



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe

Crime Prevention Strategy

SCD Safer Communities / March 2015 / v 1.0

Foreword

“The test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with it.” - Sir Robert Peel

“Prevention is at the heart of everything Police Scotland does to keep people safe.” - Sir Stephen House QPM, Chief Constable

Our focus is **Keeping People Safe** and the best way to keep people safe is to prevent crime from occurring. As such, crime prevention is at the heart of what we do. Similarly, our purpose is **to improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland**; again, preventing crime from occurring is essential to achieving this.

The key element of our performance agenda is the reduction of crime and therefore prevention is a key role of all police officers and members of police staff. However, we must recognise that crime prevention is a broad and complex concept. Policing (deterrence and enforcement activity) will only ever be one part of a successful prevention approach. Health, education, housing, employability and a host of other public and third sector services will be even more important than policing in achieving successful outcomes. The responsibility for crime prevention needs to be shared across agencies with, of course, Police Scotland being an active and enthusiastic partner in a coordinated approach.

We have a key role in identifying and communicating crime problems to other stakeholder agencies and the community, participating in the development of comprehensive responses and assisting in the implementation of overarching crime prevention strategies.

Our crime prevention strategy is closely aligned with the annual report and control strategy and incorporates both intelligence driven and problem solving policing responses, aimed at providing sustainable solutions to reduce the need for police to continually revisit crime problems.

Partnerships with a range of agencies are at the heart of effective crime prevention and Safer Communities teams, locally and nationally, seek to proactively partner with other agencies to identify, plan and respond to current or emerging crime issues and to review the outcomes of those responses. Through the tasking and coordination structure we will identify priorities for crime prevention and will engage with stakeholder agencies to identify suitable, innovative responses.

We have a range of specialist resources at our disposal to assist with crime prevention, but everyone in Police Scotland must understand that they have a part to play.

Crime prevention is about understanding and addressing both the cause and the crime. It is:

- Any intervention which prevents or reduces a crime that would have occurred without that intervention;
- Police and partners working together with communities, learning about shared problems, and jointly designing unique solutions;
- When we initiate crime responses before there is a significant problem as opposed to reacting to crime matters on an incident by incident basis.

DCC Iain Livingstone
Crime and Operational Support

Our Crime Prevention Strategy

VISION

To ensure Police Scotland explores all Crime Prevention opportunities, to create an environment designed to reduce opportunities for crime in our communities and to keep people safe.

INTENT

- To keep people safe;
- To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this strategy is:-

- To ensure all Crime Prevention tactics are embraced;
- Identify best practice and ensure it is effectively implemented;
- Identify innovative approaches to preventing crime and emerging crime problems;
- Identify opportunities for collaboration between key partners and Police Scotland that will tackle the wider consequences of crime;
- Engage other practitioners to assist with prevention of crime.

Safer Communities

The National Safer Communities Department, which is part of Specialist Crime Division, leads the development and on-going support of crime prevention and disruption activity. It operates in a number of areas, including physical and social crime prevention, the Divert and Deter strands of the Scottish Serious Organised Crime Strategy, supporting and enhancing community engagement, creating and sustaining strong and effective partnership working, and supporting delivery of key Scottish and UK Government strategy and policy on counter terrorism.

Objectives overview

We will:

1. Provide strategic, policy, and tactical support, to local policing divisions and specialist departments; we will also focus on protecting the most vulnerable within Scotland's communities. This includes all forms social and physical crime prevention, in addition to intervention and SOC Divert and Deter strands which support delivery against the Scottish Government's serious organised crime strategy.
2. Build towards critical incidents with advice and assistance relative to community engagement, community impact, diversity and equality considerations (including Hate Crime) preventative and community reassurance activity.
3. Provide targeted interventions including multi-agency support, counselling and providing a relevant counter-narrative to challenge extremist views. This is why Prevent activity is often referred to as existing in 'pre-criminal space'. Community engagement, communication and effective partnership work are all crucial to delivering the aims of the strategy.
4. Seek to engage, support, develop and rationalise the current partnerships involving Police Scotland and various public, charitable and third sector organisations.
5. Regularly communicate key messages about the safety of the community both internally and externally. We will also proactively design, coordinate and deliver national crime prevention campaigns internally and externally.

Objective 1

We will:

Provide strategic, policy, and tactical support, to local policing divisions and specialist departments and focus on protecting the most vulnerable within Scotland's communities. This includes all forms social and physical crime prevention, in addition to intervention and SOC Divert and Deter strands which support delivery against the Scottish Government's serious organised crime strategy.

