

Local Police Plan 2020 - 23

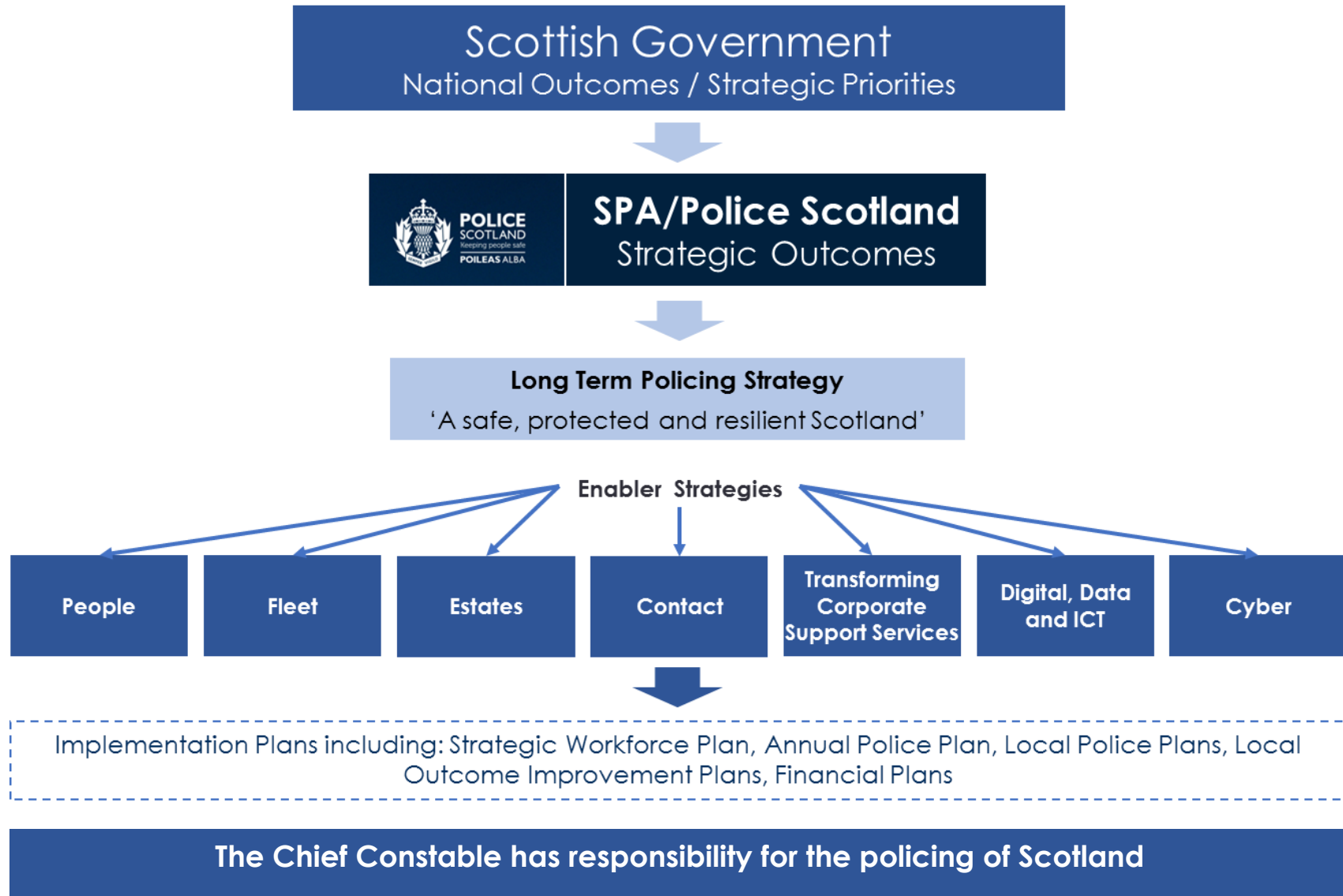


POLICE
SCOTLAND
Keeping people safe
POILEAS ALBA

Our commitment to the safety and wellbeing of the people and communities of the Lothians and Scottish Borders

The Lothians and Scottish Borders

Planning framework



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Foreword

As Divisional Commander, I am pleased to present the 2020 - 2023 Local Police Plan for the Lothians & Scottish Borders Policing Division.

