

Local Police Plan 2017 - 20

community empowerment,
inclusion and collaborative
working

partnership

From Mountain To Sea

shared
outcomes

prevention and
accountability



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe

Our commitment to the safety and
wellbeing of the people and communities of

Aberdeenshire

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1. FOREWORD

As Divisional Commander for North East Division, it gives me pleasure to present the Aberdeenshire Local Policing Plan for 2017-20. This Plan details our key Policing Priorities for the next three years, which reflect our commitment to deliver excellent Local Policing, ensuring Aberdeenshire is a safe place to live, work and visit. It sets out the main Objectives for Policing and tackling crime and explains the action we will take to achieve these.

The Local Policing Plan draws information from a wide range of sources so it is truly reflective of the issues that are most important to our communities. We are acutely aware that collaborative partnership working is a crucial factor in the delivery of excellent, Local Policing in the North East and will continue to enrich these valued relationships as we move forward.

The Local Policing Plan takes full cognisance of the ongoing work within Community Planning Partnerships around the delivery of Local Outcome Improvement Plans and Locality Plans. Throughout the Local Policing Plan reference is made to partnership working, much of which is governed through multi-agency structures to which the Police are but one partner.

The Local Policing Plan and the Objectives contained within can only be delivered through collaborative working with partners and the continued support of communities themselves.

Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson
Divisional Commander, North East Division

2. INTRODUCTION

This Plan sets out the Local Policing Priorities and Objectives for the Local Authority Area of Aberdeenshire for 2017-20, which is a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012. The Plan is produced as part of a planning process which takes account of the Scottish Government's overarching vision for public services, the Police Scotland Police Plan 2017-20, and the Policing 2026 strategic programme of work being driven by the Scottish Police Authority and Police Scotland. It details the crime Priorities which are most significant within Aberdeenshire and the manner in which Policing will contribute to reducing the threat, risk and harm caused by the Priorities. These Priorities have been identified through extensive consultation with local communities, the analytical information contained within the Police Scotland, North East Division Strategic Assessment and a number of other multi-agency local and national Strategies.

In support of this Local Policing Plan, there are seven Community Policing Plans, one for each of the Community Policing Teams in Aberdeenshire, which detail more localised activities.

3. HOW WE IDENTIFIED OUR PRIORITIES

The Local Policing Plan for Aberdeenshire is based on ongoing consultation with Community Councils, communities and elected officials to ensure we have an understanding of the issues affecting the Aberdeenshire area. We also utilised evidence based analysis resulting from a wide range of internal and external research, and several key strategies including:

- Police Scotland Strategic Assessment 2017-20 for North East Division which details threats that impact on Policing at both Divisional and Local Authority level. The Strategic Assessment provides a true reflection of emerging issues and themes, including harm, and has been used as a decision making tool to inform Policing activities;
- Results for the public consultation 'Your View Counts' survey;
- Police Scotland Annual Police Plan 2016-17;
- Policing 2026;
- Alcohol Drugs Partnership (ADP) Alcohol Strategy 2009-19;
- Alcohol Drugs Partnership (ADP) Drug Strategy 2011-21;
- Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership.

All of these sources have provided useful information in identifying what is important to the diverse communities within Aberdeenshire and we have structured our resources to meet the demands.

Policing 2026 is a collaborative and strategic programme of work being driven by the Scottish Police Authority and Police Scotland that aims to transform the Police Service incrementally over the next 10 years.

Our focus will be on improving the effect of our Policing services in Aberdeenshire and working more intelligently with partners and the public to deliver better outcomes for individuals and communities in the North East.

4. PRIORITIES, INTENTION AND OBJECTIVES

Priority - Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder

Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder encompasses a wide range of crimes and offences from low level nuisance behaviour, minor disorder to more serious crimes of Assault and Robbery. Incidents of Domestic Abuse are also included within this Priority.

The communities of Aberdeenshire identified Antisocial Behaviour and Disorder as a significant concern, in particular, Youth Annoyance and Vandalism. This form of criminal activity has a damaging and harmful impact upon residents affected by such behaviour. In general, across Aberdeenshire, Antisocial Behaviour and Disorder is at its lowest level for five years, although there has been a recent increase in the number of reported Vandalisms.

Encouragingly, the overall levels of Violence continue to show a downward trend. An increase in Serious Assaults can be partially attributed to a change in definition for the crime.

The number of Robberies remains relatively low and generally involve persons known to each other through a criminal association or personal relationship.

There is a direct correlation between the excessive consumption of alcohol and Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder.

The Aberdeenshire Community Safety Partnership Hub is now established with evolving processes which will focus on early intervention and prevention of Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder.