How we do this:

Assist Prevention Single Points of Contact (SPOCS) – in communications and the delivery of our corporate and divisional message there are nominated Prevent SPOCS working in all local policing Divisions. The details of these officers can be found on the intranet. We also chair bi-monthly 'good practice SPOC meetings.

Architectural Liaison Officers - ALO services can help to significantly prevent and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour linked to new build construction or existing developments within the built environment.

Automatic Teller Machines - we work in partnership with Safer Cash and financial institutions to target harden Automatic Teller Machines (ATM).

Bookmakers Forum - aims to mitigate the risk of robbery and assist local policing divisions in the event of an incident.

Building Safer Communities - this Scottish Government programme seeks to develop pioneering approaches to prevention and collaboration at a national and local level.

Cash and Valuables in Transit (CVIT) - suspicious incidents are reported through the industry security reporting mechanism SaferCash, ensuring that all suspicious incidents are fully investigated.

Children and Young People – we provide online advice for police officers working with children and young persons. This includes how to keep our young people safe, engagement methods, diversionary projects and partnership work.

Choices For Life – we deliver this with Young Scot on behalf of the Scottish Government, this programme is aimed at young people aged between 11 and 18 and raises awareness of the harms and risks to life and health associated with drug, tobacco and alcohol use.

Cyber Crime - as cyber-crime prevention lead, we have established the multi-disciplinary Safer Virtual Communities Delivery Group to deliver the recommendations of a recent cybercrime capability and capacity review.

Divert and Deter - Preventions provide strategic, policy, and tactical support to Local Policing Divisions in relation to the Divert and Deter strands of the Scottish serious crime strategy document Letting our Communities Flourish.

Doorstep Crime - this is often characterised through the term 'bogus caller', and encapsulates the criminal activity of a variety of individuals or groups who call at the victims' home address with the intention of securing a fraudulent advantage, whether financial or otherwise, by deception. The 'Nominated Neighbour Scheme' is the latest Prevention tool created by us in partnership with other agencies.

Drugs - we have responsibility for Force drug policy development in relation to prevention, education, and liaison with statutory and voluntary organisations, in addition to providing information to the public.

Metal Theft – we are part of the metal theft working group. This brings together enforcement, utility companies and key national infrastructure stakeholders. It is aimed at ensuring measures are in place to promote good practice to target harden against metal theft.

Mobile Phone Crime - the mobile phone toolkit has been developed to outline ways in which the public can protect their devices and tactics which officers can use locally to make mobile phone robbery / theft a less attractive crime to commit.

Problematic Retail Premises - A problematic retail premises toolkit has been developed in conjunction with the Scottish Business Resilience Centre. We are also represented on both the Scottish Retailers and Wholesalers Security Circle and the West of Scotland Retail Crime Group.

Objective 2

We will:

Support Divisions following critical incidents with advice and assistance in respect of community engagement, community impact, diversity and equality considerations (including Hate Crime) preventative and community reassurance activity.

How we do this:

We provide direction, control and co-ordination on all internal issues pertinent to Diversity.

We develop existing and establish new and innovative strategic partnerships with other agencies.

Develop and maintain cohesive strategies for Police Scotland around the nine protected characteristics of diversity (as defined by the Equality Act 2010) including on-going monitoring/evaluation to ensure relevance and applicability to statutory provision.

Effectively monitor and evaluate diversity and equality issues throughout Scotland.

Review and evaluate Hate Crime and Critical Incidents in Scotland and analyse existing and emerging national and local trends.

Examine issues around Critical Incidents in Scotland and provide support and assistance to territorial Divisions where required, as well as identifying areas for development and the sharing of best practice.

Coordinate and deliver Critical Incident (Hydra Minerva) training for Scotland.

Objective 3

We will:

Under the UK Government Counter Terrorism CONTEST strategy we will provide targeted interventions including multi-agency support, counselling and providing a relevant counter-narrative to challenge extremist views. This is why Prevent activity is often referred to as existing in 'pre-criminal space'. Community engagement, communication and effective partnership work are all crucial to delivering the aims of the strategy.

How we do this:

Prevent Delivery Units (PDUs) - Officers are located throughout Scotland with geographical responsibility for Prevent activity. These officers are tasked with working alongside local policing divisions and relevant partners to raise awareness and understanding of Prevent, together with supporting the multi-agency work undertaken to safeguard an individual where there is a concern about radicalisation.

Delivery of training products – Prevent Delivery Units deliver presentations and inputs to a variety of audiences, from professional organisations to community groups and can be included in wider staff training days and community events.

Scottish Preventing Violent Extremism Unit (SPVEU) – This is a joint unit staffed by the Scottish Government and Police Scotland. Its role is to deliver the Prevent strand of the UK Government's CONTEST strategy in a way that is right for Scotland with one principal objective 'to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism'.