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 sets out the statutory framework for Police Scotland, with the mission of policing being to improve the safety and well-being of persons, localities and communities in Scotland. The Act recognises that policing alone cannot achieve this objective and places a responsibility on a collaborative approach with communities, key planning partners and the wider voluntary sector to improve safety and wellbeing.

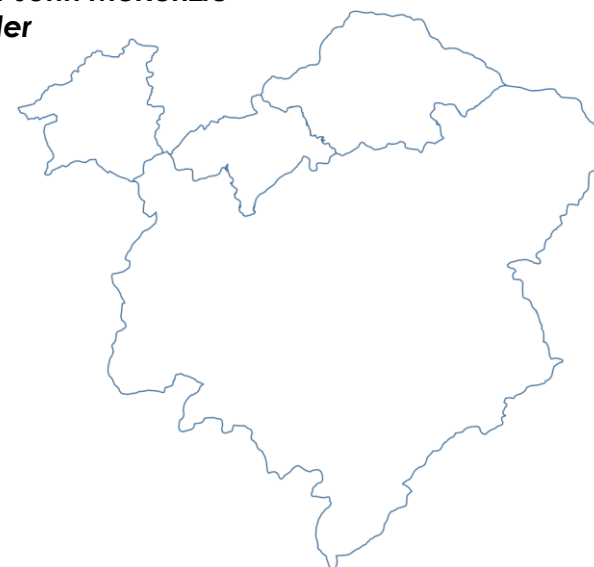
The office of the Chief Constable has responsibility for the policing of Scotland and the setting of national priorities for policing. These are based on our ongoing assessment of threat and risk, and our knowledge and experience of policing in Scotland.

Through the lens of collaboration, the Local Police Plan aims to outline priorities shaped through engagement with individuals, communities, and partners across the Division's four local authority areas as well as taking cognisance of both national and local strategic analysis. This ensures that the divisional policing team work collectively to address current and emerging trends with the aim to reduce crime through a preventative and collaborative model of policing.

In pursuit of this aim, the shared outcomes documented within Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIPs), as per the requirement under the terms of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, are reflected in this document and outline our commitment to a collaborative approach with communities, partners and stakeholders.

Police Scotland and by extension the policing team of the Lothians and Scottish Borders is committed to providing the highest possible service to East Lothian, Midlothian, Scottish Borders and West Lothian by ensuring local teams, supported by national resource, work to meet the locally identified priorities of our communities. This plan covers the period 2020 – 2023, however it remains a 'live document' and will be subject to review, ensuring the plan is updated to reflect the changing needs of local communities.

Chief Superintendent John McKenzie
Divisional Commander



The Lothians & Scottish Borders Divisional Context

The Lothians & Scottish Borders Division serves around 462,080 people over 2,393 square miles, stretching from Blackridge in West Lothian to Newcastleton in the Scottish Borders, as well as many other towns and villages, located across a diverse mix of urban and rural landscapes.

Your Division

- **2,393mi²**
- **4 Local Authorities**
- **462,080 Residents**
- **904 Police Officers**
- **69 Police Staff**
- **35 Special Constables**

The division has four territorial command areas aligned to their respective local authorities, namely East Lothian, Midlothian, Scottish Borders and West Lothian. Each area has a dedicated Local Area Commander who is responsible for daily operational policing functions. Each area command is served by community policing teams whose activities are built around the needs of the local community. They are responsible for responding to local incidents and working with partners to develop sustainable preventative solutions to key issues.

Some of the local authorities within the division are amongst the fastest growing in Scotland, a trend that is predicted to continue, with the overall population set to significantly increase by 2035. The number of households is projected to increase by

up to 30% in some areas, a figure significantly higher than the national average of 23%. The predicted increases in population and housing will add to the demands placed on public services across the Lothians & Scottish Borders Division.

The face of policing in Scotland will respond to the new challenges brought about by changing demographics. An example of this challenge is illustrated through the growth of cyber enabled crime and the disproportionate impact on vulnerable persons.

