Falkirk Local Policing Plan 2023-26

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## Chief Constable’s Foreword

This Local Police Plan provides a clear statement to our citizens and partners about our commitment to developing our service and addressing areas that are of particular importance in this area. Throughout my time as Chief Constable, Police Scotland has continually developed to ensure we provide effective policing now and in the future.

Our communities are now better served and protected from the threats of today and of tomorrow. I have great confidence that the Police Service of Scotland will continue to build upon the progress made and the stability which now exists in policing.

In our recent Joint Strategy for Policing (2023), *Policing for a Safe, Protected and Resilient Scotland,* we describe how Police Scotland has people and communities at the heart of its vision for a better society, and will continue to provide modern, visible and accessible policing to local communities, supplemented with new support services that adapt and respond to societal shifts.

Policing in Scotland is incredibly varied, and we recognise the differences and strengths of communities across the country. Our people are vital members of those communities and our trusted relationship with the public and communities we serve is fundamental to maintaining their confidence in us to protect them at their most vulnerable and to keep us all safe from existing and emerging threats and harms.

This plan has been developed with partners and the local public using evidence, insights and professional expertise. We are committed to listening and responding to all communities across Scotland, including those who do not often engage with policing.

We understand our shared responsibility to ensure that our services are trauma-informed and person-centred as outlined in the Scottish Government’s Vision for Justice. Across society, and in part exacerbated by the challenging economic circumstances we all face, vulnerability, mental ill-health and substance misuse continues to impact on both individuals and wider society and on policing. We recognise that ours is very often not the most appropriate service to best support peoples’ needs and we will work our public sector partners to address challenges and support community wellbeing.

I am extremely proud of the service that we provide to our communities from [add name] Division and from the specialist and operational divisions that provide additional support to them. As colleagues deliver the priorities set out in this plan and respond to new developments, our commitment to keeping people safe and demonstrating our values of integrity, fairness, respect and to upholding human rights is unwavering.

Sir Iain Livingstone QPM  
Chief Constable

## Divisional Commanders Foreword

Having recently taken over as Divisional Commander for Forth Valley Police Division, it gives me great pleasure to present the local policing plan for Falkirk for the next three year period.

This plan is complementary to the national policing plan and takes cognisance of the issues facing our communities within Falkirk and aligns with the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan which sets out the common vision and outcomes that Falkirk wants to achieve through the Community planning Partnership.

Policing in Scotland over the past three years has seen some significant and unique challenges including the COVID pandemic, the COP26 Climate Summit and the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Throughout these events, officers within Forth Valley have continued to deliver a high quality service to ensure the safety and wellbeing of your local community in Falkirk.

In order to set the objectives for this policing plan, we have not only examined crime and incident information from previous years, but engaged widely with local communities to ensure that the service we deliver is what communities both need and desire from us in their areas.

Policing has become increasingly complex and officers and staff have provided a wide range of services to keep communities safe and promote positive wellbeing and improvements. Clearly we have not and cannot do this alone and partnership working internally - with colleagues from national and specialist areas such as dogs, roads policing, cybercrime, major crime and air support to name but a few – and externally is vital to deliver an effective service. We will continue to work in close partnership with a range of statutory and third sector partners to maintain and improve the services we provide over the next three years.

Community support and partnership working with the public provides the legitimacy we enjoy as an organisation and I know that effective communication and police visibility is incredibly important to you. I will continue to ensure that we build on current relationships and strive to deliver an effective community policing capability which will be central to the services we deliver to you over the next three years.

Chief Superintendent Barry Blair, Local Police Commander, Forth Valley Division



## Introduction

Having recently taken over as Area Commander for Falkirk, it gives me great pleasure to present our Local Policing Plan and set out the priorities for the next three years.

It is a privilege to serve the communities of Falkirk and I am committed to tackling the issues that matter to you most, ensuring my team of dedicated officers, staff and volunteers are focussed on addressing these as well as improving the overall safety and wellbeing of people living, working and visiting Falkirk is at the heart of all we do.

Since the publication of our last plan, we have seen unprecedented challenges, notably the global pandemic saw our local policing plan adjust at pace to ensure frontline policing could continue to serve and safeguard communities effectively at the height of the pandemic. Our staff worked tirelessly throughout this exceptionally challenging period to keep people safe whilst helping communities understand the latest guidance and legislation in relation to COVID to ensure they stayed safe.

The rise in the cost of living will bring further complexity to policing challenges moving forward which will undoubtedly be reflected in recorded crime. We will continue to keep people safe by being responsive to community needs, ensuring we work collegiately with our partners to deliver the best possible service to Falkirk. Internally, we will work closely with our national and specialist areas such as road policing, cybercrime, public protection, dogs, major crime and air support to deliver an effective response. Externally, as part of the Falkirk Community Planning Partnership we will continue to build and develop strong relationships with a range of statutory and third sector partners to discuss and agree shared responsibility to tackle local concerns together, focussed on sustainable solutions to problems.

We will continue to listen to our communities to understand the areas of greatest concern and commit, along with our partners to act on these over the next three years. The key priorities for Falkirk are:

* Responsive to the concerns of our communities;
* Enhancing our collective resilience to emerging threats;
* Protecting people most at risk from harm;
* Promoting confidence through our actions;
* Road safety and road crime

Tackling anti-social behaviour and its underlying causes is a key priority for us moving forward as we recognise the distressing and negative impact on community wellbeing. We will continue to work closely with our partners in housing, anti-social behaviour teams and support agencies to identify solutions and prevent escalation of this type of behaviour.

