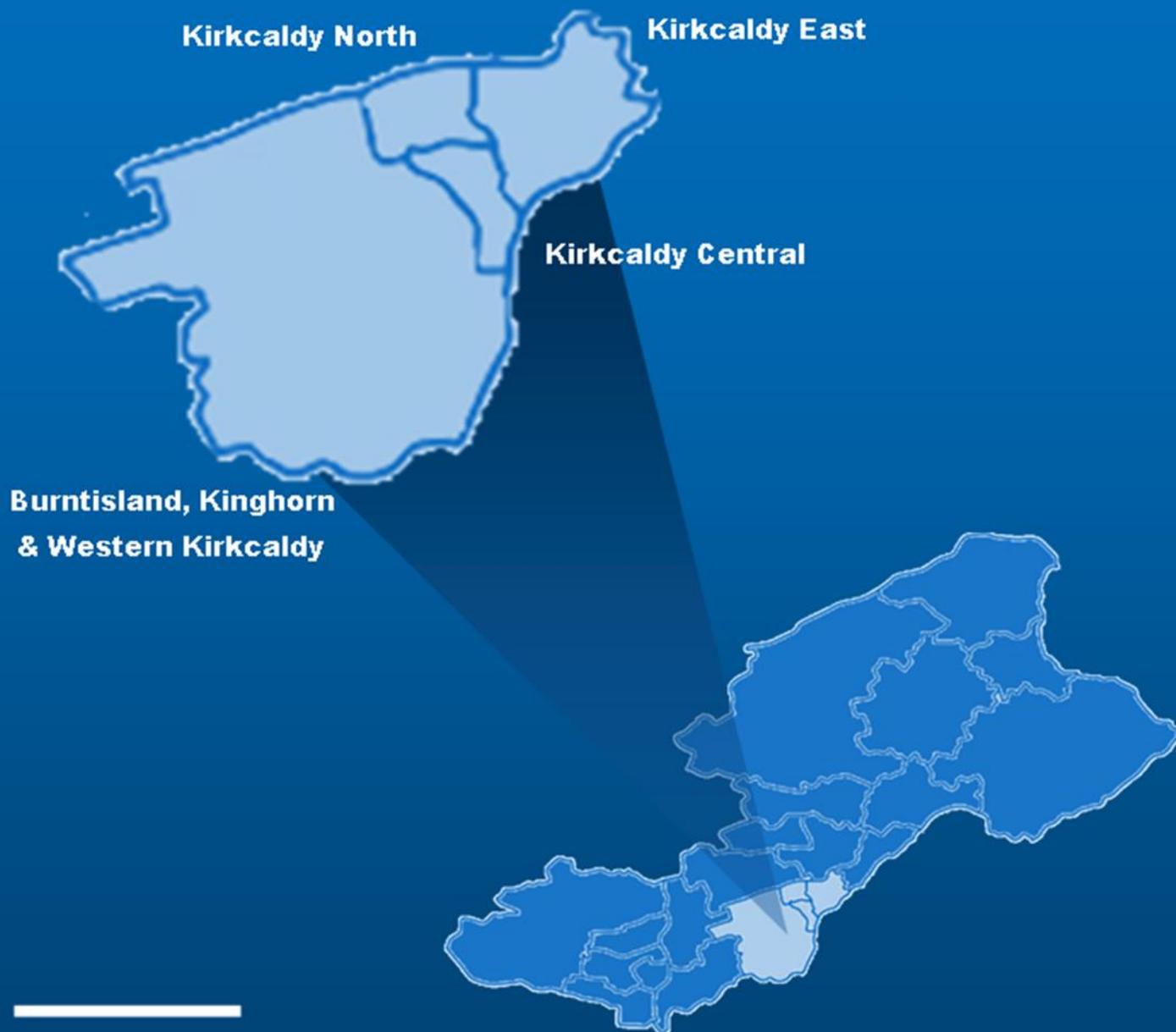

Kirkcaldy Local Area Plan 2017-2018



POLICE
SCOTLAND

Keeping people safe

POILEAS ALBA

Keeping Kirkcaldy Safe

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF AREA PLAN.....	3
2. FOREWORD.....	3
3. PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES:.....	5
Violence and Antisocial Behaviour	5
Driver Behaviour.....	6
Misuse of Drugs	7
4. HOW WE IDENTIFIED OUR PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES.....	7
5. PERFORMANCE REPORTING.....	8
6. SCRUTINY AND SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT	8
7. EQUALITIES.....	8
8. LOCAL CONTACT DETAILS.....	9

1. Introduction and Purpose of Area Plan

The Police Service of Scotland has brought together local experience and understanding and combined this with national expertise to improve the delivery of local services based on the needs of communities. This enables us to achieve our purpose of improving the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities and to ensure we Keep People Safe.

