
South West Fife Local Area Plan 2017-2018

West Fife &
Coastal Villages



Inverkeithing &
Dalgety Bay

Rosyth



POLICE
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Keeping South West Fife Safe

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF AREA PLAN.....	3
2. FOREWORD.....	4
3. PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES:.....	5
Antisocial Behavior	5
Assault and Violent Crime.....	7
Road Safety and Road Crime.....	8
Misuse Drugs / Alcohol abuse	9
4. HOW WE IDENTIFIED OUR PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES.....	9
5. PERFORMANCE REPORTING.....	10
6. SCRUTINY AND SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT	10
7. EQUALITIES.....	10
8. LOCAL CONTACT DETAILS.....	11

1. Introduction and Purpose of Area Plan

Welcome to the South West Fife Area Policing Plan for 2017 – 2018. The new plan outlines the priorities identified by the residents of South West Fife through engagement and consultation. Building on the core function of last year's plan, it is designed to complement and support keeping the residents of South West Fife safe.

It is also aligned with the priorities outlined in the Fife Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2016 - 2020. This will ensure that there is a coordinated approach to delivering services designed to provide tailor made objectives that will have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of the community.

Once again the plan reflects the strong traditions of community policing in South West Fife. We are committed to ensuring that South West Fife is a safe place to live and do business whilst encouraging people to reside and invest in the area.

2. Foreword

Introduction by Local Area Commander Chief Inspector Irene Ralston

I am fortunate to have been in the position to lead policing in the South West Fife area for the last two years and this plan sets out the priorities for my third year as Local Area Commander. 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 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 listening to the people who live and work in the area and from consultation through our 'Your View Counts' Survey.

The priorities fall within the outcomes of the Fife Community Safety Strategy for the years ahead and also address the Community Planning Priorities in the South West Fife area. The ongoing support that we receive from members of the South West Fife Area Committee is also appreciated and welcomed for the year ahead.

In addition P Division has also created new action plans known as the 5 P's to provide divisional and local focus on specific crime categories outlined below:-

- Operation Paramount – Road Policing
- Operation Path – Violence
- Operation Prevail – Anti-Social Behaviour
- Operation Prospect – Drugs
- Operation Principle – Acquisitive Crime

As with previous years, our work will be carried out with integrity, fairness and respect and you have my personal commitment that our activities will focus on delivering a service for the communities in South West Fife that addresses the local priorities and concerns.

Comment by Local Community Inspector Ian Stephen.

Having recently had the pleasure of being Community Inspector for the Cowdenbeath area I am delighted to have the opportunity to bring that experience to South West Fife. I am already heartened by how much residents of local communities care about their area and how willing they are to be active partners in achieving collective goals.

In order to identify and set the stated objectives Community Officers have been out and about in the community canvassing opinion as to what is important to the public. These are not police objectives, these are your objectives and my team and I will work for you to achieve these objectives throughout the coming year.

I am a firm believer in Community Policing and in prevention and early intervention to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour whilst supporting victims of crime. We are mandated by the Scottish Police and Fire Reform Act to work towards improving our communities and I expect my officers to either lead or support community projects aimed at intervention and to provide victims of crime with the best possible service wherever possible.

**Comment by the Chair of the South West Fife Area Committee
Councillor Alice McGarry**

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

I am pleased that the plan is focused on what our communities have identified as local priorities and also on community policing. This has always been the cornerstone of South West Fife and its engagement with local policing.

To me it is vitally important that South West Fife receives a policing service that is designed to meet the needs of the public it serves and which supports the collective desire for a safe environment for us to live and work and play in.

I endorse the 2017-18 plan for this purpose.

3. Priorities and Objectives:

Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour is one of the key concerns raised by the public in South West Fife. The intention this year is in accordance with the Fife Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2015 – 2020 to reduce antisocial behaviour and make people feel confident about reporting incidents.

No one should sit in silence if they are affected by this type of behaviour. Whilst analytical research can assist in identifying areas and crime trends, it requires public exposure to identify the true extent of the problem and members of the public should feel confident in the mechanisms in place to report this type of behaviour.

We will therefore continue to address open space antisocial behaviour which occurs in our communities and will work in partnership wherever possible to find longer term solutions to anti-social behaviour.

We will promote and support the aims of Operation Prevail, which is specifically designed to tackle anti-social behaviour throughout the area.

<p>Objective - To reduce in the following year reports of antisocial behaviour and encourage confidence to report incidents</p>
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Assault and Violent Crime

Assault and Violent Crime, including domestic crime, and the fear of it, is a common theme throughout Scotland and this includes South West Fife.

