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# Local Police Plan 2020 - 23

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**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe

**POILEAS ALBA**

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Policing ... the Hebridean way

## Western Isles

# Planning framework



The Chief Constable has responsibility for the policing of Scotland.

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# Foreword

Police Scotland's Annual Police Plan 2020/21 sets the direction for policing over the next year and central to our plan are strategic outcomes, which describe the impact and difference Police Scotland aims to make to the lives of people across the country.

Chief Constable Iain Livingstone's role is to set the priorities for policing that will allow us to do this, based on our ongoing assessment of threat and risk, and our knowledge and experience of policing in Scotland.

The Western Isles Local Policing Plan sets out the local policing priorities and objectives for the Western Isles for 2020 - 2023 and is a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

This plan is based on consultation, feedback and broader analysis of crime and other supporting data, it outlines what our priorities will be and how our services will be delivered over the next three years.

The communities across the Western Isles have unique challenges. Whilst the area remains one of the safest in the United Kingdom in terms of the overall levels of crime, we are far from being immune from such

occurrences and we experience similar issues to urban areas, but at a less concentrated level.

In the Western Isles and across Scotland, Policing now involves providing emergency and acute support to individuals, and indeed communities, in a huge variety of crisis situations ranging from vulnerabilities to resilience planning.

Accordingly this Western Isles Local Policing Plan has been designed to articulate our broad contribution to the Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plan, in keeping with our commitment to tackle challenging, chronic and long term issues while supporting resilience in partnership with our communities and other public and voluntary agencies.

The Western Isles Local Policing Plan for 2020-2023 is a live document which can evolve to meet emerging threat, risk and harm across our communities and will be subject to annual review to ensure validity.



**George Macdonald**  
**Chief Superintendent**  
**Divisional Commander**  
**Highland and Islands Division**

# Western Isles area profile

The Outer Hebrides is an island chain located approximately 43 miles off the North West Coast of Scotland

Crofting tenure is very important in housing provision across the islands and Gaelic remains important to the islands

A quality policing service is achieved through strong partnership working and a resilient attitude

Western Isles encompasses a complex network of interlocking communities



The population of the Outer Hebrides was estimated at 27,070

The Outer Hebrides accounts for almost 4% of Scotland's land area - but only 0.5% of its population

Western Isles remain one of Scotland's safest communities

Area Command stretches 130 miles from the headlands of the Isle of Lewis to the southern tip of Vatersay

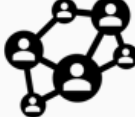
# Our priorities

OFFICIAL



**ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD CRIME**

Collaborate to reduce casualties and crime on our roads



**SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME**

Reduce the harm caused by serious organised crime including cyber related crime



**ACQUISITIVE CRIME**

Reduce crime through preventing offending and reducing re-offending



**ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, VIOLENCE AND DISORDER**

Engage with the public and communities to reduce and prevent crime



**PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

Support people considered vulnerable through working with partners



**TERRORISM AND PUBLIC ORDER**

Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare through collaborative preparedness

CROSS CUTTING THEMES

CYBER CRIME

VULNERABILITY

OFFICIAL

# Plan on a page – Western Isles



**Our vision** | Policing for a safe, protected and resilient Scotland  
**Our purpose** | Improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland  
**Our values** | Fairness | Integrity | Respect | Human Rights

## Our local policing priorities

**Antisocial Behaviour, violence and disorder**

**Acquisitive crime**

**Road safety and road crime**

**Protecting Vulnerable People**

**Serious organised crime**

**Terrorism and Public Order**



## Objectives

**Engage with the public and communities to reduce and prevent crime**

**Reduce crime through preventing offending and reduce re-offending**

**Collaborate to reduce casualties and crime on our roads**

**Support People considered vulnerable through working with partners**

**Reduce the harm caused by Serious Organised Crime, including cyber**

**Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare communities through collaborations**



## 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**

**The 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**

# How we identified our priorities



Horgabost, Isle of Harris - G McDevitt

To identify the Western Isles local policing priorities for 2020-2023 we have utilised a wide range of information, intelligence and processes including an extensive process of consultation, which include:

- Police Scotland Strategic Assessment 2020/23 for the Highland and Islands Division which details threats that impact on policing at both divisional and local authority level.
- Community consultations.
- Community Planning Partnership- Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement

Plan 2017-27 (see page 9)

- Police Scotland Annual Police Plan
- Joint Strategy for Policing (2020)

