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# Local Police Plan 2017 - 20

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community  
empowerment,  
inclusion and  
collaborative  
working

The Granite City

shared  
outcomes

prevention and  
accountability



**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe

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

# Aberdeen

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## 1. FOREWORD

As Divisional Commander for North East Division, it gives me pleasure to present the Aberdeen City 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 the City 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.

We are committed to collaboratively implementing and developing the Priority Families Service across the City to better co-ordinate our collective intervention and support to improve whole family life outcomes.

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 Aberdeen City 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 Aberdeen City and the manner in which Policing will contribute to reducing the threat, risk and harm caused by the Priorities.

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

### 3. HOW WE IDENTIFIED OUR PRIORITIES

The Local Policing Plan for Aberdeen City is based on ongoing consultation with Community Councils, elected officials and communities to ensure we have an understanding of the issues affecting the communities we serve. 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 an accurate reflection of emerging issues and themes, including harm, and has been used as a decision making tool to inform Policing activities;
- Results from the public consultation 'Your View Counts' survey;
- Community Planning Aberdeen's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26 which sets out the priority local outcomes it proposes to improve;
- Police Scotland Annual Police Plan 2016-17;
- Policing 2026;
- Aberdeen City Alcohol & Drugs Partnership (ADP) Alcohol Strategy 2009-19;
- Aberdeen City Alcohol & Drugs Partnership (ADP) Drug Strategy 2011-21.

All of these sources have provided critical information in identifying what is important to the diverse communities within Aberdeen and as such we have structured our resources to meet these 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 and working more intelligently with partners and the public to deliver better outcomes for individuals and communities in Aberdeen.

#### **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. Antisocial Behaviour has a detrimental impact on the quality of life of our communities and includes offences such as Street Drinking, Urinating in Public, Youth Annoyance, and Vandalism.

Incidents of Domestic Abuse are also included within this Priority.

The excessive consumption of alcohol is a key contributor to Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder.

Across the City, there has been a continual downward trend in overall Violence.

Encouragingly, Antisocial Behaviour and Disorder are at their lowest level in 5 years. The number of reported Domestic incidents in Aberdeen has also decreased, although this will be monitored closely.

The number of Robberies remain relatively static with no visible trend or correlation between the victim, location or perpetrator.

We will work alongside our Criminal Justice partners to ensure that perpetrators' criminal activities are restricted by means of Antisocial Behaviour legislation, Curfews, Bail Conditions and other interventions and preventative strategies. We are committed to preventing the harm caused by Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder by strengthening our collaborative working within the Aberdeen Community Safety Partnership through the Community Safety Partnership Hub.

As a statutory Community Justice partner, we will work collaboratively with partners and through the Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan; contribute to the effective management of individuals involved in the Justice System in the community. We will make appropriate referrals to enable interventions to reduce the likelihood of further offending in an effort to improve outcomes for individuals, their families and the community as a whole.

The ADP Alcohol Strategy will enable us to better understand the causes of excessive alcohol consumption and collectively promote and encourage responsible drinking. This will allow us to co-ordinate a sustainable preventative approach with partners to alcohol related disorder.

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

We will work together with our partners in Social Work and Education to prevent, deter and detect Underage Drinking and Youth Disorder across the City, and support the direction of young people towards diversionary activities.

Our established and widely recognised Operation Oak Strategy which focuses on the night time economy within the City Centre has been supplemented by the Divisional wide implementation of Operation Pine. This is a multi-agency approach to reduce Violent Crime and related behaviour using preventative proactive Policing measures, interventions and intelligence-led initiatives throughout the City. This approach will target instances of Violence in both public and private space.

Aberdeen has achieved the prestigious Purple Flag status for four consecutive years. Purple Flag assessors have praised Aberdeen as a leading city in partnership working, where, via the Weekend Planning Partnership Group, all members have a vested interest in improving safety in the City Centre of Aberdeen.

The established multi-agency Domestic Abuse processes across the City will continually be reviewed to ensure we collectively 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 Aberdeen.

## **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 - Acquisitive Crime**

Acquisitive Crime includes all forms of Housebreaking, Vehicle Crime, Shoplifting, Fraud and general Theft. When consulted, the communities within the City identified Housebreaking as a key Priority.

Although Acquisitive Crime in Aberdeen has gradually decreased, with Housebreaking and Vehicle Crime at a 5 year low, we continue to be challenged by young recidivist offenders, often breaking into domestic properties and stealing vehicles. Analysis demonstrates that the recidivist offender profile is linked to social deprivation, educational attainment, substance misuse and the associated chaotic lifestyle.

We have launched Operation Magpie to combat the threat posed by Acquisitive Crime in the City. This Divisional wide Strategy will involve the promotion of our Crime Prevention message, coordination of intelligence gathering, targeting of offenders and locations, and providing a visible Police presence in affected locations.

We will work alongside our Criminal Justice partners to ensure that perpetrators' criminal

activities are restricted by means of Antisocial Behaviour legislation, Curfews, Bail Conditions and other interventions and preventative strategies. Through the Community Safety Partnership Hub and in line with the Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan, we will make appropriate referrals to our partners to enable interventions to reduce the likelihood of further offending and improve outcomes for all affected.

Through collaboration with the business community, we aim to gain a better understanding of how stolen property is disposed of through second hand dealers and online websites.

We will proactively heighten public awareness to reduce the risk of our communities becoming victims of Acquisitive Crime, and use local Police Officers and other specialists to target repeat offenders.

## **Intention**

Work with partners and communities to prevent all instances of Acquisitive Crime across Aberdeen City.