Falkirk town centre enjoys a vibrant night time economy and it is important that people feel safe in public spaces. Our dedicated policing plan for our night time economy is designed to provide a visible presence of officers in the town centre during peak times to reassure the law abiding public whilst disrupting and detecting those intent on violence and anti-social behaviour. We have positive relationships with our partners in the licensing trade who we support to ensure the highest standards of care and welfare are in place within their respective premises for visiting patrons. Police Scotland have also developed a toolkit outlining practical measures which can be taken to prevent someone becoming at risk of harm and this forms part of the training we deliver to staff within licensed premises.

During the festive period Operation Christmas is our key policing response to an increase in footfall in Falkirk town centre and surrounding retail areas. During November-January each year officers are deployed across key areas to provide visible reassurance and advice to retailers, residents and people visiting our night time economy to prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime.

The growing uncertainty of our economic climate presents an opportunity for criminals to exploit people in the community who may be trying to make savings or generate more income at a time of increased financial pressure on households. We will continue to work closely with our partners to raise awareness to the communities of Falkirk on the evolving methods criminals are using to take advantage of people through online or mobile phone scams, bogus callers or rogue traders, providing clear advice on how to prevent people falling victim.

We have built up close relationships with local banks and the wider banking sector and work together to try to stop people falling victim to fraud. Our Forth Valley Safer Communities Team proactively support the development of this work, particularly those who are more vulnerable, continually reviewing and assessing local and national crime trends and ensuring our preventive messaging is widely distributed to raise awareness during periods of increased risk. Our Safer Communities Team proactively reach out and offer support and advice to vulnerable victims of financial exploitation and also support local businesses to keep safe by conducting visits and providing crime prevention surveys.

We recognise the negative impact of drug dealing and use in the community and will continue to act on intelligence, proactively carrying out enforcement activity to disrupt those who produce and supply controlled drugs to others in Falkirk and those who are involved in the serious organised crime. We understand a multi-agency approach is required to tackle drug use in Falkirk and we will also continue to work with our partners to ensure people with drug addiction are referred to the right agency to ensure they are offered support towards recovery.

We also remain committed to working with our partners to protect vulnerable adults, children and young people ensuring people can access the help the right help for the right service best equipped to provide the support they need. Moving forward a particular focus will be on our approach to violence against women and girls.

We will continue to work with our community justice partners to contribute to the delivery of person-centred services which support early and effective intervention to reduce re-offending and prevent those who are on the periphery of becoming engaged in offending behaviour from entering the criminal justice system at all.

As we move forward my commitment will be to ensure my officers deliver a professional service and are visible and accessible to communities. We police by the consent of our public and your confidence in us is critical to our legitimacy and trust. I look forward to the challenges ahead and to delivering positive and sustainable outcomes, with our partners for the communities of Falkirk.

Area Commander for Falkirk, Chief Inspector Lynsey Kidd.



## National strategic alignment

Our identified outcomes provide a clear link to the Scottish Government’s outcomes and priorities, including the Justice Strategy. Through Police Scotland’s strategies, plans and performance reporting, we are able to demonstrate alignment and can clearly articulate our ambitions and progress towards these outcomes. In addition to the Annual Police Plan, Police Scotland’s thirteen local policing divisions produce Local Police Plans which reference distinct priorities, objectives, outcomes and performance measures. They link to wider community planning arrangements, with Local Outcome Improvement Plans taken into account in their development. The following strategy documents helped shape the Local Policing Plans for Falkirk:

* Scottish Government National Outcomes/Strategic Priorities/Justice Vision.
* Scottish Police Authority & Police Scotland Strategic Outcomes.
* Long Term Policing Strategy: Policing for a Safe, Protected and Resilient Scotland.

In order to achieve the outcomes, Police Scotland requires enabling factors and the commitment and dedication of our staff and officers. The following internal strategies will allow us to achieve the outcomes of the Falkirk Local Policing Plan:

* People,
* Fleet,
* Estates,
* Public Contact and Engagement,
* Enabling Policing for the Future,
* Digital Data and ICT,
* Cyber,
* Environmental,
* Procurement,
* Violence against Women and Girls,
* Equality Diversity and Inclusion

## Police Scotland’s strategic outcomes and objective

Multi coloured Graphic with Plan on a Page Clackmannanshire on white background. 
Outline box with the words Public Health, Partnerships, Prevention and early intervention, person centred approach. Within this box are 3 columns.
1st column headed Our Local Policing Priorities, under which these are listed in text as:
With yellow background Protecting people most at risk of harm, with blue background- Responsive to the concerns of the communities, with red background- Road Safety and Road Crime, with blue background-  Enhancing our collective resilience to emerging threats, with green background- promoting confidence through our actions.
2nd Column headed Our Area of Focus, under which these are listed in text as:
With yellow background- Supporting vulnerable People, Protecting children and young people, Support those affected by sexual crime, Tackle domestic abuse.
With blue background- antisocial behaviour, drug and alcohol use, violent crime, acquisitive crime, house breaking.
With red background- Respond to local concerns, Target drink and drug driving, influence road user behaviour.
With purple background- cybercrime, counter terrorism, serious and organised crime.
3rd Column headed Strategic Outcomes under which these are listed in text as:
With blue background- Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved be a proactive and responsive police service.
With dark blue background- The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery.
With orange background- The public, communities and partners are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing.
With yellow background- Our people are supported through a positive working environment, enabling them to serve the public.
With a green background- Police Scotland is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges.
Text on the bottom of the document reads: Focusing on our local policing priorities, we aim to deliver the positive outcomes highlighted.