While there are areas of growth and prosperity, it should be noted that significant disparities still exist in some parts of the division, for example, in some locations up to 13% of the population experience income deprivation. Current research suggests that people affected by social inequality are more likely to have poorer physical and mental health. Police Scotland and partners will therefore continue to work collaboratively to tackle inequalities as part of our focus on improving the wellbeing of people, localities and communities.

It is also recognised that the mission of policing has evolved, resulting in a far wider range of activities undertaken by members of the divisional policing team. This includes the continual growth of incidents relating to missing persons, mental health and concerns associated with vulnerability.

With finite resource, which we continually align to the evolving needs and expectations of our communities, we must work creatively with partners in the spirit engendered by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to ensure our communities across the Lothians & Scottish Borders Division receive the service they need and deserve.

- HEALTH AND WELLBEING
- ECONOMIC
- SAFER COMMUNITIES
- ENVIRONMENT

2026 Projected Population:

191,979

6.6% growth

In WEST **LOTHIAN**

**LOIP: West Lothian
Community Planning
Partnership Themes**

2026 Projected Population:

113,048

8.6% growth

In EAST **LOTHIAN**

- PROSPEROUS
- FAIR
- COMMUNITY MINDED

**LOIP: East Lothian
Plan Themes**

THE LOTHIANS & SCOTTISH BORDERS

**LOIP: Single Midlothian
Plan Themes**

- GETTING IT RIGHT FOR EVERY MIDLOTHIAN CHILD
- IMPROVING OPPORTUNITIES
- COMMUNITY SAFETY
- SUSTAINABLE GROWTH
- ADULT HEALTH AND CARE

In MID **LOTHIAN**

2026 Projected Population:

100,410

13.3% growth

In **SCOTTISH BORDERS**

2026 Projected Population:

116,777

2.0% growth

**LOIP: Scottish Borders
Community Plan Themes**

- OUR ECONOMY, SKILLS AND LEARNING
- OUR HEALTH, CARE AND WELLBEING
- OUR QUALITY OF LIFE
- OUR PLACE

How we identified the Local Police Plan priorities

The Lothians & Scottish Borders Policing Division aims to deliver on its purpose of:

‘Working in partnership for the safety and wellbeing of communities in the Lothians & Scottish Borders’

In pursuit of our purpose, the voice of communities, elected representatives, key planning partners and wider voluntary sector is essential to understand the policing needs of the Lothians & Scottish Borders.

During November and December 2019, a nationwide public survey on the policing issues concerning people, businesses and other organisations in local communities was undertaken. Results were broken down to local authority areas, which has allowed local communities to influence local policing priorities. These priorities sit within the framework set by Police Scotland's National Policing Priorities, namely:

- **Protecting vulnerable people:** Supporting people considered vulnerable and working with partners to reduce harm.

- **Tackling crime in the digital age:** Building capacity and capability to address the threat from online and cyber related crime.
- **Working with communities:** Engaging with key stakeholders, public and communities to understand needs, build resilience and deliver a collaborative approach.
- **Support for operational policing:** Delivering change that enables our people to deliver an effective and sustainable service.

As well as the on-line survey, face-to-face engagement was undertaken during our regular cycles of community meetings, including interaction with community councils, elected members, local businesses, local schools, local authorities, statutory and third sector partners. The aim was to ensure a wide-ranging and diverse demographic had the opportunity to engage and represent the voice of the local community.

The Lothians & Scottish Borders received the largest number of public responses of any policing division in Scotland which evidences the strong relationship we have with our communities and the success of the engagement process.

In addition to the public consultation, which identified the needs and priorities of communities across the Lothians & Scottish Borders, further assessment and analysis has been considered to inform this Local Police Plan.

This included:

- The Joint Strategy for Policing (2020), *Policing for a safe, resilient and protected Scotland*;
- *Annual Police Plan*;
- Lothians & Scottish Borders Strategic Assessment (2020/23);
- Local Outcome Improvement Plans;
- Locality Improvement Plans.

It is of note that the concerns raised by communities across East Lothian, Midlothian, Scottish Borders and West Lothian were similar in nature resulting in a consistent set of priorities across the four local authority areas. The Local Police Plan for the Lothians & Scottish Borders has identified the following five key priorities:

- 1. Protecting the most vulnerable people.**
- 2. Reducing violence & anti-social behaviour.**
- 3. Reducing acquisitive crime.**
- 4. Improving road safety.**
- 5. Tackling serious & organised crime.**

Although consistent priorities have been identified, this does not automatically equate to the same policing response and activity being adopted in each local area.