## **Objectives**

- With partners, share information and support Education, Prevention, Diversionary and Enforcement activity linked to Acquisitive Crime;
- Collaboratively develop a Strategy which targets recidivist offenders to reduce re-offending linked to Acquisitive Crime;

- Enhance use of all media platforms to raise awareness of local and national preventative initiatives.

### **Priority - Road Safety and Road Crime**

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

In Aberdeen, the number of people killed or seriously injured in road collisions remains relatively static and in line with the 5 years average. Likewise, those collisions involving children under 16 years remain relatively low.

Road Crime is generally on a downward trend across the City.

Through our consultation, communities across the City highlight speeding and inconsiderate driving as a Priority.

Operation CEDAR (Challenge, Educate, Detect and Reduce) Strategy is now embedded within Aberdeen as a partnership based approach to Road Safety.

IN addition, Operation Trinity is also an Aberdeen City initiative to tackle the antisocial use of motorcycles.

Along with key partners in the City 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 continue 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 ensure a visible Police presence on the roads throughout the City and use an intelligence based approach to proactively tackle those using the road network to commit crime.

We will continue to support our partners in Aberdeen City Council in the development of new road networks on the periphery of the City to maximise safety via road engineering.

## **Intention**

With partners, enhance Road Safety across Aberdeen.

## **Objectives**

- With Partners deliver a pan Grampian Road Safety Strategy which also highlights local City based issues;
- Promote Operation CEDAR (Challenge, Educate, Detect and Reduce);
- Enhance use of all media platforms to raise awareness and promote key road safety messages in support of local and national campaigns.

## **Priority - Protecting People at Risk of Harm**

Protecting People at Risk of Harm aims to protect all persons, 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, Aberdeen 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 and Community Planning we will support the collaborative services which focus on the needs of victims through Education, Prevention and Early and Effective Intervention. The sharing of information will be facilitated through the Risk & Concern Hub.

School Based Officers and School Liaison Officers work with our partners to educate young people on the safe use of social media.

## **Intention**

Protect people at risk of harm.

## **Objectives**

- Through the Chief Officer Group and Community Planning 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. It is continually evolving and also encompasses the associated crimes of Human Trafficking, Prostitution, Firearms, Cybercrime and Financial Crime.

Such criminal activity has a considerable social and economic impact upon the City.

Despite the current economic challenges in the North East, Aberdeen remains a lucrative location for those who wish to exploit others and make money from Organised Crime.

A number of individuals involved in the supply of drugs in the City are connected to English based Organised Crime Groups. Several of these criminals target and recruit young and vulnerable members of our community. There has been an increase in drug supply and possession offences, as well as significant seizures of money and assets. This has been as a result of targeted proactive operational activity and intelligence led enforcement by local Community Policing Team Officers and Detectives as part of Operation Aspen.

The Scottish Government Serious Organised Crime Strategy emphasises the need for all members of the community, enforcement agencies, Local Authorities and businesses to work collaboratively to address the threat posed by Serious Organised Crime.

Within Aberdeen, the Multi-agency Serious Organised Crime Working Group is in place to provide a coordinated partnership approach to the National 4D Strategy of Disrupt, Deter, Detect and Divert Serious Organised Crime. As part of this, we will continue to develop our understanding of the means by which the most prevalent drugs are distributed within the City.

As part of Operation Aspen we will continue to disrupt the activities of criminal groups within the City through proactive enforcement to ensure that Aberdeen remains a hostile environment in which to operate.

Operation Begonia continues to promote a coordinated response by diverting on street sex workers towards support services. We will robustly target those Organised Groups who benefit financially from such activities and strive to work with partners to support victims.

With our partners in the Local Authority and NHS, we will support the diversion of young people from engaging in or using the assets from Serious Organised Crime. As part of the ADP Drug Strategy we will direct those who are drug dependent towards prevention, treatment, recovery and support services.

### **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 Aberdeen communities by Serious Organised Crime.

### **Priority - Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism**

Counter Terrorism and Domestic Extremism relates to the threat posed by international terrorism and acts of domestic extremism.

Aberdeen is a worldwide renowned hub for the oil and gas industry with several multi-national companies located within the city. It also has an international airport which provides connections to Europe and the rest of the world. In addition, a large heliport services the oil industry. From a maritime perspective, Aberdeen Harbour serves the oil and fishing industries and provides passenger and commercial links to the Northern Isles. Aberdeen is widely recognised for the two Universities located within the City which

provides a home to a diverse international student population.

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 4P's:

- 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 Aberdeen, 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.

The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 defines an 'emergency' as an event or situation that threatens serious damage to human welfare, the environment or the security of the UK.

As a Category 1 responder, we will maintain our commitment to the City Emergency, Event and Resilience planning Partnership and will continue to work with local and regional resilience partners to produce a coordinated response to emergency incidents.

We have established and well-practised emergency response procedures in relation to major incidents, emergencies, and operationally challenging incidents in the North East of Scotland and we will ensure a high state of preparedness to respond to these by ensuring our multi-agency response plans are fit for purpose and subject to continuous cyclical review and thorough testing and exercising.

### **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 Aberdeen 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.

Aberdeen has two Command Areas for the north and south of the City. 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, Roads 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 Aberdeen City.

Our aim is to deliver Policing that is visible, accessible and responsive to the needs of the people across the City. Listening and responding to the changing needs of our communities is key, and the thirteen local Community Policing Teams are empowered and encouraged to work with elected officials and community members 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 Aberdeen City Council Scrutiny Board.

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

## **7. LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT**

Aberdeen City Council have determined that the local Scrutiny Board 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 Aberdeen.

The Local Area Commanders and the Local Area Inspectors, or their deputies, will engage with elected members, communities 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](http://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.