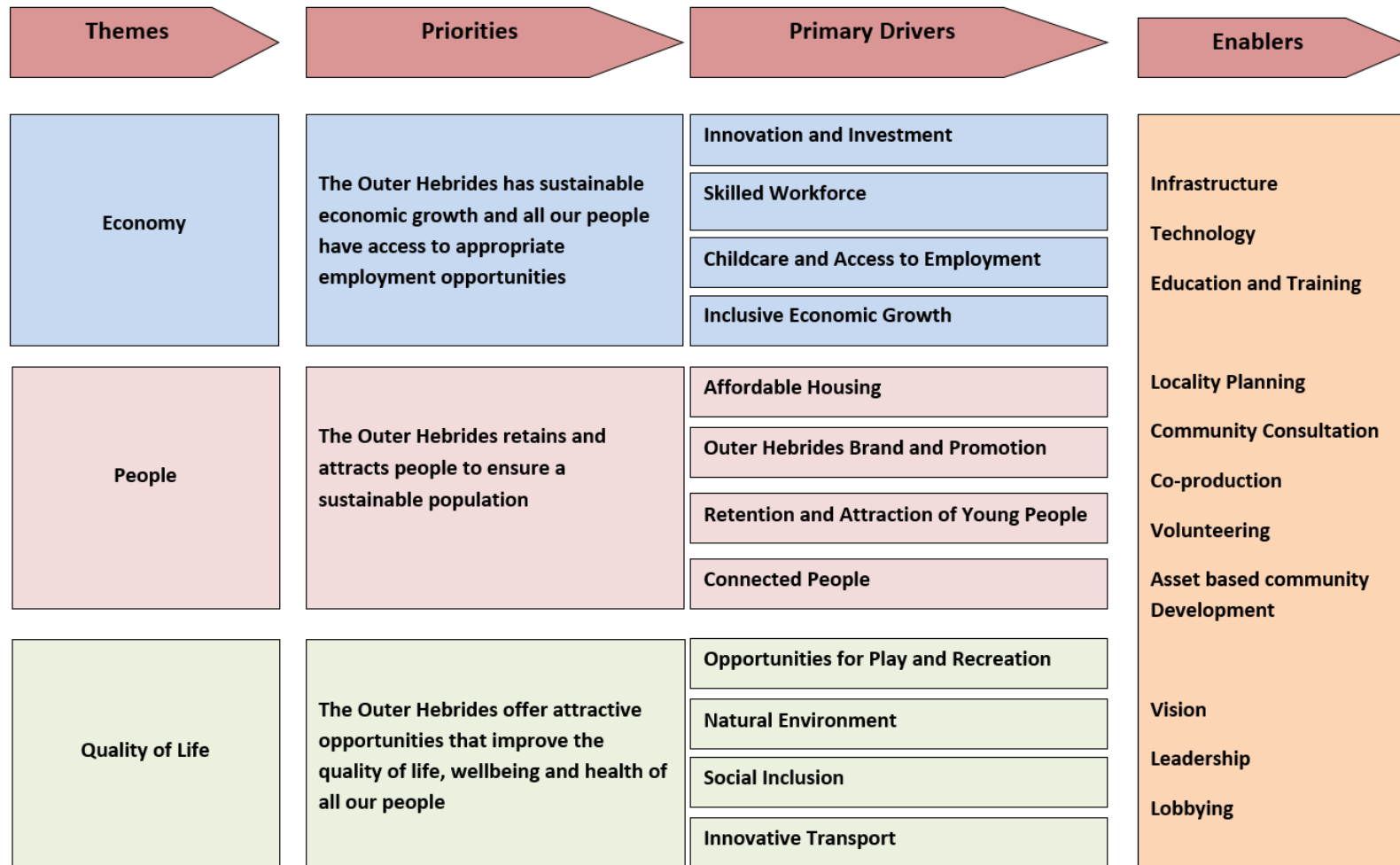
All of these sources have provided critical information in identifying what is important to the diverse communities within Western Isles and as such we have structured our resources to meet these demands and deliver against the strategic outcome.

“Effective Policing is not just about enforcement. It’s about working in and with our communities to identify and solve problems.”

**Chief Constable- Iain Livingstone**



# Outer Hebrides Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plan



# Our priorities in detail



Road Safety and Road Crime remain a local priority in the Western Isles. When fatal or serious collisions do occur they have a significant impact on families and communities. As we see increased vehicle journeys on our roads through tourism, it is important to engender a positive attitude and response.