Key to dealing with domestic violence is encouraging victims to report it and also providing support to victims. This ensures that adequate bail conditions are imposed and the relevant protective and preventative measures can be put in place to prevent reoffending. This also allows the opportunity for the relevant partner agencies to provide support to the victims and consider alternatives with regard to housing, lifestyle and welfare arrangements. This ensures that a victim centred approach is provided and the focus is on prevention and enforcement to prevent repetition.

Stringent management of bail plans also ensures that opportunity to commit further crime by suspects is limited and builds confidence in victims to report crimes. We also ensure that the specific needs of victims are addressed dependant on their requirements. This investment ensures that exposure to domestic violence is reduced.

From a local perspective proactive measures designed to prevent common assault and support the aims of Operation Path will continue. Through the deployment of officers from within Fife on Local Days of Action, we have the capability to increase resources with to address specific issues such as policing the night time economy and to improve visibility and reassurance.

Collaborative input delivered through community work within Inverkeithing High School also ensures that from an educational capacity we are focused on preventing crime and diverting youths from becoming involved in crime.

Objective - To prevent and reduce reports of assault and violent crime.

Road Safety and Road Crime

The residents of South West Fife have raised Road Safety and Road Crime as a priority. This will coincide with our commitment to support the Fife Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2015 – 2020 objective to reduce the amount of people killed or seriously injured on our roads.

To achieve this from a preventative capacity we will continue to invest in our commitment to promote road safety through our schools engagement programme in consultation with the Safety Partnership and through our participation in Operation Paramount.

We have already seen early evidence of success through this, as a result of partnership working with schools promoting safer parking and safe routes to school.

Education is central to promoting safer roads and we will maintain our commitment to supporting Safe Drive / Stay Alive delivered by the Safety Partnership annually. This initiative exposes young and potential drivers to the reality of poor driving and reinforces responsibility.

From an enforcement capacity we will deploy dedicated resources to enforce road traffic legislation with regard to speeding, use of mobile phones, no insurance and other road traffic offences. Through analysis of data, areas of concern with regard to speeding will be identified and officers will be deployed to ensure that we maintain our reputation of having safe roads in South West Fife. We now have Community Speedwatch up and running and the deployment of local people in their own areas to deter speeding drivers and influence driver behaviour has already taken place and will continue throughout the year ahead.

Objective – In the next year to promote road safety and reduce casualties.

Misuse of drugs / Alcohol abuse

Our commitment to address the public concern of drug abuse / drug dealing and alcohol abuse is ongoing with regard to the adverse effect and impact this has on our communities.

We will work in partnership with licensees, whether that be public houses, clubs, off-licences or supermarkets to ensure that access to alcohol for those under age is prevented wherever possible and we will enforce relevant legislation where necessary. Our presence in schools allows us the opportunity to provide education with regard to drug / alcohol abuse and divert children to better lifestyle choices.

The concerns with regard to drug dealing in communities will continue to be prioritised as we recognise the negative impact that this has on our local communities. Our commitment to managing drugs intelligence daily will ensure that we act to enhance public confidence and provide reassurance that the intelligence the public provide will be acted upon.

Operation Prospect is a division wide initiative to tackle the effects of drug and alcohol abuse and we will support this locally wherever possible.

Objective – To tackle drug dealing and alcohol abuse

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 continuous process of ensuring the service provided to the communities of South West Fife is of a high standard.

In addition, the priorities in this Plan have been identified through further analysis of local crime trends identified in a Divisional Strategic Assessment. We have also taken cognisance of the content of the Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment, the South West Fife Community Plan and the Fife Local Policing Plan.

South West Fife has always had a strong tradition of community engagement between the police and local residents. We have ensured that we have maintained this tradition and consulted widely to capture the opinions of our residents.

Our Engagement Strategy ensures that we capture representatives consisting of elected members, commerce, schools, elderly, vulnerable and ethnic community. Our pop up surgeries held at local authority buildings and premises of commerce

also ensure we are available to capture opinion when the public are available and not just according to our operational availability.

Social media has and will continue to be used as a vital engagement tool and we will continue our work hard to ensure the voice of our harder to reach groups is heard

5 Performance Reporting

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

The reporting of performance to an independent body ensures that there is governance and scrutiny in place.

6 Scrutiny and Engagement

Fife Council has determined that Safer Communities 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 and Community Councils reporting against objectives within this Local Area Plan.

This scrutiny and engagement will ensure that there is accountability and transparency built into the process.

7 Equalities

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. This commitment is underpinned by 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 our service to all is fair and consistent, keeping those who are most vulnerable safe and enhancing their quality of life.

8 Local Contact Details

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Dalgety Bay Police Station
Regents Way
Dalgety Bay
Fife
KY11 9UY

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101

Police Scotland Website General Enquiries.