Pages 9 to 13 will highlight both the divisional and local policing activity planned in pursuance of each Local Policing Priority,

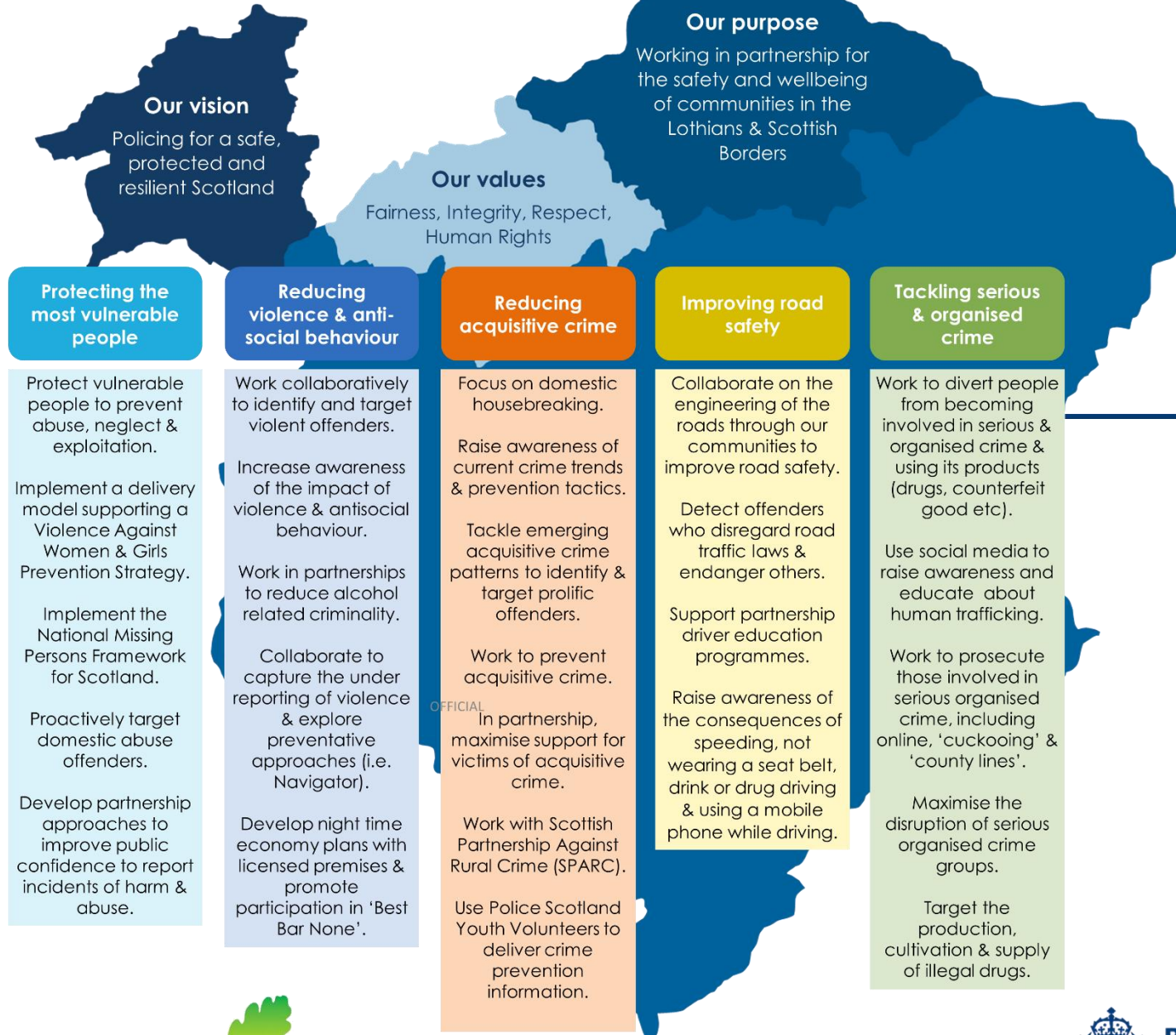
whilst aligning them to the [Scottish Government Strategic Policing Priorities](#) and [Police Scotland's Strategic Outcomes](#).

