



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe



Levenmouth Area Plan 2017-2018

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1. Introduction and Purpose of Area Plan

Welcome to the Levenmouth Area Policing Plan for 2017 – 2018. The new plan outlines the priorities identified by the residents of Levenmouth 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 Levenmouth safe.

It is also aligned with the priorities outlined in the Fife Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2016 - 2020 and the Levenmouth Area Local Community Plan. 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 Levenmouth. We are committed to ensuring that Levenmouth 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 Steven Hamilton

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 Levenmouth 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. We also have access to national resources to support and compliment community policing. I will ensure that I secure these services as and when required

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

Working in partnership is key to achieving our objectives and this helped greatly last year in respect of our Shorehead Action plan and Operation Reflector that focussed on Anti-Social Behaviour and off-road motorcycles respectively. 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 Levenmouth area. The ongoing support that we receive from members of the Levenmouth 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 Levenmouth that addresses the local priorities and concerns.

Comment by Local Community Inspector Tom Brown.

It is my pleasure to be responsible for delivering the new Levenmouth Area Policing Plan. I am always heartened with regard to how the residents of Levenmouth care about their community and how they support the police in their goal of making the area safe.

In order to identify and set this year's objectives Area Ward 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. You can be guaranteed that I will provide energy and enthusiasm to ensure that public expectations are met.

The key objectives this year revolve around prevention and early intervention to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour whilst supporting victims of crime. I am confident that this strategy will meet the expectations of the community and build on the success of last year's plan.

Each of our local objectives is also supported by a Core Action Plans as follows,

- Operation Prospect – Drugs Abuse
- Operation Prevail – Antisocial Behaviour
- Operation Paramount – Road safety
- Operation Path – Violence
- Operation Principle – Crimes of Dishonesty

Each Core Plan is designed to support local action plans which ensure that local policing meets the needs of the local community.

I know how strong the community of Levenmouth is, and I am confident that by working together we will be successful.

Comment by the Chair of the Levenmouth Area Committee Councillor Ken Caldwell.

As chairman of the Levenmouth Local Area Committee I am delighted to support the new Local Area policing Plan for 2017 – 2018.

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

To me it is important that Levenmouth receives policing that is designed to meet the needs of the public and supports creating safer environments for us to live in.

I endorse the plan for this purpose.

3. Priorities and Objectives:

Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour is by its nature one of the key concerns raised by the public in Levenmouth. 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. We support victims of crime and members of the public should feel confident in the mechanisms in place to report this type of behaviour.

With regard to public space antisocial behaviour we will continue to invest in the targeted prevention of illegal off road motorcycling. Last year there was a decrease in the number of incidents reported and an increase in the number of persons detected. Operation Reflector was designed to prevent incidents of this nature and enforce legislation. The operation was successful and we will continue to address this problem.

We will also continue to address open space antisocial behaviour which occurs in our communities. The residents of Levenmouth raised concerns previously with regard to levels of this behaviour in Leven and Kennoway. Action Plan Shorehead was created and designed to address these issues with regards to early intervention and target the demographic of those likely to offend or be involved.

This was successful and reduced this type of behaviour in the areas affected. We will continue to invest in this targeted approach and work closely with our partners involved in intervention and engagement to maintain and build on our success and best practice.

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.

Private space antisocial behaviour is sometimes problematic to address due to it occurring in private dwellings or areas. The Area Coordinating Safety Group consists of partner agencies who meet monthly to address this problem. The multitude of partners allows specialisms to be added who lend their expertise to reducing and preventing escalation of problems. This early intervention ensures that a proactive approach is taken. This has been instrumental in dealing with our vulnerable residents whereby risk and threat has been quickly identified and support provided by the relevant agency. This joined up approach ensures that matters are addressed before they escalate and start to impact on the quality of life of others.

Objective - To reduce in the following year reports of antisocial behaviour and encourage confidence to report incidents

Assault and Violent Crime

Assault and Violent Crime is a common theme amongst the residents of Levenmouth, particularly surrounding domestic violence.

Key to dealing with domestic violence is encouraging victims to report it and also providing support to victims. All instances of assault and domestic violence are fully investigated and those responsible appear from custody. 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 capability 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 will continue. Through the deployment of Campaign against Violence officers, we have the capability locally to increase resources with regard to policing the night time economy and improve visibility and reassurance. Through the enforcement of stop and search, officers detect and prevent persons from carrying weapons and becoming involved in violent crime.

Education delivered through the Youth, Alcohol and Violence Reduction Officer in local High Schools also ensures that from an educational capacity we are focused on preventing crime and diverting youths from becoming involved in crime through education.

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

Road Safety and Road Crime

The residents of Levenmouth 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 with regard to reducing the amount of people killed or seriously injured on the road.

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 our own designated Action Plan Cone. 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 will continue to sit at the centre in order to promote 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 related 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 Levenmouth.

Our engagement policy will allow us to gather intelligence and local concerns real time. This will ensure that dangers are reacted to swiftly and public confidence is maintained.

In accordance with the best practice utilised last year to address irresponsible driving and promote safe driving at the Leven Docks area, we will deploy specialist Road Policing Units to enforce and educate as required.

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

Misuse of drugs / Alcohol abuse

The Levenmouth Local Community Plan is specific in its commitment to promote the health and wellbeing of the residents of Levenmouth. Our commitment to address the public concern of drug abuse / drug dealing and alcohol abuse supports this principle with regard to the adverse effect and impact this has on the community.

Our new policy of engagement and partnership working with licensees will ensure that through education and enforcement the supply of alcohol to children and underage drinkers is reduced and restricted. 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 the public. Our commitment to managing drugs intelligence daily will ensure that we act to restore confidence in the public and provide reassurance that the intelligence the public provide will be acted upon.

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 Levenmouth 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 Levenmouth Community Plan and the Fife Local Policing Plan.

Levenmouth 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.

This flexible approach to business ensures that the information we gather to set objectives is relevant and proportionate of local concerns.

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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Sea Road
Methil
Fife
KY8 3DE

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101

Police Scotland Website General Enquiries.