Local Policing is at the heart of Police Scotland. The Kirkcaldy Area Plan identifies common area priorities from various sources (see Section 4) and is aligned to the Local Fife Policing Plan, which will be reported through the Kirkcaldy Area Committee.

2. Foreword

Introduction by Local Area Commander Chief Inspector Adrian Annandale

I have recently returned to the Central Fife area and it is a pleasure to now command an area where I spent many enjoyable years policing in various roles and at different ranks.

The priorities that are detailed in this plan are the focus of what we do day to day, week to week and month to month and are the foundation for keeping our communities safe.

The structure of policing in Kirkcaldy is maturing and the work of all our staff whether Community Area Ward officers, Response officers, Crime Management or Public Counter staff contributes to achieving the objectives that are listed beside each priority.

The priorities have been set by speaking to many individuals and groups throughout the Kirkcaldy area who have told us what is important to them and more importantly what they believe we at Kirkcaldy should be prioritising.

Working in partnership is key to achieving our objectives and this helped greatly in recent years in respect of our Templehall Action plan that focussed on Anti Social Behaviour. The priorities fall within the outcomes of the Fife Community Safety Strategy for the years ahead and also support the Community Planning Priorities in the Kirkcaldy area. The on-going support that we receive from members of the Kirkcaldy Area Committee is also appreciated and welcome for the year ahead.

As with previous years, our work will be carried out with integrity, fairness and respect and whether it is tackling driver or antisocial behaviour you have my personal commitment that our activities will focus on delivering a service for the communities in Kirkcaldy that addresses the local priorities and concerns.

Comment by Local Community Inspector Nicola Black

It is my pleasure to be responsible for delivering the Kirkcaldy Area Policing Plan and I look forward to the challenge of overseeing our Policing response and keeping the community safe throughout the coming year.

Our partners have a key role, particularly in delivering services and initiatives that help prevent people becoming involved in crime, intervening when people find themselves engaged in crime and supporting those who become victims of crime.

My team and I will continue to build upon and develop our working relationships with our partners in the Community Safety Partnership, Criminal Justice, Fife Council and Voluntary 3rd Sector to deliver positive results for our communities in the coming year.

Comment by the Chair of the Kirkcaldy Area Committee Councillor Neil Crooks

As chairman of the Kirkcaldy Local Area Committee I am once again proud to support the new Local Area policing Plan for 2017 – 2018.

The Area Committee continues to provide a forum through which Police Scotland can engage with elected members to ensure that policing responds to local priorities and concerns.

I am pleased that the plan is focused on what the community have identified as local priorities and also community policing.

I endorse the plan for this purpose.

3. Priorities and Objectives:

Antisocial Behaviour and Violent Crime

Antisocial Behaviour covers a wide range of crimes and offences including street drinking, public urinating and noise nuisance. Antisocial behaviour is often linked to alcohol consumption and can have a significant impact on our communities. Both anti-social behaviour and consumption of alcohol can often be attributed as leading to violence so our plan addresses the issues jointly.

We will continue to utilise our information gathering systems and licensing department to gather information on problem areas to direct our response to best effect. We monitor events in the locality closely and will ensure that we continue to provide an appropriate policing response to minimise the impact of those events on the wider community.

Our multi-agency approach through the Kirkcaldy Area Safer Communities Group allows us to bring to bear the skills and experience of a multitude of partners including the Housing Investigation Team, Community Wardens and Housing Officers. This approach will continue to allow us to identify problem homes and hot spots at an early juncture to prevent problems from escalating and to minimise the impact on the community.

With our partners we will deliver educational inputs to the youths in our communities to highlight the risks of alcohol and substance misuse to prevent and reduce instances of vandalism, fire raising and antisocial behaviour.