## Local policing delivery context

Forth Valley Division is led by the Divisional Commander, a Chief Superintendent. The Commander is supported by four Superintendents and is directly responsible for delivery of an effective policing service within Forth Valley. The divisional command team provides support and direction to the three local Area Commanders who are responsible for Falkirk, Stirling and Clackmannanshire and the Detective Chief Inspectors who have Public Protection and CID roles across Forth Valley.

Falkirk command covers a wide area geographical area from Banknock in the west to Bo’ness and Blackness in the east and from Airth in the north to Slamannan and Limerigg in the south. The Falkirk local Area Commander is a Chief Inspector and has responsibility for the overview of local policing on a day to day basis. They have access to various officers across the Falkirk area responsible for investigating local crime, attending local events, working with communities and responding to concerns. They are supported by partners and also by volunteers, such as Special Constables.

Locally based officers are assisted in their activities by specialist teams with expertise in areas such as serious crime, event planning, counter terrorism, air support and armed policing*.*

We work within the Community Planning Partnership framework in collaboration with all stakeholders, including the third sector, in order to effectively contribute to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan. This work strives to ensure better outcomes for communities in Falkirk in line with the six themes of Working in Partnership with Communities, Poverty, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Substance Use, Gender-Based Violence and Economic Recovery.

## Local priorities

The priorities for your area are decided by data from our strategic assessment which details threats and risks, and also from feedback from local authorities, partners, and residents through the ‘Your Police’ survey. They are also aligned to the Falkirk Strategic Outcomes and Local Delivery Plan with cognisance given to a number of other plans, including:

* The Local Outcome Improvement Plan- ‘The Falkirk Plan 2021-2030.’
* Community consultation (Your Police Survey).
* Police Scotland Annual Police Plan 2022/23.
* Police Scotland Performance Framework 2022/23.
* Police Scotland Local Policing Delivery Plan 2022/25.

All of these sources have provided critical information in identifying what is important to the diverse communities within Falkirk.

Whilst this plan spans a three-year period, we recognise that the issues affecting our communities and the associated demands on our service are changing and will continue to change. This will require us to review our approach periodically and dynamically throughout the duration of this plan to ensure that:

* We are continuing to focus on the right things
* Our people are suitably equipped and supported to deal with these demands; and
* Our approach remains effective and sustainable for the future.

We police with the consent and support of our communities so it is important that you continue to let us know what you think of policing in your area and what our areas of focus should be.

## Local Police Plans (LPPs)

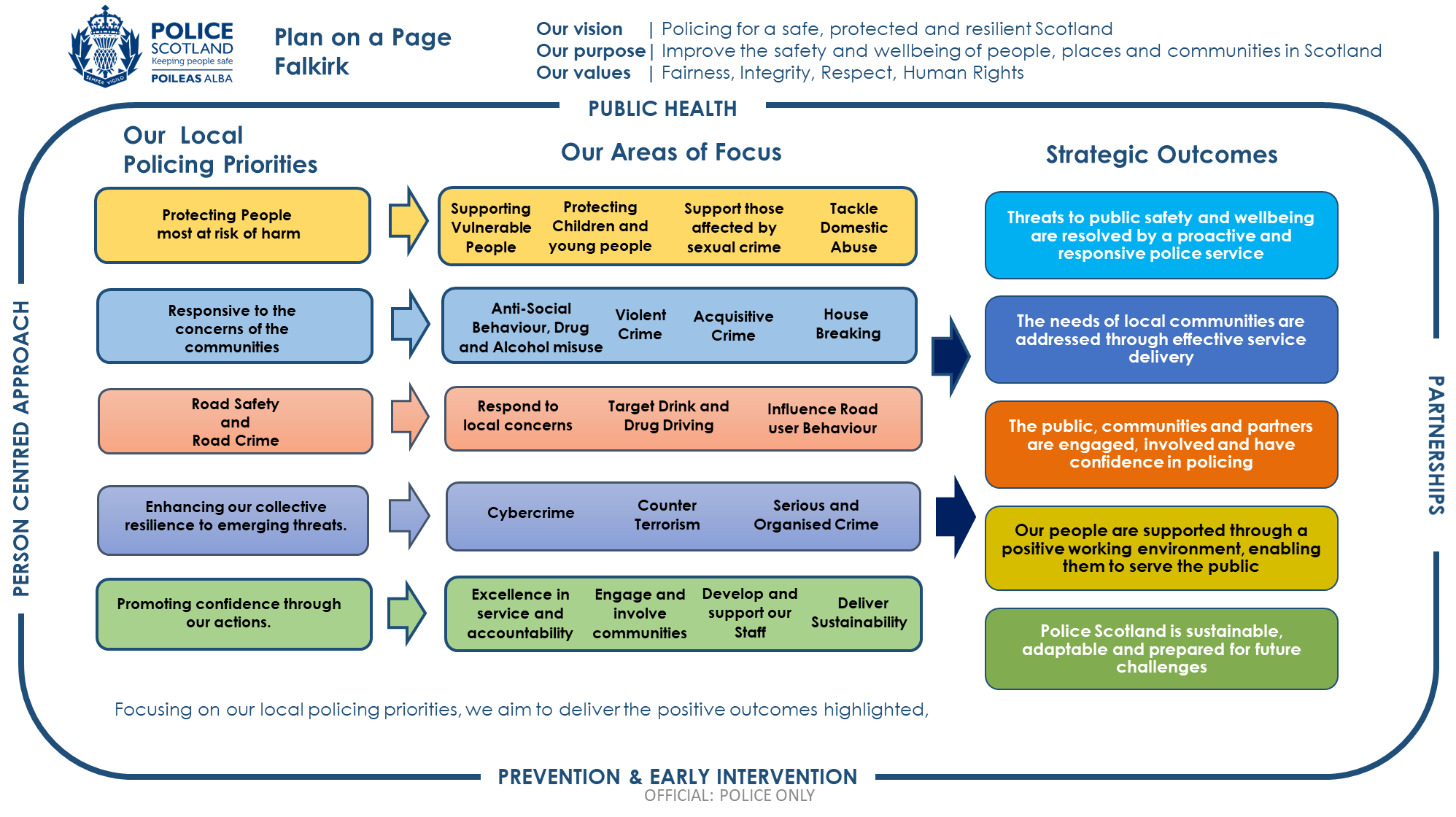
LPPs are an intrinsic part of our planning framework and are key to the delivery of positive outcomes for the communities we serve.

