an effort to reduce road collision casualties.

We recognise that road casualty reduction is underpinned by key themes of enforcement, education, engineering and personal responsibility. We will continue to work with partner agencies to maximise opportunities to reinforce these four themes, ensuring people using our roads are kept as safe as possible.

An intelligence led approach will be pursued to target enforcement in areas where collisions are most likely to occur. We will also target motorists who speed, are uninsured, and disqualified drivers, drink / drug drivers, those not wearing a seatbelt and individuals who use mobile phones while driving, all factors which have been shown to contribute towards an increase in collisions.

We will pursue those who use our roads to further their criminal activities through the use of pro-active patrols, analysis, intelligence and technology.

Young, often underage, drivers stealing high performance vehicles has been a developing issue in Aberdeenshire and this behaviour creates potential for harm to communities and the individuals themselves. We will therefore continue to work with colleagues and partners to proactively target this area of criminality through intelligence gathering and directed enforcement activity against those involved.

The outcome we seek to achieve is 'to ensure our roads are safe'. Road Safety and Road Crime is encapsulated in National Outcomes 9 and 11 and we will support these outcomes through the following:

Objectives:

- Increase the detection rate for drink / drug driving
- Increase the detection rate for speeding
- Increase the detection rate for insurance offences
- Increase the detection rate for mobile phone offences
- Increase the detection rate for seat belt offences

Serious Organised Crime and Drugs

Our experience and data shows that organised groups of criminals from elsewhere in the UK continue to travel to this area to distribute drugs.

Accordingly, there is regular dialogue with relevant Police Forces and partner agencies, to ensure collaborative working and our priority is to keep people safe by reducing the risk of harm posed by serious organised criminality and in particular, controlled drugs.

We are committed to reducing the threat from serious and organised crime groups by targeting their criminal enterprises and disrupting their activities. This will be in line with the Scottish Government strategy for tackling Serious Organised Crime "Letting our Communities Flourish" as clearly, the sale and supply of controlled drugs severely impacts the quality of life of individuals and communities.

Thus, we will use all means available to detect offenders, recover controlled drugs and pursue evidence for prosecution. We will maximise opportunities to recover proceeds of crime under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

Maintaining a focus on offenders is only part of the effort to minimise the harm caused by controlled drugs. We also remain committed to the success of prevention and rehabilitation and recognise they are important factors in reducing substance use. In this regard, we will continue to work with partners such as the referral scheme successfully operated during 2012, where substance users were offered referral to agencies to assist in helping change behaviour and to make positive life choices.

The outcome we seek to achieve is 'to reduce harm in our communities'. Serious Organised Crime and Drugs is encapsulated in National Outcomes 9, 11 and 13 and we will support these outcomes through the following:

Objectives:

- Through the use of Proceeds of Crime Act legislation deprive Serious Organised Crime Groups of assets
- Tackle drug misuse by increasing the detection rate for the supply of controlled drugs

4. How we identified our Priorities and Objectives

The Scottish Policing Assessment sets out the priorities for the Police Service of Scotland to the year 2015. It is a key document for the police in the continuous process of meeting future challenges and ensuring that the service the police provide to the communities of Scotland is of a high standard.

The Assessment draws on information and intelligence provided by all the Scottish forces and law enforcement agencies as well as information from key partner agencies including the Scottish Government, Local Authorities and the public. It is through this Assessment that risk in relation to crime and disorder is prioritised.

The priorities in this plan have been identified through further analysis of local crime trends and other information. Appendix A summarises the key trends in Aberdeenshire.

Within Aberdeenshire, we have a well established community focused policing model which is underpinned by an ongoing process of engagement between the police, local communities and through all 97 Community Council groups. We have taken advantage of this engagement method, the most recent three years of which is recorded in our Community Engagement Database, to capture the key concerns raised by communities. These streams of information allow us to ensure that we have identified what is important to our communities, without limiting ourselves to selective and predefined, consultation sessions, and these engagements will continue.

We have also consulted with local Councillors through the Aberdeenshire Area Committee structure, taking their feedback to help define the priorities and in particular our objectives. Appendix B summarises the consultation processes.

All of our work is underpinned by our commitment to equality and diversity, in our dealings with the public we serve, as well as our own staff.

We recognise that effective and fair policing is about reflecting the needs and expectations of individuals and local communities. Survey results show that different communities have differing expectations and contrasting experiences of the service provided by the police. Our aim is to ensure that our service to all is fair and consistent, keeping those who are most vulnerable safe and enhancing their quality of life.

To further this aim, and satisfy our statutory duties under The Equality Act 2010, we are developing national equality and diversity outcomes for 30 April 2013. We will, in our 2014 three-year plan, identify local priorities and objectives aligned to them.

5. Local Policing Arrangements

Our mission is to keep people safe. We aim to deliver policing that is open, visible, accessible and responsive to the needs of the communities across Aberdeenshire. Indeed, in Viewpoint 29th Citizens Panel Survey, published in February 2013 98% of survey respondents felt that Aberdeenshire was a safe place to live.

Working alongside the public, private and third sector as well as local communities themselves, we will develop strategies and actions that provide effective local outcomes and keep people safe.

From 1 April 2013, a single Local Police Commander for Aberdeenshire will direct three Area Commanders in order to deliver an effective policing service. The Area Commanders are at Chief Inspector level and will have command responsibility for the North, Central and South areas.