To reduce Violent Crime, and the associated Antisocial Behaviour and Disorder we have launched Operation Pine. This Divisional wide Strategy uses a multi-agency approach to prevent instances of disorder through intelligence led initiatives throughout Aberdeenshire, using proactive high visibility Policing, and intervention and diversionary activity.

We will expand our management of violent offenders and via the ADP Alcohol Strategy continue to develop our understanding of the causes of excessive alcohol consumption in public and private space, and with partners, develop a coordinated plan to reduce the harm caused by alcohol related disorder.

Our Licensing Unit will work with both on and off sales premises to promote responsible drinking.

Through engagement with local community groups and businesses we will enhance our understanding of the social and cultural links between alcohol, violence and the use of weapons.

Our local Community Policing teams will proactively target locations where Antisocial Behaviour and Youth Disorder takes place within our towns and villages and

use all available means to prevent, investigate and detect instances of Vandalism.

Through our multi-agency Domestic Abuse processes in Aberdeenshire we will continue to support victims and pursue offenders.

Intention

With partners, better understand the causes to prevent and reduce instances of Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder to enhance community safety across Aberdeenshire.

Objectives

- Collaboratively develop prevention based approaches and place greater emphasis on the referral process to reduce re-offending;
- Support victims of violent crime by working with partners to improve service provision and repeat victimisation;
- Work with partners to share information, support Education, Prevention, Diversionary and Enforcement measures linked to harmful alcohol consumption.

Priority - Road Safety and Road Crime

The Priority of Road Safety and Road Crime focusses on reducing road casualties in Aberdeenshire in collaboration with partners, influencing driver and road user behaviour, as well as deterring and detecting all types of criminality on the roads.

The communities across Aberdeenshire have indicated that Road Safety is a Priority and causes people significant concern.

The Aberdeenshire Local Authority Area has historically experienced a high number of Road Traffic Collisions where people have been killed or seriously injured.

The number of people killed or seriously injured in Aberdeenshire continues to decline and is at its lowest level for five years.

Significantly, the most common group of drivers involved in road collisions in Aberdeenshire remains 17 to 25 year olds.

Overall, road crime in Aberdeenshire continues to show a steady decline.

The Operation CEDAR (Challenge, Educate, Detect and Reduce) Strategy, which was initiated in Aberdeenshire, is now a pan Divisional approach to Road Safety.

Along with key partners in Aberdeenshire we will continue to be a stakeholder in the newly formed North East Scotland Road Casualty Reduction Strategy Group which strives to deliver improved outcomes for Road Safety throughout Grampian.

We will maintain a highly visible Police presence on key routes throughout Aberdeenshire, including the A90 and the A96, to influence driver behaviour.

We will continue to use intelligence based products to target road users who drive at excessive or inappropriate speeds, fail to wear seat belts, use mobile devices and drive whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

We will work together with our partners in the Local Authority, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and the business community to educate young people on the dangers of inappropriate driving and promote safe road user behaviour.

Our local Community Policing Teams will direct their activities towards those who pose a danger to Road Safety in our towns and villages through excessive and inappropriate speeding.

We will utilise all available local and national Road Policing resources to target those who use the roads network in Aberdeenshire to commit crime, in particular those involved in the theft of motor cars and the supply of controlled drugs.

We will support our Local Authority partners in Aberdeenshire in the development of new road structures across the area to improve road safety and reduce road casualties.

Intention

With partners, enhance Road Safety across Aberdeenshire.

Objectives

- With partners, deliver a Road Safety Strategy;
- Promote Operation CEDAR (Challenge, Educate, Detect and Reduce);
- Enhance use of the media to promote key road safety messages in support of local and national campaigns.

Priority - Acquisitive Crime

Acquisitive Crime includes all forms of Housebreaking, Vehicle Crime, Shoplifting, Fraud and general Theft.

Aberdeenshire remains a very safe place to live with the threat posed by Acquisitive Crime relatively low. Overall, figures for such crime are comparatively modest.

Across Aberdeenshire, Acquisitive Crime has continued to decrease against the overall five year average.

There has been a slight rise in break-ins to domestic properties and the Theft of motor vehicles. This is primarily as a result of travelling criminals of whom an element are recidivist offenders from other areas of the Division.

The crime of Theft by Shoplifting has marginally increased against the five year average. To address the threat posed by Acquisitive Crime in Aberdeenshire, and in particular Housebreaking and Auto Crime linked to young offenders, we have launched Operation Magpie as part of a Divisional wide Strategy. This Strategy involves the promotion of our Crime Prevention message, gathering of intelligence, targeting of offenders and the deployment of high visibility Policing patrols in identified locations.