The Police Scotland national priorities for policing are, Protecting vulnerable people; Tackling crime in the digital age; Working with communities and Support for Operational Policing.

In addition to a commitment to working towards the national priorities, the Falkirk local objectives for the next 3 years are:

* Protecting people most at risk of harm;
* Responsive to the concerns of the communities;
* Road safety and road crime;
* Enhancing our collective resilience to emerging threats;
* Promoting confidence through our actions.

We will achieve these priorities through our areas of focus aligned to each priority which are linked to the Police Scotland Strategic Outcomes as outlined in the diagram below.



## Local Policing Priorities

**Protecting people most at risk of harm**

Falkirk is home to a diverse community and landscape. Additionally, society is changing through increased use of technology and policing is adapting to new challenges. Along with our wider public sector partners, we are facing increased demand as a consequence of the vulnerability and inequality that exists within our communities.

Dealing with vulnerable people, particularly regarding mental health issues, now accounts for a significant portion of police time. We, along with our partners, are committed to focusing on tackling the root causes rather than the consequences of inequality and vulnerability in order that we can provide better, more targeted support to those who are in need and deliver lasting change in our communities.

Police encounter vulnerability in many different ways. This includes people who are experiencing crisis; physical illness or mental health problems; those who have gone missing or individuals at risk of harm, neglect or abuse. We are committed to working in partnership to protect the most vulnerable and at risk members of our community, including victims or perpetrators of crime - ensuring that they receive the support they need to lead full and independent lives. Every contact with a vulnerable person presents an opportunity to improve the outcome for the individual and we will signpost people to partners and agencies that can support them.

Area of Focus: Supporting Vulnerable People

Activity:

* Continue to review risk and concern process ensuring wellbeing concerns are identified, assessed and appropriately escalated at the earliest opportunity.
* Review our response and improve safeguards for vulnerable people habitually reported missing through our divisional Missing Persons Forum.
* Work with the Scottish Appropriate Adult Network to support engagement with and investigation of crimes affecting those who require this support.
* With partners, deliver training to improve our recognition and response to individuals who are experiencing mental health problems.
* Provide information about the local support mechanisms available to both drug users and their families; referring individuals who wish to make positive lifestyle changes to partners.
* Tackle alcohol and drug use by being active members of the Falkirk Alcohol and Drug Partnership.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Demonstrate effective processes for the identification and assessment of vulnerable persons within our communities.
* Demonstrate effective collaboration with partners in relation to supporting vulnerable people.
* Qualitative information that demonstrates the effectiveness of our approach to keep vulnerable people safe and reduce repeat victimisation.
* Obtain feedback from partners and victims to assess the quality of service and support we provide to victims.

Area of Focus: Protecting children and young people

Activity:

* Continue to conduct Inter-Agency Referral Discussions to consider child protection concerns, identify the risk factors and associated protective measures required and continually review to ensure we are continuing to improve these processes.
* Use early and effective intervention in collaboration with our partners as an opportunity to support children and young people involved in low level offending behaviour and steer them away from the Criminal Justice System.
* Raise awareness through social media and engagement events involving young people, of the threats posed from online grooming and the sharing of self-generated indecent images amongst children and young people.
* By working collaboratively with partners and third sector, ensure the preventative advice we give to children and young people is tailored to their age and level of understanding.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Demonstrate how effective divisional collaboration is with partners at supporting Children and Young People.
* How successful has Falkirk Area Command been at delivering educational inputs on online harm.
* Obtain feedback from partners to assess the quality of service and support we provide to children and young people.