We have seven community policing teams in line with the Aberdeenshire Council Areas to tackle local problems and issues. Each of the Banff & Buchan East, Banff & Buchan West, Buchan, Formartine, Garioch, Marr and Kincardine & Mearns areas will continue to be led by an Inspector.

In addition to this Local Policing Plan, each ward will have an individual Multi-Member Ward Plan which will address key issues specific to that area whilst linking with the wider Aberdeenshire plan.

These plans will be delivered by having identifiable officers located in each geographic community, continuing engagement with the communities and adopting a shared partnership problem-solving approach to dealing with local issues.

In accordance with policing principles designed to promote measures to prevent crime, harm and disorder, we maintain a local commitment towards education and prevention where appropriate.

6. Local Contribution to National Outcomes and National Policing Priorities

The Scottish Government has 16 National Outcomes which demonstrate a commitment to improving all aspects of life within Scotland. Progress on achieving these outcomes is reported on annually by each Community Planning Partnership within Scotland.

Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) – National Outcomes			
1	We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe	9	We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger
2	We realize our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people	10	We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need
3	We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation	11	We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others
4	Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens	12	We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations
5	Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed	13	We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity
6	We live longer, healthier lives	14	We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production
7	We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society	15	Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs
8	We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk	16	Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need

The priorities in this plan will be reflected in the Single Outcome Agreement for Aberdeenshire which will also include a range of indicators and targets focused on delivering improved services.

Scottish Ministers have also established Strategic Policing Priorities and these reflect the contribution that policing can make to achieving the National Outcomes.

DRAFT Strategic Policing Priorities (subject to change)	
1	Make communities safer and reduce crime by demonstrating pioneering approaches to partnership and collaboration at a national and local level
2	Strengthen Scotland's reputation as a successful and safe country by demonstrating excellence in effectively planning for and responding to major national events and threats
3	Provide an efficient, effective service and deliver the benefits of reform
4	Make communities stronger by increasing public confidence and reducing fear of crime, making the new Police Service of Scotland an exemplar of visible and responsive policing

Our local priorities align to the Strategic Policing Priorities and the Government's National Outcomes as follows:

Priority	Strategic Policing Priorities	National Outcomes
Acquisitive Crime	Priority 1,2,4	Outcomes 5,7,8,9,11
Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder	Priority 1,2,4	Outcomes 5, 7, 8 ,9,11
National Security	Priority 1,2,3,4	Outcomes 5,7,8,9,11,13,15
Public Protection	Priority 1,2,3,4	Outcomes 5,7,8,9,11,13,15,16
Road Safety and Road Crime	Priority 1,2,4	Outcomes 9,11
Serious Organised Crime and Drugs	Priority 1,2,4	Outcomes 9,11,13

Further information on National Outcomes and Strategic Policing Priorities can be accessed at www.scotland.gov.uk

7. Performance and Accountability

To support this plan Police Scotland will develop a national performance framework which allows the service to measure progress, monitor activity, identify key areas where resources need to be focused and demonstrate how successful we are in meeting our key priorities and objectives as set out in this plan.

We are committed to publishing our performance information and will use this as the foundation for reporting to Aberdeenshire Council and local communities. This information is available upon request or at www.scotland.police.uk

8. Local Scrutiny and Engagement

Aberdeenshire Council have determined that the appropriate arena for reporting on this plan will be the Policy and Resources Committee, the draft plan having first been scrutinised at an area committee level. Policy and Resources Committee will meet on a regular basis and the Local Police Commander or their Deputy, will attend and provide an update on progress against this plan and any other matters deemed relevant by the Committee.

9. Local Contact Details

Aberdeenshire and Moray Division
Divisional Headquarters
Blackhall Road
Inverurie
ABERDEENSHIRE
AB51 3QD

Telephone Number:
101

E-mail address

AberdeenshireLPP@scotland.pnn.police.uk

This group e-mail address is provided for you to discuss non-urgent local crime or antisocial behaviour problems. This should not be used to report a crime or incident.

KEEP PEOPLE SAFE

If there is an emergency situation which requires immediate police attention please dial 999.

For non-emergency contact call 101, the single non-emergency number.

Service users who are deaf or have a hearing impairment can contact Police Scotland via Text Relay in an emergency on 18000 or non-emergency on 18001 101.

If you have information about crime in your area and wish to provide it anonymously, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Appendix A – Local Strategic Assessment

A local Strategic Assessment identifies the threats and risks in relation to crime and disorder within the local area. This is informed by analysis of local crime trends, intelligence and other information and is influenced both local and national drivers.

Although the Strategic Assessment is a restricted document, it has considered the following key areas, which have in turn helped inform this Local Policing Plan:

- Acquisitive Crime
- Major Crime and Terrorism
- Public Protection
- Road Safety and Road Crime
- Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour
- Wildlife Crime

The key issues identified under the heading of Major Crime and Terrorism have been captured as priorities within our Policing Plan under Serious Organised Crime and Drugs as well as National Security.

Following consultation, whilst still an important area of business which will receive appropriate dedicated attention, the associated crime statistics did not merit the identification of Wildlife Crime as a stand alone priority.

Appendix B – Local Consultation Results

In preparing this Policing Plan we have consulted the 19 multi-member wards within Aberdeenshire, each of whom will have an individual Multi-Member Ward Plan, reflecting local issues and concerns. This has been enhanced by information captured through the Community Engagement Database, over the last three years.

In addition to this local engagement, specific engagement has been held with locally elected members and representatives of Aberdeenshire Council.