We will maximise the use of all media platforms to promote our Crime Prevention message to minimise the likelihood of our communities being victims of crime.

In partnership with the Local Authority and the Criminal Justice System, we will

co-ordinate our activities to reduce the likelihood of young people engaging in Acquisitive Crime and ensure that perpetrators criminal activities are restricted through the use of Antisocial Behaviour legislation, Bail Conditions and Curfews.

We will develop our understanding of the factors which contribute towards Theft by Shoplifting, including the location and offender profile, to enable a multi-agency approach to address this crime.

We will develop our understanding of Rural Crime through improved crime recording processes to enhance our response to those affected.

Intention

With partners and communities, prevent all instances of Acquisitive Crime across Aberdeenshire.

Objectives

- With partners, share information, support Education, Prevention, Diversionary and Enforcement activity linked to Acquisitive Crime;
- Collaboratively develop a Strategy which targets recidivist offenders to reduce reoffending linked to Acquisitive Crime;
- Enhance use of all media platforms to raise awareness of local and national preventative initiatives.

Priority - Protecting People at Risk of Harm

This Priority aims to protect all people at risk of harm, regardless of their age or social background, from physical, sexual or emotional abuse. This includes but is not limited to Child Protection, Adult Protection, Serious Sexual Crime, Offender Management, Domestic Abuse, Human Trafficking and Honour Based Violence.

The Division wide Public Protection Unit is now operating to support investigations in all of these areas, augmented as necessary by national specialists.

Reporting of sexual crimes is increasing both locally and nationally. Significant work has been undertaken to identify trends. These have been identified as; the reporting of more non-recent crimes; increased use of the internet via mobile devices; and enhanced public confidence to report.

As with other areas across the Division, Aberdeenshire has seen an increase in online offences including the taking, distribution and possession of indecent photographs, particularly between those aged 13 to 15 years. Social media has continued to play a significant part in such crimes where a number of online and digital platforms are used, this remains a challenging area of prevention.

The demands placed upon Policing linked to those who present as a concern in the community or those with mental health issues continues to increase.

We will maintain our collaborative approach around managing the risk posed to victims and the targeting of offenders.

Through the Chief Officer Group we will support the collaborative services which focus on the needs of victims through Education, Prevention and Early and Effective Intervention.

With our partners we will educate young people on the safe use of social media.

Intention

Protect people at risk of harm.

Objectives

- Through the Chief Officer Group, deliver a framework to protect people at risk of harm;
- With partners, raise awareness and prevent of all forms of sexual crime and abuse, online sexual communication and exploitation.

Priority - Serious Organised Crime

Serious Organised Crime includes the possession, supply and distribution of controlled drugs in addition to the many other forms of criminality where the main objective is financial gain.

In general, the south of Aberdeenshire remains sheltered from the social and economic impact of Serious Organised Crime. This is further evidenced by the relatively low number of crimes attributed to Organised Crime Groups. The north of the area, in particular Peterhead and Fraserburgh, has remained an attractive location for those

involved in the distribution of controlled drugs.

The misuse of controlled drugs impacts upon the health and wellbeing of the user, but also has a wider social effect and influences Local Authority and NHS services.

Aberdeenshire has seen a significant increase in the number of possession and drugs supply offences with the majority of these taking place in the north of the area. Much of this is as a result of the intelligence led Policing activity as part of Operation Aspen.

A number of individuals involved in the supply of drugs in the Peterhead and Fraserburgh areas are connected to English based Organised Crime Groups. Such criminals often recruit young local people who may also be vulnerable through substance dependency, to assist in the distribution of drugs.

As part of the Scottish Government 4D Strategy to Disrupt, Deter, Detect and Divert those involved in Serious Organised Crime, we will continue to develop our understanding of the means by which the most prevalent drugs are distributed within the area. We will promote a coordinated approach with the Local Authority, businesses and communities to reduce the risk posed by Organised Crime.

As part of Operation Aspen, we will continue to disrupt the activities of criminal groups through proactive enforcement.

In support of our partners in the Local Authority and NHS via the ADP Drug Strategy we will direct those who are drug dependent towards prevention, treatment, recovery and support services.

We will support our partners in the Scottish Prison Service to better understand the cause, and put in place, preventative measures to reduce the supply and harm inflicted by controlled drugs within the prison estate.

We will use our Local Policing Teams, Detectives and national resources to assist in the detection of offenders to protect our communities from the threat, risk and harm posed by Serious Organised Crime and ensure Aberdeenshire remains a hostile environment for such criminals

Intention

Through the Multi-agency Working Group, reduce the threat, risk and harm caused by Serious Organised Crime.