We will continue to target and enforce inappropriate driving and behaviour through the delivery of Operation CEDAR (Challenge, Educate, Detect and Reduce)

which focuses on challenging driver behaviour through detection of offences, linked to contributing factors of fatal and serious road collisions, with the ultimate aim of collectively reducing potential harm. With partners we will focus on education and prevention.

We know that vulnerable road users account for 29% of road deaths in Scotland, in the Western Isles we are committed to ensuring that all road users are encouraged to take responsibility for their own safety and to share our road space respectfully and responsibly.

Drug driving is a particular area of focus and specially trained officers in the Western Isles are now able to carry out roadside screening in relation to drugs. This approach also enhances our commitment to tackling the wider issues around drug related harm in our communities.



Serious Organised Crime (SOC) takes numerous forms, many of which affect our communities in the Western Isles. We are committed to pursuing those responsible for supplying controlled drugs throughout our area.

A particular area of focus is a tactic known as 'Cuckooing'; this is where experienced drug suppliers from elsewhere in UK travel to an area and utilise the homes of vulnerable individuals in order to supply controlled drugs through intimidation, violence or the promise of reward.

It is also recognised that the Highlands and Islands are targeted by organised crime groups from elsewhere in the UK who coordinate their activities from out with the area by use of technology and structured people networks. This tactic is known as 'County Lines'.

The Western Isles area is also experiencing an increase in the uptake and usage of cocaine and non-prescribed pharmaceutical drugs. We are firmly focused on prevention and rehabilitation and are committed to working with our key partners to support those with addiction and associated vulnerabilities.

Other forms of serious organised crime include Human Trafficking and elements of Cyber Crime. We will ensure that our staff are equipped to deal with crimes of this nature should they occur and that we have ready access to national resources and expertise.



Acquisitive crime encompasses a wide range of crime types and accounts for a significant proportion of overall crime in the Western Isles. The most common relate to online fraud activity.

We will continue to work with businesses and communities to

tackle this type of crime through implementing crime reduction strategies and participating in national campaigns.

Similar to other areas of Scotland, the Western Isles are experiencing an increase in online/phone fraud activity, where offenders target individuals and businesses purporting to be someone of trust and obtain funds through bank transfer and other such means. We will continue to work with businesses including financial institutions to prevent people and companies being the victim of scams and we will educate our communities on how to keep themselves safe from this type of criminal activity.



Antisocial behaviour is a wide-ranging issue which encompasses many aspects of criminal and non-criminal behaviour. The term is used to describe a range of issues which cause distress to communities and make them feel unsafe. Issues vary from vandalism to noisy neighbours and youth disorder.

Alcohol and associated behaviours continue to be a significant factor in disorder in the area. We will

continue to work closely with the licensing industry to share best practice and maintain robust licensing monitoring.

We will continue to work with partners to share information, support education, prevention, diversionary and enforcement measures linked to harmful alcohol and drug consumption. We will better understand the causes to reduce instances of antisocial behaviour, violence and disorder to enhance community safety across the area.

We recognise the strong sense of community identity and resilience across Western Isles and seek with partners, to build on this to make all of our communities stronger, more agile and able to lead and take responsibility on local issues.



Vulnerability is one of the most significant demands on Police resources not only in Western Isles but across Scotland. At a national level, the risk and concern hub covering the Highland and Islands area is held in high regard and is a strong building block for better and more integrated cross sector working.

Early intervention and shared management of risk is key to protection from harm. We will continue to develop our processes around early and effective intervention in relation to young

people, diverting them away from offending and supporting positive future outcomes.

We will continue to underpin this process with GIRFEC (Getting It Right For Every Child) and the eight wellbeing indicators known as SHANARRI (Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included). We take our responsibility as Corporate Parents seriously and recognise the need to better understand and support our care experienced young people.

The internet has led to an increase in cyber-related crime ranging from child abuse, fraud, sexual extortion and a gambit of other activities. We will continue to use best practice to develop strategies and initiatives to prevent harm, investigate and target those who abuse, exploit and pose the greatest risk of harm in our communities.



Counter Terrorism is a national priority and no community is immune from the impact of terrorism. With partners, we will continue to deliver the UK Contest Strategy utilising the Prevent, Prepare, Protect and Pursue model.