Area of Focus: Work collaboratively with partners to support those affected by sexual crime

Activity:

* Work collaboratively with partners and third sector to appropriately signpost and refer victims onto the range of support mechanisms available in the Falkirk and wider Forth Valley areas, such as Rape Crisis and Women’s Aid.
* Continue to work closely with the NHS Forth Valley Sexual Offences Referral Centre (SARC) - The Meadows, to support victims of all ages including the ability to confidentially self-refer and receive that support out with the Criminal Justice System.
* Consider the feedback we receive from victims to improve our local service provision.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Crime trends relating to sexual crime, child sexual exploitation and consideration of the wider meaning/reasons for such trends.
* Feedback from service users and partners/third sector.

Area of Focus: Tackling domestic abuse and aiding victims

Activity:

* Identifying and targeting the most harmful perpetrators of domestic abuse to reduce and prevent the frequency and gravity of their offending behaviour.
* Assist victims through safeguarding reviews and the provision of appropriate support such as home and personal security surveys, ring door bells, personal alarms, and mobile phones.
* Daily review of our area of focus including any unresolved domestic abuse reports.
* Supporting the ‘16 days of action for the elimination of violence against women and children campaign and any other local and national campaigns as appropriate.
* Promoting awareness of the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse in Scotland (DSDAS); ensuring victims and those potentially at risk of becoming victims are empowered to make decisions to increase their safety.
* Protecting victims and intervening with offenders by continuing to review the Multi Agency Tasking and Coordinating (MATAC) and Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) processes ensuring wellbeing concerns are identified, assessed and appropriately escalated at the earliest opportunity.
* Work collaboratively with partners and third sector to support Victims.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Crime trends relating to our areas of focus including domestic abuse.
* Trends relating to the uptake of the Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse in Scotland.
* Detection rates for domestic abuse crimes.

**Responsive to the concerns of the communities**

Our primary role is to keep our communities safe. In order that the Falkirk area is a safe place to live, work, visit and do business, it is important that we listen to the views of the public and act on the local issues that cause you greatest concern.

Through our most recent ‘Your Police’ survey, traffic related offences, drug related crime, antisocial behaviour and preventing acquisitive crime, such as homes being broken into, are important to you. We will focus on preventing and detecting these crimes and offences as a priority, recognising the lasting impact on our communities.

We will work with partners to tackle the root causes of crimes to reduce repeat offending. We will seek to ensure that residents feel safe in their homes, working in partnership to prevent doorstep crime. This includes bogus callers and rogue traders who often seek to target vulnerable people.

We will continue to focus proactive work to tackle acquisitive crimes both in urban areas and in isolated rural locations across Falkirk.

Area of Focus**:** Tackle antisocial behaviour, drug and alcohol use through partnerships

Activity:

* Develop collaborative working practices with partners to support those most affected by drug use.
* Work in partnership with statutory and third sector partners to improve care pathways to best support people with problem drug use.
* Deliver local policing initiatives to tackle those dealing drugs and exploiting those with vulnerabilities.
* Work in partnership with statutory and third sector partners to divert offenders from criminal activity.
* Work with third sector organisations to deliver diversionary activities to youths in divisional town centres at weekends.
* Work with Falkirk Licensing Board and Licensing Forum to ensure our licensed premises are safe, well-regulated and supplying alcohol in a responsible manner.
* Through collaborative working with our partners, ensure non-criminal justice measures such as Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs), Antisocial Behaviour Orders (ASBOs), recorded police warnings and reports to the procurator fiscal are utilised to divert lower level criminal behaviour and as an alternative to prosecution.
* Through intelligence and analysis identify problematic locations to assist with the deployment of appropriate resources and provide a visible presence to deter acts of antisocial behaviour.
* Continue to collaborate with the Falkirk Community Justice partnership to improve outcomes for all those affected by criminality.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* How effective are the care pathways in supporting people with problem drug use.
* Demonstrate effective divisional collaboration with partners to tackle antisocial behaviour.
* Demonstrate effective diversionary activities provided by police and third sector organisations at weekends.
* Crime trends relating to our areas of focus including violent crime, antisocial behaviour complaints, acquisitive crime and hate crime.
* Demonstrate proportionate approach to dealing with licenced premises.

Area of Focus: Prevent and Investigate violent crime

Activity:

* Work in partnership with SIA, third sector and licencing to promote good practice and provide preventative information, such as ‘Spiking’ toolkits to reduce the risk of violence at licensed premises and keep people safe in relation to consumption of alcohol.
* Through intelligence and analysis provide a visible presence at problematic locations to deter acts of violence.
* Protect victims and intervene with offenders through Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) processes ensuring concerns are identified, assessed and appropriately escalated at the earliest opportunity to effectively manage violent offenders who are most at risk of involvement in serious violence in order to prevent repeat offending and escalation.
* Work with partners such as Scottish Violence Reduction Unit, Falkirk Community Justice and Criminal Justice Social Work, to identify and address the root causes of violent crime.
* Educate people through Social media campaigns such as ‘That Guy’ and partnership events signposting towards the best support area to help offenders make more positive lifestyle choices and divert them from a cycle of offending behaviour.
* Continuously review our activities and approach to preventing incidents occurring in domestic premises and other private spaces.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Demonstrate effective divisional collaboration with partners at tackling violence.
* Qualitative information that demonstrates the impact of our preventative partnership initiatives, and intelligence led operations in protecting our communities from identified threats, risk and harm.
* Crime trends relating to violent crime.
* Detection rates for violent crime.