The content marked as 'Divisional Activity', shows the consistent action taken across all local policing areas, whilst the local policing sections demonstrate bespoke actions relevant to the specific local authority areas. This approach represents localism, whilst promoting both internal and external discussion with regards to how different areas may be tackling similar problems, thus allowing for the sharing of best practice and learning.

It is important to recognise that this plan is a 'living document' and will be amended in line with emerging trends and issues at national, regional and local levels.

Finally, Police Scotland's overarching strategic outcomes are inclusive of your local policing priorities, which describe the difference we aim to make in the lives of people across Scotland. This helps us to show how we will make a positive impact through what we are doing across the Lothians and Scottish Borders.

Your local policing priorities across THE LOTHIANS AND SCOTTISH BORDERS



Police Scotland Strategic outcomes

- Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service
- The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery
- Public, communities and partners are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing
- Our people are supported through a positive working environment, enabling them to serve the public
- Police Scotland is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges

Across THE LoTHIANS AND SCOTTISH BORDERS we will:

- Protect people considered vulnerable and prevent all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation including domestic abuse, child sexual abuse and exploitation, rape and sexual crime, human trafficking and online abuse;
- Implement a delivery model supporting a Violence Against Women and Girls Prevention Strategy across the four local authority areas;
- Implement the National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland across the four local authority areas, with a particular focus on maximising the safety of children missing from local authority care;
- Proactively identify and target offenders utilising an intelligence-led approach to prevent offending, including bail checks and execution of warrants relating to violent and domestic abuse offenders;
- Develop partnership approaches, including third party reporting systems, to engage and involve our vulnerable communities to ensure they have the confidence to report incidents of harm and abuse.

In EAST LoTHIAN:

- Work with partners to ensure the 'Herbert Protocol' is implemented to help trace people with dementia who go missing.
- Work with Mid and East Lothian Drug and Alcohol Partnership and other partners to educate young people about substance abuse.
- Promote and deliver 'Bystander Training' to prevent offences of a sexual nature and hate crimes.

In MID LoTHIAN:

- Work with partners to ensure the 'Herbert Protocol' is implemented to help trace people with dementia who go missing.
- Work with Mid and East Lothian Drug and Alcohol Partnership and other partners to educate young people about substance abuse.
- Support 'Choices for Life' programme to educate young people on online safety and dealing with peer pressure.
- With partners, actively engage with young people across Midlothian youth forums to improve personal safety.

In the SCOTTISH BORDERS:

- With partners, deliver a 'Safe Space' pilot to provide safety for those in distress, whether through a mental health crisis or intoxication.
- Continue to work with Scottish Borders Alcohol and Drug Partnership to ensure effective and appropriate prescribing practices.
- Deliver, in partnership with the Scottish Government, NHS, SAS, Penumbra and Support in Mind, Distress Brief Intervention (DBI), which provides problem solving contact with an individual in distress.

In WEST LoTHIAN:

- Work with partners to ensure the 'Herbert Protocol' is implemented to help trace people with dementia who go missing.
- With partners, deliver a pilot ACAST/MH triage system to provide safety for those in distress, whether through a mental health crisis or intoxication.
- Promote the 'Keep Safe' initiative with partners to make their premises safe for victims of crime or find themselves in distress.
- Promote and deliver 'Bystander Training' to prevent offences of a sexual nature and hate crimes.

Partnership Themes:

Community Minded and Fair

Single Midlothian Plan Themes:

Community Safety, Getting It Right for Every Midlothian Child and Adult Health and Care

Community Plan Theme:

Our Quality of Life

Community Planning Partnership Theme:

Safer Communities

Across THE Lothians AND SCOTTISH BORDERS we will:

- Work collaboratively to identify and target violent offenders, utilising all appropriate tactical options to prevent offending, including pro-active bail checks and executing warrants relating to violent offenders;
- Engage, support and work with partners and community groups to increase awareness regarding the impact of violence and anti-social behaviour;
- Through a partnership approach, understand the relationship between violence and alcohol in both private and domestic environments to ultimately implement plans to reduce alcohol related criminality;
- Collaborate with NHS Lothian and NHS Borders to capture under reporting of violence and explore preventative approaches such as the 'Navigator' programme;
- Work closely with licensed premises to develop night time economy plans and promote participation in 'Best Bar None'.