The Western Isles have strategic sites and a vast coast line with numerous small ports. It is important that we

develop watchful, knowledgeable and resilient communities who can prevent terrorism occurring through education, enforcement and vigilance.

We will work with communities to increase understanding and awareness of how to recognise and report concerns to safeguard those who may be vulnerable.

Underpinning our approaches is our focus of keeping people safe and our values of fairness, integrity, respect and human rights.

We are committed to supporting the safe delivery of public events be they commercial, organised or public spirited, whilst protecting the rights and freedoms of others.

# Our people

OFFICIAL

Commitment to Empower, Enable & Develop our people.

Maintain focus on mental health in the workplace.

Work with Community Planning Partners to promote mental health.

Recognise talent and support learning and development.

Our People



Local Police Care UK investment of £125K to support Mental Health & Wellbeing.

Promote a culture shift around mental health stigma and discrimination

Support local and national campaigns which promote a positive workplace.

Ensure that managers and staff are equipped to support wellbeing.

OFFICIAL



# Local policing arrangements

We aim to deliver policing that is visible, accessible and responsive to the needs of the people of the Western Isles area. We recognise the unique geography of the Western Isles area and we will continue to work with partners to be accessible and engaged within all our local communities.

The Divisional Commander is supported by four Superintendents who have Operational, Criminal Investigation, Partnership and Support functions.

Western Isles Command Area has an Area Commander, Area Inspector, uniform Sergeants and constables, Wildlife Liaison Officer, a dedicated Crime Management Unit, Offender Management Unit and Child Protection Posts.

The local Criminal Investigation Department work alongside the national Specialist Crime Division to deal with the most serious and complex crime.

In addition to the local Policing resource; there are numerous specialist resources which provide local support, these include:

Specialist Crime Division, Custody Division, Operational Support Division (Armed Policing, Specialist Operations and Road Policing), Licensing and Violence Reduction Unit, Emergency, Event and Resilience Planning, Criminal Justice Division, Border Policing, Contact, Command and Control Division and Corporate Communications.

Special Constables are valued members of our team and we are continually seeking to enhance the numbers in this area.

Effective policing within our diverse environments can be challenging, however, our supportive collaborations with partners both within the Community Planning arena and the wider community are a huge asset in overcoming challenges.

# Performance, accountability & scrutiny

To support this plan, Police Scotland have a National Performance Framework. This allows the organisation to measure progress, monitor activity, identify areas where resources should be deployed and demonstrate how we are meeting our intentions and objectives.

We are committed to providing quarterly performance reports for scrutiny to Comhairle nan Eilean Siar–Communities and Housing

Committee who have considered and approved this Policing Plan.

Local Area Commanders and/or their deputies, will represent Police Scotland in their respective areas at the nine local Area Committees.

Local Area Commanders and or their deputies, will continue to engage with elected members, communities, community councils and other key stakeholders.



Dalmore Beach, Isle of Lewis - J Nicolson

# Equality, diversity and human rights

Police Scotland promotes equality and diversity, both externally and internally, striving to exceed the requirements of the Scottish Public Sector Equality Duty. Across Police Scotland we are committed to developing and promoting best practice in the advancement of our Equality Outcomes. In order to support this requirement, we embed equality, diversity and human rights in all of our strategies,

plans and performance framework. Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EqHRIA) is used to help us to ensure that policy and practices proactively consider the potential impact on equality and human rights. We will ensure that all of strategic plans and activities relating to delivery are assessed to a high standard using relevant evidence in a systematic and structured way.

# Local contact details

## We are here to help

Dial 999 for an emergency that requires urgent police attention.

For non-emergency contact call 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.

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 visit our website at [www.scotland.police.uk](http://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.

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



<https://twitter.com/WIslesPolice>



<https://en-gb.facebook.com/HighlandislandsPoliceDivision/>

**\*See next page for more local contact details**

**OFFICIAL**

**Area Commander**

Chief Inspector Ian Graham

**Area Inspector**

Inspector Jane Nicolson

In an emergency always call **999**

**Stornoway Police Station**

Church Street

Stornoway

Isle of Lewis

HS1 2JD

Tel: 101

**Benbecula Police Station**

Balivanich

Isle of Benbecula

HS7 5LA

Tel: 101

**Lochmaddy Police Station**

Lochmaddy

Isle of North Uist

Western Isles

HS6 5AE

Tel: 101

**Castlebay Police Station**

Castlebay

Isle of Barra

HS9 5XD

Tel: 101