Area of Focus**:** Prevent and investigate those involved in acquisitive crime and aim to prevent homes being broken into

Activity:

* Make best use of information and intelligence and put a plan in place to reduce acquisitive crime in vulnerable areas.
* Conduct proactive patrols at locations identified through intelligence and analysis.
* Tackle residential housebreaking and acquisitive crime through preventative measures such as home security surveys and provide crime prevention advice like ‘Take Five’ through social media and Home/Vehicle/Scam guides with targeted engagement to those most at risk.
* Continuing to promote the Rural Watch scheme to prevent crime and make our rural communities more resilient.
* Initiate a programme with partners to divert offenders from criminal activity.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Crime statistics in relation to housebreaking and other acquisitive crime.
* Qualitative information that demonstrates the impact of our preventative partnership initiatives, safety campaigns and intelligence led operations.
* Acquisitive crime detection rates.

Area of Focus: Prevent vulnerable people and locations being subject of acquisitive crime

Activity:

* In partnership with local Neighbourhood Watch groups, Local Authority, Social and Supported Housing develop and disseminate guidance to assist residents in keeping their homes safe.
* Providing support for vulnerable victims through property surveys to `target harden` and prevent repeat crime.
* Raise awareness and provide practical support to make our communities less vulnerable to doorstep crime.
* Promote understanding of the warning signs of doorstep crime amongst commercial and retail staff so they are able to take appropriate intervening action if it is suspected that an individual may be at risk of exploitation.
* Expand the use of Architectural Liaison Officers.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Crime statistics in relation to acquisitive crime.
* Qualitative information that demonstrates the impact of our preventative partnership initiatives, safety campaigns and intelligence led operations.
* Crime detection rates.
* Number of security surveys and ALO reports delivered.

**Road safety and road crime**

A significant part of keeping our communities safe extends to detecting and deterring criminality and improving safety on our roads network. Evidence shows there is a link between criminal driving behaviour, such as driving whilst disqualified or without insurance, to instances of collisions.

You have told us that speeding, particularly in rural locations, as well as driver behaviour in the vicinity of schools is of particular concern. We are committed to working with partners to positively influence the behaviour of all road users to reduce the number of casualties on our roads as well as minimising the economic impact of criminality and disruption to our local road network.

We will assist our partners to provide education for all road users and will share information so that analysis can identify locations where physical improvements can be made to promote road safety. Our Roads Policing Unit will support us in taking part in national and local campaigns to improve road safety to reduce casualties.

Area of Focus: Respond to local concerns regarding road safety complaints

Activity:

* Continue to target uninsured, disqualified and unlicensed drivers.
* Target speeding in rural locations.
* Patrol roads used by travelling criminals to disrupt their opportunities to commit crime in our area.
* Deploy mobile safety cameras at priority locations identified through intelligence and analysis.
* Effectively investigate all serious and fatal road traffic collisions.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Road crime statistics.
* Collision statistics.

Area of Focus**:** Target drink and drug driving

Activity:

* Proactive intelligence led patrolling.
* Planned local operations aligned to national road safety campaigns.
* Sharing information with relevant partners to identify and target repeat offenders, maximising opportunities to seize their vehicles to make our roads safer.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Road crime statistics
* Detection rates

Area of Focus**:** Work in partnership to influence driver and road user behaviour

Activity:

* Work with schools, parents and children to improve driver behaviour in the vicinity of schools through education and visibility.
* Support and contribute to the local authority Road Safety Partnership.
* Facilitate high-visibility patrolling in higher risk areas alongside Roads Policing officers.
* Contribute to and deliver the Road Safety Plan alongside Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, NHS, and road safety groups.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Have road traffic collisions decreased?
* Have deaths from road traffic collisions decreased?
* Has high-visibility patrolling influenced driver behaviour?
* Trends in relation to the number of persons killed or seriously injured on our roads.
* Qualitative information that demonstrates the impact of our preventative partnership initiatives, safety campaigns and intelligence led operations.

**Enhancing our collective resilience to emerging threats**

National and local strategic assessments help our understanding of future challenges and provide an opportunity to work collaboratively and proactively with partners to protect our communities from the risks and harm posed.

With an increasing proportion of our daily life carried out online. Criminals are increasingly seeking opportunities to exploit technology, targeting both businesses and individuals.

Cybercrime can include the grooming of young people, financial fraud targeting businesses and extortion of money. With the support of the national Cybercrime Unit, local business leaders, industry regulators and public sector partners we are committed to preventing such crimes.

Tackling drug dealing and drug use are a concern for our communities and we remain committed to disrupting and diverting those involved.

Emergencies such as flooding, severe weather and other major incidents can happen at any time and as members of the Local Resilience Partnership, we work collaboratively to prepare for such emergencies.

Area of Focus**:** Work with partners to tackle cybercrime and promote safe use of the internet

Activity:

* Share emerging trend information on cyber threats and best practice, internally and externally.
* Deliver cyber safety training and awareness events to partners and third sector.
* Signpost users to National resources and support.
* Identify vulnerable victims of cybercrime and offer support/advice to reduce reoccurrence.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Increased participation and confidence from partners.
* Feedback from events.