In EAST Lothian:

- Targeted use of the funded East Lothian Community Action Team to hotspot areas, as identified through partnership meetings and analysis of information.
- Promote preventative programmes in schools including 'No Knives, Better Lives' and 'Fearless'.
- Promote Pub Watch schemes to enhance the current footprint across East Lothian.
- Continue to work with partners using Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) and Parental Advisory Letters (PAL).

Partnership Themes:

Community Minded and Fair

In MID Lothian:

- Targeted use of the funded Midlothian Community Action Teams to hotspot areas, as identified through partnership meetings and analysis of information.
- Promote preventative programmes in schools including 'No Knives, Better Lives' and 'Fearless'.
- Introduce the 'Junior Cop' programme within schools building positive relationships with children.

Single Midlothian Plan Theme:

Community Safety

In the SCOTTISH BORDERS:

- Targeted use of the funded Scottish Borders Community Action Teams to hotspot areas, as identified through partnership meetings and analysis of information.
- Support Live Borders in the delivery of 'Borders Blue Zone' with the aim of providing youths with health beneficial and peer engagement activities.
- Work with Scottish Borders Council Anti-Social Behaviour Unit to identify those involved in ASB and work collaboratively to implement preventative measures.

Community Plan Themes:

Our Quality of Life and Our Place

In WEST Lothian:

- Work in partnership with West Lothian Council's SNT, YAP and CJ Social Work and SFRS, to identify those involved in ASB and work collaboratively to provide focused prevention activity.
- Work with partners to minimise disorder associated with seasonal activities e.g. bonfire/ fireworks season.
- Use of School Campus Officers to promote preventative programmes in schools.

Community Planning Partnership Theme:

Safer Communities

Across THE LOTHIAN AND SCOTTISH BORDERS we will:

- Focus on domestic housebreaking and consider appropriate tactical options with regards to prevention, intelligence and enforcement;
- Collaborate with partners, communities and wide-ranging media outlets to raise awareness of current crime trends and effective prevention tactics;
- Enhance intelligence, utilise national specialist resources and work closely with neighbouring police forces to identify emerging acquisitive crime patterns to identify and target prolific offenders;
- Ensure best practice is shared and utilised to prevent and investigate domestic housebreaking, doorstep crime, cyber enabled crime and other acquisitive crime;
- Work in partnership to support victims of domestic housebreaking, doorstep crime, cyber enabled crime and other acquisitive crime;
- Work in partnership with the Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC) to tackle all forms of rural crime;
- Use of Police Scotland Youth Volunteers to deliver crime prevention packs/literature/advice to areas/groups being targeted by those committing acquisitive crime.

In EAST LOTHIAN:

- Identify and engage with repeat offenders through East Lothian based projects to reduce reoffending such as the 'Transform' and 'Connect' programmes.
- Continue to promote 'Neighbourhood Watch', 'Rural Watch' and associated public alert systems.
- Continue to support 'secured by design' initiative, encouraging developers and architects to work alongside our 'designing out crime' officers to create sustainable and safe places to live.

In MID LOTHIAN:

- With partners, explore options for diversionary programmes for recidivist offenders.
- Continue to promote 'Neighbourhood Watch', 'Rural Watch' and associated public alert systems.
- Promote and continue "Shut out Scammers" initiative across Midlothian.

In the SCOTTISH BORDERS:

- Through the acquisitive crime board, understand and tackle the prevalence of cross-border offenders.
- Promote and increase subscribers to the 'SB Alert System', raise awareness and inform borders residents of ongoing acquisitive crimes.
- In partnership with Scottish Borders Council support vulnerable victims of bogus caller crime through the provision of follow up visits and phone call blockers.

In WEST LOTHIAN:

- Promote the awareness of theft of private and commercial vehicles through briefings, media, local engagement and regular tasking of specialist resources.
- Continue to work with relevant partners within the financial harm group in a joint approach to educate the public in raising awareness of bogus workmen, rogue traders and cybercrime.
- Work in collaboration with roads policing, partner agencies and specialist divisions to provide a multi-agency approach to theft.