Objective

- With partners, deliver the Strategy to Disrupt, Deter, Detect and Divert in order to reduce the harm posed to the Aberdeenshire communities by Serious Organised Crime.

Priority - Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism

This Priority relates to the threat posed by international terrorism and acts of domestic extremism.

Aberdeenshire has several sites of critical national infrastructure and key economic and politically linked locations.

The area has a number of high profile residents and visitors, including members of the Royal Family who are in residence throughout the year. Linked to the Royal Family are the many engagements and events they attend.

We will continue to contribute to the UK Government CONTEST Strategy through the Pan Grampian Contest Multi-agency Group which focuses on the potential threat posed by both international and domestic terrorism through a partnership based Action Plan where each organisation supports specific elements of the 4Ps:

- Protect - strengthen our borders, infrastructure , buildings and public spaces from an attack;
- Prepare - where an attack cannot be stopped, reduce its impact by ensuring we can respond effectively;
- Pursue - disrupt or stop terrorist attacks;
- Prevent - stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

Within Aberdeenshire, there are a number of Officers embedded within our Community Policing Teams, known as Local CONTEST Liaison Officers (LCLOs), who have additional training and skills to deliver key elements of the CONTEST Strategy. Where appropriate, LCLOs are supported by national specialist resources.

Intention

Support the delivery of the CONTEST Strategy to reduce the threat posed by terrorism and domestic extremism.

Objective

- With partners, deliver the CONTEST Strategy to Prevent, Protect, Prepare and Pursue in order to reduce the threat posed to the Aberdeenshire Communities by terrorism and domestic extremism.

5. LOCAL POLICING ARRANGEMENTS

The Divisional Commander is supported by three Superintendents who have Operational, Partnerships and Support functions.

Aberdeenshire has two Command Areas within North East Division, for both the north and south of the area. Each have their own dedicated Local Area Commander, the Chief Inspector, who is responsible for day to day Policing.

The local Criminal Investigation Department work alongside the national Specialist Crime Division to deal with the most serious and complex crime. This is led locally by a Detective Superintendent.

Local Policing is further supported by the following specialist units:

- Specialist Crime Division;
- Custody Division;
- Operational Support Division - Supports Local Policing with Armed Policing, Specialist Operations, Road Policing;
- Licensing and Violence Reduction Unit;
- Emergency, Event and Resilience Planning;
- Criminal Justice Division;
- Border Policing;
- Contact, Command and Control Division;
- Corporate Communications.

In addition, the Special Constabulary play a vital part of Policing in Aberdeenshire.

Our aim is to deliver Policing that is visible, accessible and responsive to the needs of the people across Aberdeenshire. Listening and responding to the changing needs of our communities is key and the seven local Community Policing Teams are empowered and encouraged to work with partners to resolve local challenges.

6. PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

To support this Plan, Police Scotland have a National Performance Framework. This allows the organisation to measure progress, monitor activity, identify areas where resources should be deployed and demonstrate how we are meeting our Intentions and Objectives.

We are committed to publishing our performance information and reporting same through the Aberdeenshire Council Communities Committee.

In addition to the Local Policing Plan for Aberdeenshire, each Community Policing Team will have a Community Policing Plan.

7. LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENTS

Aberdeenshire Council have determined that the Communities Committee will be the means by which Police Scotland report performance.

The Divisional Commander, or their deputy will attend and provide an update on progress against this Plan, overall performance, and any other matters deemed relevant to the delivery of Policing in Aberdeenshire.

Local Area Commanders, or their deputies, will continue to attend Area Committee Meetings.

Local Police Inspectors, or their deputies, will engage with elected members,

communities, Community Councils and other key stakeholders.

8. EQUALITIES

All of our work is underpinned by our commitment to equality and diversity, in our dealing with the public we serve, as well as our own staff. This commitment is strengthened by our values of Integrity, Fairness, Respect and Human Rights. 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.

9. LOCAL CONTACT DETAILS

Police Scotland

North East Division Headquarters

Queen Street

ABERDEEN

AB10 1ZA

For more detailed information on how to contact your Local Policing Team please refer to the Force website at www.scotland.police.uk

We will continue to keep in touch with you to keep you updated on the ongoing work

being done to tackle the issues that are affecting life for you and your community:

- Dial '999' for an emergency that requires urgent Police attention;
- For non-emergency contact, call 101, the single non-emergency number;
- If you have information about crime in your area and wish to provide it anonymously, call CRIMESTOPPERS on 0800 555 111;
- Service users who are deaf or have a hearing impairment can contact Police Scotland via TextRelay on 18001 101 for non-emergency, or 18000 in an emergency.