Area of Focus**:** Support UK counter terrorism strategy and work with partners to prepare for emergencies

Activity:

* Deliver protective security advice and training to enhance the protection of key strategic sites, public places and businesses within the Falkirk area.
* Continue to engage with communities to identify and support individuals who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.
* Seek the support of communities to develop the national intelligence picture around terrorism, domestic extremism and potential protests.
* Support the review of our local partnership plans as required, to ensure they remain fit for purpose.
* Actively participate in exercises to test the effectiveness of our local contingency plans.
* Encourage and support community groups to develop resilience plans to prepare for and cope with emergencies.
* Engage with local and regional resilience partnerships.
* Continue to fully engage and support the Major Incident Control Centre process and partnerships to plan and prepare for incidents in the Falkirk area.
* Work collaboratively with partners and third sector.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Provide qualitative information that demonstrates the impact of our preventative partnership initiatives.
* Examining the work we have undertaken to test and enhance our collective response to emergencies.
* Feedback from local communities.
* Provide and publish prevent referral data.

Area of Focus**:** Tackle serious and organised crime, disrupt criminal enterprise including the sale and supply of drugs and prevent legitimisation of criminal funds

Activity:

* Use intelligence to disrupt serious organised crime groups operating in our local area and seize their assets.
* Implement local initiatives to tackle the sale and supply of controlled drugs in Falkirk.
* Support ‘Project Divert’ to identify and protect children who are exposed to organised criminal behaviour; utilising a partnership approach to initiate early interventions and challenge social. norms to divert our young people from a life of organised criminality.
* Work with our partners to deprive serious organised crime groups access to legitimate business enterprise and public funds.
* Work with Community Justice Partners to identify and address offending by targeting the causes.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Demonstrate increased collaborative support and signposting for service users through iVPD and relevant partners’ referrals.
* Drug related death statistics.
* Show effectiveness of our approach to reduce the threat of serious organised crime groups, seize their assets and deny them access to public funds.

Qualitative information that demonstrates the impact of our preventative partnership initiatives, and intelligence led operations in protecting our communities from identified threats, risk and harm.

**Promoting confidence through our actions**

We police with the consent of the public and understand that how we deliver our service is just as important as the services we provide.

Our human rights based approach to policing along with ethical and privacy considerations are of the utmost importance. The communities we serve should feel confident that we will always police in a way that is fully underpinned by our values of fairness, integrity, respect and a commitment to upholding human rights.

The safety and wellbeing of our societies are enhanced by providing services that work efficiently. We will listen and seek to understand the changing needs of diverse communities, bringing both professionalism and empathy to our interactions making changes to our services when required. Engaging with people strengthens relevance, responsiveness and accountability and builds trust. We will improve and refocus our engagement activities where these are not reaching diverse communities and are not representative of the society we serve.

Area of Focus**:** Deliver an excellent service and be accountable to communities

Activity:

* Proactively engage with minority groups representative of the local demographic including seldom heard groups.
* Extend our ‘Safe Place’ initiative where local businesses provide support to vulnerable people who find themselves in challenging situations when they are out in our local area.
* Deliver local awareness campaigns to encourage those affected by hate crime or harassment to have the confidence to report what is happening.
* Encourage the use of third party reporting by reaching out to partners and third sector, discussing the benefits and providing support and training to them.
* Engage with third sector groups and local authority partners to support refugees.
* Participate in community planning to ensure that displaced people have a distinct route to accommodation, support and care.
* Identify and support refugees with information on the Policing role and laws in Scotland as this is very different to their previous experiences and countries of origin.
* Raise awareness of Police Scotland and the support services provided locally by them, third sector and the local authority for refugees.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Demonstrate how well are we engaging with different groups.
* Feedback from members of the public, including seldom heard groups.
* Hate crime statistics.

Area of Focus**:** Engage and involve communities

Activity:

* Enable and support effective engagement and communication with the public, including promotion of our Local Police Plan.
* Deploy dedicated, visible community officers in our localities.
* Ensure victims of crime can access information as to the progress of their enquiry.
* Work in collaboration with partners to maximise the benefits of service to communities.
* Continue to engage with community forums and promote the use of social media to reach as many citizens as possible.
* Engagement events with our Local Communities.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Demonstrate how well are we engaging with the public.
* Feedback from members of the public, community groups and partners.
* Qualitative information that demonstrates the impact of our preventative partnership initiatives, safety campaigns and intelligence led operations.

Area of Focus**:** Develop and support our staff

Activity:

* Prioritise wellbeing and keep our people safe, well equipped and protected by encouraging the use of and participation with wellbeing advice and encourage the uptake of specialist roles such as Taser and Public Order Training.
* Utilise local wellbeing champions to provide first point of contact support to officers and staff in relation to wellbeing issues or concerns.
* Intervene early and support staff who have been involved in a potentially traumatic incident through the use of the Employee Assistance Programme and TRiM.
* Periodically review our local training requirements; ensuring that we have the right people at the right time in the right role across Falkirk.
* Devise and implement a development plan for improving internal engagement.
* Use modern technologies to improve efficiency and create capacity by supporting the National Change programs such as Digital, Change and Transformation, Local Policing Improvement. and Modernise Contact and Engagement.
* Deliver a new shift pattern to better align with other areas of business internally, and review the well-being benefits of this to provide a better work/life balance.
* Support colleagues’ performance and development through My Career, and associated promotion pathways.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* Demonstrate support for staff through national internal surveys.
* Number of TRiM referrals.
* Percentage of annual MY Career discussions completed.