Partnership Themes:

Community Minded and Prosperous

Single Midlothian Plan Themes:

Community Safety and Sustainable Growth

Community Plan Themes:

Our Quality of Life and Our Place

Community Planning Partnership Theme:

Safer Communities

Across THE Lothians AND Scottish Borders we will:

- Collaborate with partners on the engineering of the roads through our communities, particularly to identify prominent crash locations and support improvements in road safety;
- Work with communities to detect those who disregard road traffic legislation and endanger the safety of others;
- Support the partnership driver education programmes which raise awareness of associated risks and support good driving behaviour, particularly for young people;
- Raise awareness across our communities of the potentially fatal consequences of speeding, not wearing a seat belt, driving under the influence of drink or drugs and using a mobile phone while driving.

In EAST Lothian:

- Continue to deliver road safety inputs to nursery to P5 children in all our schools and support the annual 'Tomorrow's Drivers' event in Musselburgh aimed at high school pupils learning to drive or newly passed their test.
- Work with partners to assist with the development of a strategy for severe weather issues, particularly wind, on the A1.
- Undertake speeding initiatives to support community concerns in relation to road safety.

Partnership Theme:
Community Minded

In MID Lothian:

- Deliver education through the introduction of 'Tomorrow's Drivers' and continuation of 'Young Drivers' programmes.
- Continue 'Close Pass' initiative targeting and educating motorists and cyclists due to increased use on roads.
- Undertake speeding initiatives to support community concerns in relation to road safety.

Single Midlothian Plan Theme:
Community Safety

In the SCOTTISH BORDERS:

- Work in partnership with the 'Drivewise' programme to improve driving standards in key vulnerable groups.
- Work with partners to assist develop a strategy for severe weather issues, particularly wind, on the A1.
- Through licensing partners, media messaging and enforcement, target disproportionate number of drink-drivers in the Scottish Borders.
- Engage with motorcycle organisations to promote road safety.

Community Plan Theme:
Our Quality of Life

In WEST Lothian:

- Continue to deliver road safety education to young drivers in particular, including 'Westdrive'.
- Through multi-agency partnership intelligence led road checks, promote road safety and target the criminal use of the road network.
- Undertake speeding initiatives to support community concerns in relation to road safety.

Community Planning Partnership Theme:
Safer Communities

Across THE LoTHIANS AND SCOTTISH BORDERS we will:

- Work in partnership (schools, colleges, prisons) to divert people/local communities from becoming involved in serious and organised crime and using its products (drugs, counterfeit goods, etc);
- Work with partners and effectively use social media to educate people about human trafficking, its impacts and how it can manifest in our communities through provision of cheap goods, services and labour;
- Enhance intelligence-led approach to identify, detect and prosecute those involved in serious organised crime, including online, 'cuckooing' and 'county lines';
- Improve information sharing and use of legislation to maximise disruption of serious organised crime groups;
- Target those involved in the production, cultivation and supply of illegal drugs.

In EAST LoTHIAN:

- Continue to identify vulnerable persons exploited by organised-criminals making use of cuckooing and county lines and utilising legislation and enforcement to detect offenders.
- Tackle rural crimes commonly associated with organised crime groups, such as hare coursing, fly tipping, rural theft, off-road bikes and poaching through the East Lothian Partnership Against Rural Crime.
- Continue to work closely with partner agencies to identify and protect vulnerable and exploited workers from organised crime groups, ensuring all legislative opportunities are explored.

In MID LoTHIAN:

- Continue to identify vulnerable persons exploited by organised-criminals making use of cuckooing and county lines and utilising legislation and enforcement to detect offenders.
- Tackle rural crimes commonly associated with organised crime groups, such as hare coursing, fly tipping, rural theft, off-road bikes and poaching through the Midlothian Partnership Against Rural Crime.
- Continue to work closely with partner agencies to identify and protect vulnerable and exploited workers from organised crime groups, ensuring all legislative opportunities are explored.

In the SCOTTISH BORDERS:

- Deliver cuckooing and county lines awareness sessions to partner agencies, to educate, and encourage information sharing.
- Increase intelligence gathering through direct links to neighbouring force's (Cumbria/Northumbria) partnership boards and to target those committing crime in the Scottish Borders.
- Continue to work closely with partner agencies to identify and protect vulnerable and exploited workers from organised crime groups, ensuring all legislative opportunities are explored.