We will sustain our focus on violence in the home, including Domestic Abuse, providing support to victims whilst targeting offenders.

We will continue to secure additional resources available to us through Police Scotland such as the Licensing and Violence Reduction Unit and deploy them in areas of concern. This has proved to be a success whereby crime has been reduced and we have removed offensive weapons and knives from people which may have been used in crimes of violence.

Objective - To prevent and reduce instances of Antisocial behaviour and Violence

Driver Behaviour

Driver Behaviour continues to be raised by our community as safety concern. We will work closely with partners to positively influence driver behaviour in an effort to reduce road casualties and improve road safety for all road users.

We will build on our existing relationships with schools to promote road safety in order to focus our educational message on those road users who are vulnerable and at greater risk. Working alongside Fife Council Parking and Public Transport department, we continue to support Operation ParkSafe to promote and educate drivers on the subject of road safety outside schools.

We will continue to support Community Speedwatch schemes established in 2017 and look to encourage further participation within our community, as these have been successful in influencing driver behaviour and encouraging drivers to comply with speed regulations.

'Pop up Policemen' will be subject to frequent deployments throughout the area. The mock police officers appear to be holding a speed gun and have been shown to positively influence driver behaviour and reduce the speed of traffic.

Our intelligence led approach to reducing road casualties by targeting speeding motorists, disqualified drivers, drink and / or drug driving, those not wearing a seatbelt and individuals who use mobile phones while driving will continue, supported by both local and national resources.

We will support national campaigns and initiate local operations to promote road safety.

Objective - To reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads.

Misuse of drugs

The misuse of drugs affects not only those abusing substances but also the wider community as invariably addiction will be funded through crimes of dishonesty.

Drug misuse tends to contribute to antisocial behaviour in the form of individuals frequenting addresses and locations to purchase drugs, causing concern to the community. We will continue to work with the community to develop intelligence around these individuals and work proactively to disrupt those involved in the supply of drugs.

We will provide reassurance by conducting foot patrols in areas highlighted as places where drug abuse is prevalent and utilise our power to search.

Objective – To proactively tackle 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 and is a key document for the Police in the process of ensuring we continue to provide a quality policing service.

In addition, the priorities in this Plan have been identified through further analysis of local crime trends identified in our Divisional Strategic Assessment.

We have also taken cognisance of the content of the Fife Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment, the Fife Community Plan and the Fife Local Policing Plan. This Plan also aligns with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Local Plan and seven Area Plans and the Local Delivery Plan of the Fife Health and Social Care Partnership, building on strong partnership linkages to deliver continuous improvement in performance.

In Kirkcaldy we are very proud of our well-established community focused policing model which is underpinned by an ongoing commitment to engagement between the Police and local communities. In formulating the priorities for our Area Plan we have remained true to that commitment, consulting widely to ensure the concerns of local people are paramount.

In order to develop a broad view we have consulted with our Community Councils, Local Councillors, schools and campus communities, community groups, service users and local people as part of our everyday work within the community

We have made use of traditional forms of media as well as social media to provide a platform for engagement. This is a process that allows us to define our priorities

and, as an ongoing process, allows us to respond to new and emerging issues and to re-direct our resources accordingly.

5 Performance Reporting

Progress against this Plan will be reported to the Local Area Committee in an agreed format on a scheduled basis. This information will be available to the public.

6 Scrutiny and Engagement

Fife Council has determined that the Environment, Protective Services and Community Safety Committee will be the appropriate arena for reporting performance.

In addition, the Local Area Commander and the Local Community Inspector or their deputy, will continue to engage on a regular basis with the Local Area Committee reporting against objectives within this Local Area Plan.

This local scrutiny is an essential part of delivering our plan in that it allows us to engage in ongoing review of our performance and priorities to build on and improve our service delivery.

7 Equalities

Everything we do is underpinned by our commitment to equality and diversity. This is reflected both in our approach to policing our local community and internally with our colleagues and partners. This commitment is built upon our values of Integrity, Fairness and Respect.

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 we provide a service that is fair, consistent and to a high standard, keeping the most vulnerable safe and enhancing the quality of life for everyone who lives, works or visits Kirkcaldy.

8 Local Contact Details

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Police Scotland Website General Enquiries.