Area of Focus**:** Deliver sustainability for the future and achieve best value

Activity:

* Seek additional funding for the provision of ebikes and associated infrastructure to improve community policing mobility, availability and visibility.
* Work with partners to consider how we can reduce collective demand and make efficiencies whilst promoting the ethos of collaboration and shared service.
* Positively contribute to the Local Policing Service Review Design project as a pilot Division.
* Increase the use of mobile devices and laptops and support new mobile applications to increase efficiency.
* Appropriate use of hybrid home working.
* Support the roll out of electric vehicles across the Falkirk area line with the Fleet Strategy.

Update expected: Annually

Performance measures and insights:

* How effective is Police Scotland at continuous improvement and workforce development?
* How effective is Police Scotland at sharing learning with partners?
* What progress is Police Scotland making at implementing new technology across the service?
* Percentage of electric Police vehicle fleet.

## **Governance and performance**

**Accountability**

The governance structures outlined, are designed to ensure that Police Scotland provides a service that is relevant, legitimate and consistent with the principle of ‘policing by consent’.

**Scottish Police Authority**

Police Scotland present information and reports on a frequent basis to the SPA. All board and committee meetings are available online.  Please visit this site for further details: [SPA - Meetings](https://www.spa.police.uk/meetings/)

Crime and performance statistics are published by the SPA. Please visit this site for further details: [SPA - Performance](https://www.spa.police.uk/strategy-performance/performance/)

**Scottish Parliament Committees**

Key policing issues are discussed by the Scottish Parliament’s Committees, including the Criminal Justice Committee. Please visit this site for further details:

[Scottish Parliament - committees](https://www.parliament.scot/chamberand-committees/committees/current-andprevious-committees)

Crime and Justice Statistics are published by Scottish Government.  Please visit this site for further details: [Scottish government Crime and justice statistics](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice)

**Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS)**

HMICS provides independent scrutiny of both Police Scotland and the SPA to deliver services that are high quality, continually improving, effective and responsive to local needs.

Please visit this site for further details: [HMICS](https://www.hmics.scot/)

**Police Investigations and Review Commissioner for Scotland**

The PIRC undertakes independent investigations into the most serious incidents involving the police and provides independent scrutiny of the way police bodies operating in Scotland respond to complaints from the public.

Please visit this site for further details: [PIRC](https://pirc.scot/)

**Local scrutiny**

We are held to account for our performance by the Falkirk Scrutiny Panel which is made up of a cross section of local elected councillors. This group meets to scrutinise how we are performing in relation to the commitments we have outlined within this plan and ensure we are fulfilling our statutory obligations to improve the safety and wellbeing of our communities. If you would like to see what we have discussed at our scrutiny panel meetings, copies of the reports we submit and minutes from these meetings are available on the Falkirk Council website.

## **Equality, diversity and inclusion**

Our work is underpinned by our commitment to equality and diversity in our interactions with the public we serve as well as our own staff. Across Police Scotland we are committed to developing and promoting best practice in the advancement of our Equality Outcomes.

In Falkirk we are committed to a policing style which meets the differing needs of the communities we serve and is dedicated to promoting equality within our own workforce. We realise that every police officer, special constable and member of police staff is responsible for delivering a fair and professional service, promoting equality for all.

**Ethics and values**

A code of ethics was introduced in 2013 with the creation of Police Scotland and provides guiding principles that define how we perform our duties. The code of ethics sets out the standards we expect of all our employees and the standards that the public can expect to ensure we provide a professional service to all. Encompassing the values of the service and a commitment to upholding human rights, the code is designed to help us provide positive outcomes and improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland.

Police Scotland’s values are:

* Integrity
* Fairness
* Respect
* a commitment to upholding Human Rights

We are continually working to ensure that these values and the code are understood by all our officers and staff and are preserved in all of our decisions and actions.

## Engaging with us

Local contact details

Police Scotland

Forth Valley Divisional Headquarters

Stirling Police Station

Randolphfield

2 St Ninians Road

Stirling

FK8 2HD

For more detailed information on how to contact your Local Policing Team please refer to our website at [Police Scotland](file://spnet.local/PSData/C%20Division/SMT%20-%20MSP/Preventions%20Hub/Preventions%20Interventions/LPP%2023/23-26/Finals/Edit%20after%20consultation/www.scotland.police.uk) or through our social media platforms.

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.

Meaningful and effective engagement involves genuine dialogue, respect, integrity, transparency and accountability. It provides an opportunity for people to shape our services and influence decisions made. Insight from effective engagement helps identify practical solutions and determine changes required to meet the needs of the communities we serve.

Police Scotland is committed to continuous improvement in all that we do. If you have something to tell us about our service, please contact us at: [Contact us](https://www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us/)

Further information about our wider engagement can be found in our consultation and engagement hub at:[Police Scotland engagement hub](https://consult.scotland.police.uk/)

Police Scotland has a number of active social media channels that provide a range of information and insight into policing, both nationally and in your local area. A full list of our social media accounts can be found on our website. Our local channels can be found at:

[twitter](https://twitter.com/policescotland) / @policescotland @ForthValPolice

[facebook](https://en-gb.facebook.com/PoliceScotland/)

Please note that our social media channels are not monitored 24/7 and should not be used for reporting crime

Inclusive and accessible engagement

We aim to embed accessibility and inclusivity into our services to make them work for everyone.

This Local Police Plan was subject to an Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EqHRIA). A summary of the EqHRIA will be published at [Forth Valley- Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/forth-valley/).

This Local Police Plan can be made available in various alternative formats. For more information, please contact us via our online form: [Contact us](https://www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us/)