In WEST LoTHIAN:

- In partnership at HMP Addiewell, promote and deliver 4 Ds training, and undertake targeted activity against those involved in organised crime.
- Use funded school campus officers to deliver 'Divert' inputs to identified school groups.
- Continue to work closely with partner agencies and West Lothian council to identify and protect vulnerable and exploited workers from organised crime groups, ensuring all legislative opportunities are explored.

Partnership Themes:

Community Minded and Fair

Single Midlothian Plan Themes:

Community Safety, Sustainable Growth, Getting It Right for Every Midlothian Child, Adult Health and Care

Community Plan Themes:

Our Quality of Life and Our Health, Care and Wellbeing

Community Planning Partnership Themes:

Safer Communities and Health and Wellbeing

Performance and Accountability

The Police Scotland Performance Framework links to both local and national police plans, enabling monitoring and measurement of progress on our priorities for policing and strategic outcomes.

Key to delivering excellence in service provision is working collaboratively to support Community Planning Partnerships and upholding the principles of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

Our Local Police Plan reflect the priorities that local communities, businesses and organisations have told us matter most to them. We will continue to work with our communities and partners to listen to concerns and ensure we respond effectively to emerging issues.

An overview of local and divisional performance against our strategic outcomes and local priorities is provided by the Divisional Commander and Local Area Commanders at the relevant Scrutiny Board meetings as per the terms of Section 45 of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

Local Area Commanders regularly liaise with and provide updates to the community and elected representatives at various fora and, to complement this, Community Policing Officers provide local policing ward updates to community councils and residents' groups.

East Lothian:

- Police, Fire and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee (twice yearly)

Midlothian:

- Police and Fire & Rescue Board (quarterly)

Scottish Borders:

- Police, Fire & Rescue and Safer Communities Board (quarterly)

West Lothian:

- Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel (quarterly)

Equality, Diversity and Ethics

Our work is underpinned by our commitment to equality and diversity, both in our dealings with the public we serve and our own staff. We promote the core policing values of human rights, integrity, fairness, and respect within our organisation and the communities we police.

We recognise that effective consent-based policing must reflect the needs and expectations of the individuals and local communities we serve.

Our aim is to ensure that our service is fair, consistent and transparent and that we focus on our key objective of protecting the most vulnerable in our society.

The Code of Ethics for policing in Scotland sets out the standards of behaviour expected of all staff. It encapsulates Police Scotland's core values and statutory obligations under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012. The Code sets out both what the public can expect from us and what we should expect from each other.

The [Scottish Police Authority \(SPA\) Equality Outcomes \(2017/21\)](#) sets out their commitment to not only comply with equality legislation, but to ensure that the implementation of their equality actions positively contributes to a fairer society through advancing equality and good relations in all that we do.

Dial 999 for an emergency that requires urgent police attention.

For non-emergencies contact the 24-hour non-emergency contact centre on 101.

If you have information about a crime in your area and wish to provide it anonymously, call Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555 111 or visit <https://crimestoppers-uk.org>.

If you have any concerns or issues you wish to discuss, you can contact your local Community Policing Team by phoning 101.

For more detailed information about your local community policing team and other services that Police Scotland provides, please refer to the force website at www.scotland.police.uk

If you would like this information in an alternative format or language, please phone us on 101 to discuss your needs.

Service users who are deaf or have a hearing impairment can contact Police Scotland via Next Generation Text (NGT) on 18001, 101 for non-emergency, or 18000 in an emergency. Further contact details are shown on page 15.

We are here to help.

Local Contact Details

East Lothian

Haddington Police Station
39-41 Court Street
Haddington
EH41 3AE
Telephone: 101

Midlothian

Divisional Headquarters
Dalkeith Police Station
Newbattle Road
Dalkeith
EH22 3AX
Telephone: 101

Scottish Borders

Galashiels Police Station
3-4 Bridge Street
Galashiels
TD1 1SP
Telephone: 101

West Lothian

Livingston Police Station
West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
Livingston
EH54 6FF
Telephone: 101

You can also follow us on the following social media sites:



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