The SPVEU acts as a strategic link between the Scottish Government and Police Scotland and works very closely with the geographical Prevent Delivery Units and CONTEST delivery managers in supporting and guiding local activity.

The unit has responsibility for the organisation of the CONTEST Prevent sub-group which is a strategic multi-agency forum comprising key partners working towards the objectives outlined in the Prevent Implementation Plan which is part of the National Counter Terrorist Implementation Plan.

Prevent Case Management - The PDUs are also involved in direct action in response to Counter Terrorist Intelligence. PDU officers will work together with Pursue colleagues to coordinate options in a process known as Prevent Case Management (PCM). Options may include:

Community Messaging – utilised to deliver a bespoke message to specific communities as appropriate.

Prevent Professional Concerns (PPC) – is a safeguarding process involving police and relevant partners. Where an individual has been identified as being vulnerable and at

risk from extremist radicalisation; a multi-agency approach is used to develop an appropriate support plan.

Objective 4

We will:

We seek to support, develop and rationalise the current partnerships involving Police Scotland and the various public, private and third sector organisations.

How we do this:

Mental Health, Places of Safety and Suicide Prevention – we have helped shape the new national suicide prevention strategy and are working with partners to develop effective, efficient and sustainable approaches to dealing with “people in distress” who impact heavily on critical services including the Police.

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland – Neighbourhood Watch Scotland are currently working with a number of partners including Police Scotland on a web based message alert system. This is being piloted currently in Rutherglen with a view to facilitating Scotland wide roll out. This system allows messages to be sent to participants giving them updates on crime trends and intelligence in their area allowing them to carryout crime prevention measures or report information to the police.

Scottish Business Resilience Centre - They are a unique organisation comprising contributions and secondments from Police Scotland, Scottish Government, Scottish Fire and Rescue, major banks, industries, investors and private membership. They provide their members with a one stop shop for business security services and advice.

Scottish Community Safety Network - SCSN is the national forum for officers who are responsible for the strategic development of community safety at both local and national level. We contribute to this shared vision that encourages the effective development of policy, partnership working and effective practice for community safety in Scotland.

Objective 5

We will:

Communicate key messages about the safety of the community both internally and externally with both partners and members of the public. We will also proactively design, coordinate and deliver national crime prevention campaigns internally and externally.

How we do this:

Intranet – Internally we will communicate on national campaigns and operations, raise awareness of current issues and brief on key issues and specialist strategies; for example, metal theft. In addition to this, the departmental Intranet page has been updated and officers can now readily access information and guidance, supporting toolkits, campaign materials and partner links.

Internet – The ‘Keep Safe’ section of the force internet has undergone significant change. In addition to providing updated, measured and relevant prevention advice in a number of areas, the Safety and Security Advice area offers clearer signposting of internal and external partner links. Interactive elements are also being introduced, aimed at improving website user experience and enabling the user to understand how prevention measures can be incorporated in aspects of their own homes and lives.

Social media – Develop our social media presence to promote safety messages, engage with volunteers to deliver safety and reassurance messages and establish a communication network to ensure a co-ordination of messages. Regularly use both Twitter and Facebook to communicate message to members of the public both in relation to national issues and campaigns.

Conventional media - we regularly take part in panel discussions or debates on radio and national television to raise awareness of key issues. For example, Radio Awaz featured a Safer Communities officer discussing violent extremism and radicalisation following the findings of the Inquest in to the death of drummer Lee Rigby.

National crime prevention campaigns – we proactively design, coordinate and deliver national crime prevention campaigns internally and externally.

Some examples of these are listed below:

- Festive Safety Campaign;
- Student Safety Campaign;
- Operation Redwall;
- Music Festival Safety Campaign;
- Doorstep Crime / Operation Monarda;
- Best Bar None Scotland (BBN);
- Building Safer Communities (BSC).

Outcomes we will achieve

We will pursue and achieve the outcomes and measures of progress detailed below (largely drawn from the annual police plan and control strategy):

1. Contribute to crime reduction in the following areas:
 - a. Violence, disorder and anti-social behaviour;
 - b. Serious and organised crime and terrorism;
 - c. Road safety and road crime;
 - d. Public protection.
2. Reduction in perception of general crime rate in local areas;
3. To motivate and empower local officers, partners and members of the public to prevent crime in their own sphere of influence.

Consideration will be given to measuring:

1. Delivery and impact of Prevention activities;
2. Outputs undertaken to deliver engagement, problem solving and communication within Prevention Strategy; and
3. Impact of this Prevention Strategy on public confidence in Police Scotland, our understanding of local community concerns and how well we deal with those concerns.